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BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

Honorable Chuck Schumer
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Adeel Mangi

Dear Senator Schumer:

I am a long-time constituent and supporter of yours. I am writing to ask you to ignore the smear campaign being waged against my friend and colleague Adeel Mangi and to schedule a prompt vote to confirm him as a judge on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

I have known Adeel since 1999, when I recruited him at Harvard to join my law firm, Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler, LLP, based here in New York City. At the time, I was the chair of the firm and I was then, and am now, intensively protective of its reputation as one of the leading law firms in the country and one particularly devoted to public service. Adeel fit into the culture of the firm seamlessly and his work here has only served to enhance our reputation in every respect. Over the years, Adeel developed a well-earned reputation as one of the leading litigators in the country for major clients and he recently won a record-setting judgment of over \$2 billion. As important, he fulfilled the firm's long-standing commitment to pro bono work, in particular by litigating on behalf of both Muslim and Jewish groups. For example, together with the Civil Rights Section of the U.S. Department of Justice, Adeel brought important cases protecting the First Amendment rights of Muslims to practice their religion. And ironically, given the slanderous attacks on him as an antisemite, he also filed multiple pro bono briefs in courts around the country on behalf of diverse consortiums of religious organizations, including over a dozen Jewish groups.

Adeel's nomination by President Biden to serve on the Third Circuit was well-deserved and should stand as the capstone of a remarkable career. Instead, he has been pilloried by the ignorant right as an antisemite, most recently in an advertisement by something called the Judicial Crisis Network. This is a vicious and baseless smear. I am writing to tell you that I am a Jew and so are more than a third of Patterson Belknap partners. Those of us who have lived and worked with Adeel for more than 20 years know that there is not an antisemitic bone in Adeel's body. Rather, as a Muslim, he has been subjected to the same kind of religious bigotry

suffered by Jews and he despises bigotry of any kind, against Jews, Christians, or Muslims. That is why so many religious groups, including the American Jewish Committee and the National Council of Jewish Women, now support his nomination. And as someone who works in New York City, Adeel was here with us on 9/11 and saw the devastation and death caused by radical Islamic terrorists, and it is a disgusting insult to suggest that he shares any affinity with them.

Adeel chose to make his home here in the United States and to become a citizen of the United States in part because of this country's promise, embodied in our First Amendment, to eschew religious bigotry and to allow all to practice religion as they choose. He has built a life for himself and his family in our country, and has distinguished himself here, as so many immigrants have. Now he has decided to devote himself to public service and give up the financial rewards of a law firm partnership when he is in the prime of his career. Sadly, having made that choice, Adeel now finds himself unfairly subjected to rank Islamophobia and what can only be called bigoted know-nothing attacks from some of your Republican colleagues in the Senate and the House.

Adeel's confirmation would be a shining example of what America promises the world – equal opportunity for all according their merits. His defeat would be a victory for bigotry and ignorance. I urge you to schedule a vote promptly to confirm Adeel as a judge on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gregory L. Diskant', written in a cursive style.

Gregory L. Diskant