



Chairman
Gerald Gray Jr.

July 22, 2022

1st Vice Chairman
Clarence Sivertsen

Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building

2nd Vice Chairman
Leona Kienenberger

Washington, D.C. 20510

Secretary/Treasurer
Colleen Hill

Re: Nomination of Anthony Johnstone to the Ninth Circuit

Council Members
Donald Davis
Iris Killeagle

Chairman Durbin & Ranking Member Grassley:

The Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana (“Tribe”) writes to express its support of Anthony Johnstone’s nomination as a federal judge for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Johnstone has valuable experience in federal law in a broad range of subject matters including Indian Law as a litigator and scholar and will bring a Montana voice to the Court. The Tribe strongly advocates for his appointment.

Johnstone will bring invaluable experience in Indian Law to the bench. As the Helen and David Mason Professor of Law at the University of Montana, he writes and teaches about federal and state Constitutional Law, Legislation, Election Law, and Jurisprudence. He integrates Indian Law into all his courses and teaches a course on Indian Voting Rights. Indian Law cases are frequently before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, so we believe it is important for the Court to have a member who is well versed in Indian Law.

Johnstone also has deep roots in Montana and has spent his career in the State as a devoted public servant and professional. Prior to joining the faculty at University of Montana, he served as the Solicitor for the State of Montana. In this position, Johnstone represented the state in major Constitutional Law cases on a wide array of topics including election and environmental issues. Considering his ties to Montana, it would be beneficial to have a judge like Johnstone as a member of the Court.

Anthony Johnstone is an ideal candidate for this position and would be an excellent addition to the Court. Thank you for your time and attention to this letter of recommendation for Anthony Johnstone’s nomination.

Sincerely,

Gerald Gray
Chairman, Little Shell Tribe

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