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April 30, 1979

Mr. Sam Williams
Chairman of Selection Committee
611 West 6th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Re: Judge Earl Gilliam

Dear Mr. Williams:

I am writing this letter to strongly urge you to consider Judge Earl Gilliam to fill one of the vacancies of the United States District Court in San Diego.

I have practiced law in San Diego County since 1953 and first met Judge Gilliam when he worked in the office of the District Attorney. I have known him both socially and as an attorney, and finally as a Judge of the Municipal Court and now of the Superior Court of San Diego County.

I recommend Judge Gilliam for this position without any reservation or qualification whatsoever. He is an excellent student of the law, not afraid to make a decision, and a compassionate human being possessed of a fine sense of humor.

The local press recently printed a story that indicated there are no qualified women or minorities in San Diego to fulfill this position.

I take a very strong execption to this remark. Judge Gilliam is a person who is eminently well qualified to fulfill this great position as Judge of the United States District Court. He is a credit to our bar and to the bench, as well as being a fine and upstanding citizen of this community, and to elevate him to the high honor of that judgeship will not be a mistake; it will be a great service to the people of this area.

Very truly yours,

John George Ronis

JOHN GEORGE RONIS

JGR:avl
cc: Senator Alan Cranston
Senator S. I. Hayakawa