

**United States Court of Appeals
Fifth Circuit**

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Chambers of
KURT D. ENGELHARDT
Circuit Judge

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June 9, 2026

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The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

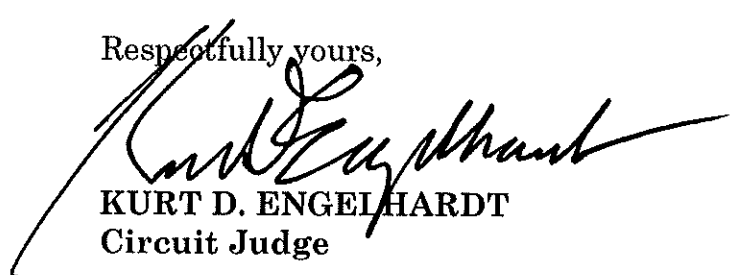
Dear Mr. President:

On May 15, 2018, I had the honor of taking the oath to serve as Circuit Judge here in the Fifth Circuit, following your gracious nomination of me for this position. Prior to that, on December 14, 2001, I was sworn in as U. S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana in New Orleans. I am extraordinarily grateful and humbled by the confidence you, President George W. Bush and the U.S. Senate (in confirming my nominations) have demonstrated in me. Serving on both of these courts, with my many esteemed colleagues and my brilliant law clerks, has been an absolute privilege and honor. Though hard to imagine, my hope is that my successor will enjoy serving as much as I have. I pray I have over these years conscientiously discharged my responsibilities consistent with my oath.

Please be advised that on December 31, 2026, or upon the confirmation of my successor, whichever is later, I intend to retire from regular active service as a United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. Sec. 371(b)(1), having attained the age and met the service requirements of subsection (c) of that section. It is my intention to continue to render substantial judicial service as a senior judge.

It has been the sincere joy of a lifetime to serve under Article III of our venerated Constitution, and I look forward to continued service as a senior Fifth Circuit judge.

Respectfully yours,


KURT D. ENGELHARDT
Circuit Judge

KDE/sa

cc: Justice John G. Roberts, Jr.
Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court

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