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December 11, 2002

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Jeffrey Sutton

Dear Chairman Leahy and Senator Hatch:

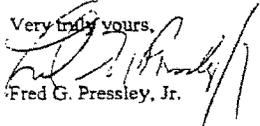
I am writing to you to support Jeffrey Sutton's nomination for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit. I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Mr. Sutton when he was the Solicitor General for the State of Ohio. As Solicitor General, Mr. Sutton was a tenacious defender of Ohioans, regardless of their race, gender, disability, or nationality.

Specifically, I worked with Mr. Sutton as Special Counsel to the Ohio Attorney General to defend the constitutionality of Ohio's Minority Set-Aside statute. Despite the constitutional hurdles present in defending such statutes, Mr. Sutton was creative and unwavering in his defense of the statute. At no time did Mr. Sutton deviate from his duties as Solicitor General.

As an African-American and Democrat, I believe that Mr. Sutton is well-qualified to sit on the Sixth Circuit and would be an unbiased jurist. Accordingly, Mr. Sutton should receive your committee's approval.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Very truly yours,


Fred G. Pressley, Jr.

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