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PRESIDENT

Rachel Rossi

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August 27, 2025

Senator Charles Grassley
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee

Senator Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin,

On behalf of Alliance for Justice (AFJ), a national association representing nearly 140 public interest and civil rights organizations, I write to express our strong opposition to the nomination of Edmund G. LaCour, Jr. to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama.

The federal bench is reserved for jurists who can be trusted to serve as impartial guardians of the Constitution. LaCour has built his career proving the opposite. His record is not that of an advocate merely representing clients or defending state interests; it is the record of a man who seeks every opportunity to advance an extremely far-right ideological crusade. Whether in the courtroom or the public arena, LaCour has consistently chosen to erode democracy, dismantle fundamental rights, and expand power for the privileged few.

His work tells a consistent and harrowing story: voting rights are an obstacle to overcome, not a guarantee to be protected; reproductive freedom is illegitimate, not a cornerstone of personal autonomy; equality for LGBTQ+ people is something to be rolled back, not secured; and corporate and political elites are the rightful winners while workers, consumers, and communities are left to fend for themselves. On issue after issue, LaCour has elevated the interests of the powerful over the rights of ordinary people, particularly Black voters, women, immigrants, and LGBTQ+ communities.

This is not an incidental record — it is a worldview. In case after case, LaCour has volunteered sweeping, radical arguments designed not only to win a case, but to reshape the law itself. He urged the Supreme Court to gut the Voting Rights Act, attempted to undermine its enforcement by claiming that states should be immune from private enforcement, and defended discriminatory maps that silenced Black voters. He also defended an Alabama law criminalizing doctors who provided gender-affirming care, backed an order that would force patients to delay abortion procedures even when their health was at risk, and shielded state officials from accountability for civil rights violations. His advocacy against wage protections and in favor of abusive policing practices further underscores the same point: The law, in his hands, is a weapon to fortify power, not a shield to protect the vulnerable.

If given the privilege of a lifetime appointment, there is no reason to believe that LaCour will leave these convictions at the courthouse door. His confirmation would ensure that far-right litigants have a ready ally in their efforts to dismantle the rights and protections that define modern constitutional democracy. The danger is not just in the rulings he would issue, but in the biases he would bring: a reflexive skepticism of equality claims, a hostility to democratic participation, and a deference to the interests of the powerful.

The people of Alabama — and the nation — deserve judges who will uphold the Constitution for everyone, not just for those who already hold the levers of power. Edmund LaCour has shown us exactly who he is as a lawyer. There is every reason to believe he would be the same kind of judge.

For these reasons, the Alliance for Justice strongly urges you to reject the nomination of Edmund G. LaCour, Jr. to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Rossi".

Rachel Rossi
President, Alliance for Justice