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November 7, 1978

Hector P. Garcia, M.D.
1315 Bright Street
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Re: Justice Sam D. Johnson
Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals

Dear Dr. Garcia:

I should like to recommend to you, as one of the members of the Presidential Commission on filling vacancies for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, the name of Texas Supreme Court Associate Justice Sam D. Johnson.

Justice Johnson was elected to the Texas Supreme Court without opposition in 1972 and has just been reelected, also without opposition. He previously served as Associate Justice of the Fourteenth Court of Civil Appeals in Houston, and as a District Judge.

Prior to serving on the Court of Civil Appeals, Justice Johnson was first director of the Houston Legal Foundation. As you may know, the Houston Legal Foundation was a pilot project to test the feasibility of providing legal services to the poor. Justice Johnson served with distinction in that position, and successfully resisted legal attacks made on the Houston Legal Foundation by its opponents. He was recently awarded the Von Briesen award by the National Legal Aid and Defenders Association, an award presented to an individual who has made special contributions to providing legal services for the disadvantaged.

I believe that Justice Johnson is the type of individual needed in the federal judiciary. Not only is he a distinguished

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judge and recognized scholar, but he has demonstrated the kind of compassion and concern for the dignity of the individual that is needed in our judicial position.

I hope very much that you and your Commission will request further information from Justice Johnson and will seriously consider his qualifications.

Very truly yours,

EDWARDS & PERRY

David L. Perry

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