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*Justice*

December 30, 1974

To: Larry Silberman

From: Phil Buchen

For your information, I am attaching  
a letter from Donald Santarelli endorsing  
Bill Cummings for consideration of  
appointment as United States Attorney for  
the Eastern District of Virginia.

Attachment

PWBuchen:ed



I see  
the  
memo to  
Silberman  
dated 12/30  
was not  
sent; should  
it be retyped  
& sent?  
No send as is



AMRAM, HAHN, SANDGROUND & SANTARELLI

PHILIP WERNER AMRAM  
GILBERT HAHN, JR.  
MARK B. SANDGROUND  
DONALD E. SANTARELLI  
JACK C. SANDO  
DAVID L. GOOD  
WILLIAM E. LLOYD, JR.\*  
\*MEMBER VIRGINIA BAR ONLY

COLORADO BUILDING  
1341 G STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005  
(202) 783-3344  
CABLE ADDRESS "HASUN"  
INTL. TELEX 64273

December 19, 1974

Mr. Phillip Buchen  
Counsel to the President  
West Wing - White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

Re: William B. Cummings


Dear Mr. Buchen:

I would like to add my strong endorsement of Bill Cummings of Fairfax County for consideration for appointment as United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. I do so with my regard for his talents. I have known Bill since he was a law student at the University of Virginia a couple of years behind me. I have kept in very close touch with him here in the Northern Virginia area both through his activities at the Bar and as a personal social friend. We also work very closely on University of Virginia alumni matters in the Northern Virginia area and with the University of Virginia Club of Washington.

I also know Bill Cummings for his strong commitment to Bar activities both on the local level and with the American Bar Association. He has been active in the Young Lawyers section of the ABA and I have worked with him there on many issues that confront the Bar for resolution or recommendation.

I unqualifiedly endorse him as a good lawyer, a good citizen, a good father, a good alumnus and above all, as a man of integrity. His performance as a civic leader and coordinator of various projects is well recognized. His commitment is to high standards, both publicly and privately. I believe he would make one of the finest United States attorneys in our system.

Sincerely,

  
Donald E. Santarelli



DES:shc

M. CALDWELL BUTLER  
6TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

MEMBER:  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
COMMITTEE ON  
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION  
COMMITTEE ON  
SMALL BUSINESS

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
109 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-5431

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

December 15, 1975

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
313 U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE  
BUILDING  
900 CHURCH STREET  
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24505  
(804) 845-1378  
111 FEDERAL BUILDING AND POST OFFICE  
200 S. WAYNE AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 1045  
WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA 22980  
(703) 942-7758  
(IN STAUNTON DIAL "O" ASK FOR ENTERPRISE 753)  
109 U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE  
BUILDING  
212 W. CHURCH AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 885  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24005  
(703) 981-1231

Mr. Philip Buchen  
Counselor to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Buchen:

This letter is in further reference to the nomination of William B. Poff to the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia. My purpose is to acquaint you with the fact that he is the overwhelming choice of lawyers practicing in the Western District of Virginia.

Mr. Poff has received the endorsement of the following state associations of lawyers: Virginia Trial Lawyers Association; Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys; and Old Dominion Bar Association. So far as I can determine, no other state-wide bar association customarily endorses candidates for the federal bench.

In addition, Mr. Poff has received the endorsement of the following local bar association in the Western District of Virginia:

Martinsville-Henry County Bar Association  
Salem-Roanoke County Bar Association  
Rockbridge-Buena Vista Bar Association (includes Lexington)  
Augusta County Bar Association (includes Staunton)  
Old Nineteenth Bar Association (Alleghany, Bath Counties;  
Clifton Forge, Covington)  
Roanoke Bar Association  
Pulaski County Bar Association  
Franklin County Bar Association  
Botetourt County Bar Association  
Bedford County Bar Association (includes Bedford City)  
Charlottesville-Albemarle Bar Association  
Waynesboro Bar Association  
Giles County Bar Association  
Lynchburg Bar Association (includes Campbell County)  
Patrick County Bar Association  
Danville Bar Association  
Montgomery, Floyd, Radford Bar Association



Mr. Philip Buchen  
Page 2

Amherst-Nelson County Bar Association  
Carroll County Bar Association  
Winchester-Frederick County Bar Association  
Halifax County Bar Association

For your information, the total number of lawyers enjoying membership in these associations is approximately 1250; and the population of the cities and counties served by these associations is approximately 965,000.


By contrast, less than ten associations have, to my knowledge, endorsed the other nominee under consideration. There are less than 150 lawyers in these associations and the population of the cities and counties served by them is approximately 250,000.

Attached hereto for your information is a map showing the boundaries of the Western District of Virginia in which I have marked in red the counties and cities served by the associations which have endorsed Mr. Poff, and in blue the counties and cities served by the associations which have endorsed the other person under consideration.

Please also take notice of the location of Roanoke City in which Mr. Poff resides and practices; and of Lee County, in which the other nominee resides and practices.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

  
M. Caldwell Butler

Enclosure



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 10, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JUDGE HAROLD TYLER  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

FROM: PHILIP W. BUCHEN *P.W.B.*  
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: JUDGESHIP IN WESTERN  
DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

Attached are copies of letters sent by  
Congressman J. Kenneth Robinson to the President  
and to me along with the materials mentioned in  
the third paragraph of the Robinson letter to me.

Attachments



J. KENNETH ROBINSON  
7TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE:  
APPROPRIATIONS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

OFFICES IN THE 7TH DISTRICT:  
112 N. CAMERON STREET (P.O. Box 714)  
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601  
TELEPHONE: (703) 667-0990

212-B POST OFFICE BLDG. (P.O. Box 136)  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22902  
TELEPHONE: (804) 295-2106

5 POST OFFICE BLDG. (P.O. Box 336)  
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA 22401  
TELEPHONE: (703) 373-0536

June 8, 1976

Philip W. Buchen, Esquire  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Buchen:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have sent to the President in regard to the judgeship vacancy in the Western District of Virginia.

As will be seen, I am commending to the consideration of the President Thomas J. Wilson, Esquire, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, an attorney in private practice who formerly served as an Assistant U. S. Attorney for the Western District of Virginia and has served, as required, since 1965 as Bankruptcy Judge, or referee, for that district.

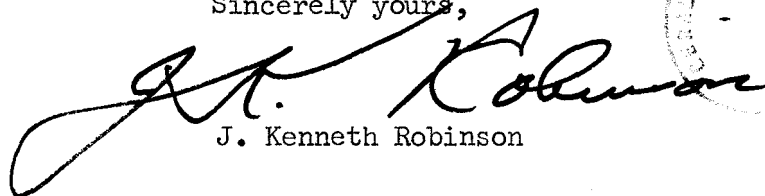
In addition to the copies of local Bar Associations' resolutions which I sent to the President, I am enclosing, for your information, copies of other expressions I have received in his behalf.

In particular, I should like to direct your attention to the recurring comments as to the need of a Judge residing in the northern area of this court's jurisdiction, in order to provide more convenient access for attorneys who now often find it necessary to travel to Roanoke to present matters to the court.

The Harrisonburg division of the court has not had a Judge on regular duty since the late Judge John Paul retired in 1958, although he continued to serve in the capacity of a senior Judge until his death in 1963. The docket in that division, I am informed, now is the heaviest it has been in many years.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
J. Kenneth Robinson



PLEASE REPLY TO WASHINGTON UNLESS INDICATED: ☐ WINCHESTER ☐ CHARLOTTESVILLE ☐ FREDERICKSBURG



J. KENNETH ROBINSON  
7TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE:  
APPROPRIATIONS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

OFFICES IN THE 7TH DISTRICT:  
112 N. CAMERON STREET (P.O. Box 714)  
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601  
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TELEPHONE: (804) 295-2106

5 POST OFFICE BLDG. (P.O. Box 336)  
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA 22401  
TELEPHONE: (703) 373-0536

June 8, 1976

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

When you were called upon, several months ago, to consider a nomination to fill a judgeship vacancy on the U. S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia, I was among those who commended to your consideration Mr. William B. Poff.

Your nomination of Mr. Poff was approved widely by the Bar.

In view of the impasse with respect to Senate confirmation of Mr. Poff, and his recent request that his name be withdrawn, I find that substantial support has developed within the Bar of the Western District of Virginia for Thomas J. Wilson, III of Harrisonburg, a former Assistant U. S. Attorney for the Western District of Virginia who, in addition to maintaining an active private practice, has served as U. S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District, as required, since 1965.

I am informed that he is, in addition, a permanent member of the Judicial Conference of the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

It is a pleasure to join in suggesting Judge Wilson for consideration as a nominee for U. S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

In this connection, I am enclosing a copy of a brief biography of Judge Wilson together with a representative sampling of expressions of local Bar Associations.



The President  
Washington, D. C.  
June 8, 1976  
Page 2

I might add that his elevation to the bench of this court would provide representation for a part of the Western District which has not been so represented for several years, causing a problem for attorneys in the matter of convenient access to a Federal Judge. (Judge Wilson is a resident of Harrisonburg, one of the places designated for sitting by the District Court, although the bulk of its business is transacted at Roanoke.)

I do believe that appropriate inquiry will reflect that Judge Wilson is highly qualified, by experience and temperament, to serve as a Judge of a U. S. District Court.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

J. Kenneth Robinson

May 21, 1976

Thomas J. Wilson, III  
805 Oak Hill Drive  
Harrisonburg, Virginia

Born at Somerset, Orange County, Virginia, October 13, 1922, the son of the late State Senator and Mrs. Thos. J. Wilson, Jr., of Clifton Forge, Virginia.

Graduated at age 19 from Virginia Military Institute in 1942. Cadet Commissioned Officer with Academic Distinction 3rd and 4th years. R O T C Honor Graduate.

1942 - 1946. U. S. Army Field Artillery Officer with 20 months service in Europe - - 11 months combat duty as artillery forward observer in France, Belgium and Germany with 5 battle stars. Army reserve after war. Rank - Capt.

University of Virginia Law School graduate in February, 1948.

1947 - admitted to Virginia State Bar.

Practiced law at Woodstock, Virginia, and Harrisonburg, Virginia, 1948 - 1953.

Vice Chairman, 7th District Republican Committee, 1952-53.

Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia, 1953-58.

1958 to date, practice of law at Harrisonburg, Virginia.

1959 - Vice President, Virginia State Bar Association, Valley region.

1962-63 - Chairman, 7th District Committee of the Virginia State Bar.

1963 - President, Harrisonburg Bar Association.

U. S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Virginia on a part-time basis, 1965 to date.

Permanent member, Judicial Conference of the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

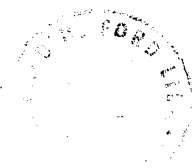
Married to the former Margaret Brock of Harrisonburg. Four children, all of whom are in college.



Thomas J. Wilson, III  
May 21, 1976  
Page -2-

Former Vestryman and Senior Warden, Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
at Harrisonburg.

Member, Virginia State Bar Association, Virginia State Bar,  
Masonic Order, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.



# HATMAKER, DINSMORE & STABLES

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

206 VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA 22801

DAVID J. HATMAKER

ROBERT G. DINSMORE, JR.

WILLIAM L. STABLES, JR.

May 26, 1976

TELEPHONE (703) 434-7306

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
418 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

My Dear Kenneth:

I am very sorry not to have had an opportunity to say hello to you Saturday at the convention, especially to thank you and Mr. Mathisen for your efforts on behalf of Bob Dinsmore regarding his appointment as an FHA attorney. That has not yet come through, but we expect it will.

In any event, congratulations on your renomination. The Democrats' failure to oppose you is more eloquent than anything I could say.

As you know, the judgeship for the Western District of Virginia is still under consideration. Please let me express the high regard that I and so many of us at the local bar have for Tom Wilson. In the event that the President should see fit to withdraw his present nomination, I can think of no one better qualified for this bench than Tom.

We badly need a judge in this part of the Western District. Presently, we see our federal judge only once every several weeks, and often, lawyers from Winchester, Front Royal, Woodstock, Luray and Charlottesville must travel to Roanoke to be heard. This is a great burden on them and their clients.

The case load in the Harrisonburg and Charlottesville Divisions compares favorably with that at Abingdon in the southern end of the District. I am told that as of May 6, 1976, the pending civil case load was:



The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Page Two  
May 26, 1976

Harrisonburg	94 cases	
Charlottesville	<u>67</u> cases	
Total Northern Divisions		161 cases
Abingdon		662 cases

The seeming disparity is caused by the fact that an estimated 75% of Abingdon's civil cases are black lung cases. I understand these are now heard by a recently appointed full time magistrate who sits in Abingdon. Of the remaining civil cases in that Division, it is my understanding that a large proportion are social security disability appeals, which are heard by the District Judge on review only.

Excluding black lung cases but including social security cases, the relative case loads are estimated at:

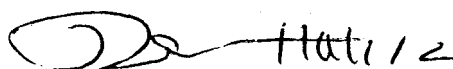
Harrisonburg- Charlottesville	161 cases pending
Abingdon	166 cases pending

I would suggest the conclusion that the relative case load between here and Abingdon is about equal. Considering the additional element of geography and distance, however, it is my belief that a judge who resides in our area should be appointed.

I believe that the endorsements of bar associations in the northern part of the Western District could be obtained for Tom in a relatively short time. His friends have not yet done so because of the delicacy of this matter at the present.

I write this letter both as an attorney and as newly-elected Harrisonburg City Republican Chairman. If you wish any further information which I can provide, please call on me.

Sincerely yours,



David J. Hatmaker

DJH/nab



Wm. B. Timberlake, Jr.  
Richard W. Smith  
Colin J. S. Thomas, Jr.  
P. Donald Moses  
John W. Sills III  
James G. Welsh

*Law Offices*  
*Timberlake, Smith, Thomas & Moses*

*The Virginia Building*  
*Staunton, Virginia 24401*  
*Post Office Box 2566*

*Area Code 703*  
*Telephone 885-1517*

May 24, 1976

Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

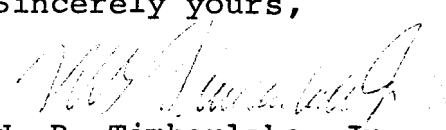
It is my understanding that Mr. Thomas J. Wilson, III, of Harrisonburg, Virginia is being considered for nomination as United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia and I certainly hope that you can assist in obtaining his nomination for this post.

I have known Mr. Wilson since he entered practice and can recommend him most highly both from the standpoint of ability and character. He is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute and the University of Virginia School of Law and has served as Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia, and is presently a Bankruptcy Judge in this District. In addition to this, he was engaged in private practice in Harrisonburg for a number of years with marked success. Throughout his adult life he has been a loyal and dedicated member of the Republican Party.

In addition to my interest in Mr. Wilson, himself, I feel that there is a crying need for a federal judge in Harrisonburg to serve our area of the Valley. There has not been one since Judge Paul retired and, in my opinion, this has resulted in a substantial burden and expense to the people and members of the bar in the entire northern portion of the Valley.

Thanking you for any assistance that you can render  
I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
W. B. Timberlake, Jr.

WBT/thc

ALLEN, DALTON AND WATKINS

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

L. B. & B. BUILDING

POST OFFICE DRAWER 219

WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA 22980

CARTER R. ALLEN  
R. TOMS DALTON, JR.  
G. WILLIAM WATKINS

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 943-1145

May 24, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Member of Congress  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20513

Dear Congressman Robinson:

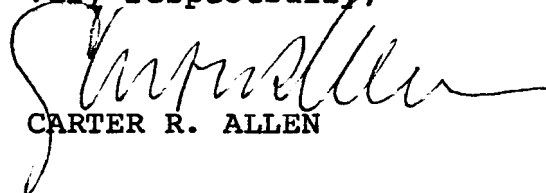
Along with many other residents of the Western District of Virginia I am concerned about the vacancy in the United States District Court occasioned by the retirement of Judge Dalton and the failure of Senate confirmation of William B. Poff, who appears to me to be eminently qualified.

Another concern has been that since the death of Judge Paul no Judge of the Western District has resided north of Roanoke in the Seventh Congressional District and the northern most portion of the Sixth Congressional District.

Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, of Harrisonburg, is eminently qualified. He has served for some time as a Bankruptcy Judge. He has a judicial temperament; he has demonstrated ability and legal scholarship, and has a wide range of experience.

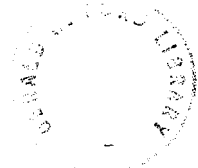
I would hope that this letter might enlist your efforts in support of Thomas J. Wilson, III as a nominee for Senate confirmation.

Very respectfully;



CARTER R. ALLEN

CRA:kay





**LAW OFFICES**  
**LOGAN & LOGAN**  
132-134 WEST COURT STREET  
**WOODSTOCK, VIRGINIA 22664**  
TELEPHONE 459-2121

May 25, 1976

Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
U. S. House of Representatives  
418 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Kenneth:

It was nice talking with you in Stafford last Saturday. We in the 7th., District are very fortunate in having a Congressman of your ability and dedication to represent us.

I spoke with you on Saturday concerning the vacancy existing on the Federal Bench in the Western District of Virginia, suggesting to you the name of Thomas J. Wilson. We, in this area, would like to see a Judge named who would be from our general area. It is my opinion that the Honorable Thomas J. Wilson, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, is eminently qualified to serve on the Federal Bench as a District Judge.

I have known Tom from the time he finished Law School. As a matter of fact, he started his practice in Woodstock, Virginia, with me, and I have kept in rather close touch with him since that time.

I would be pleased, if at the appropriate time, you would feel justified to suggest his name for appointment to the vacancy which now exists.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

LOGAN & LOGAN

*Bill Logan*  
WILLIAM H. LOGAN

WHL:mls



JOHN M. SWETNAM

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW

LURAY, VIRGINIA

22835

ASSOCIATE  
W. DALE HOUFF

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 743-4511

May 27, 1976.

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Robinson:

I am writing to request your consideration of The Honorable Thomas J. Wilson, Bankruptcy Judge, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, for the nomination and appointment as Federal District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

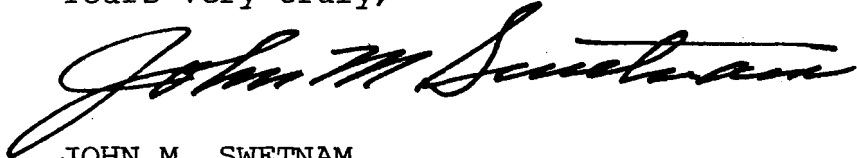
I might state that in my opinion Judge Wilson is eminently qualified from both his legal training and background, and I do not hesitate in any way to strongly urge his consideration and your support.

I would also like to point out that this section of Virginia has not had a Federal Judge since the death of The Honorable John Paul some years ago.

My associate, Mr. W. Dale Houff, is in accord with my views on this matter.

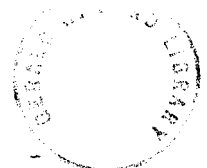
Thanking you for your sincere consideration, I am

Yours very truly,



JOHN M. SWETNAM

JMS/sy



LAW OFFICES  
LARRICK AND WHITE  
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601

J. FREDERICK LARRICK  
JOSEPH W. WHITE

D. P. RABUN  
DANIEL J. PERRY

35 EAST BOSCAWEN STREET

P. O. BOX 764  
TELEPHONE  
AREA CODE 703  
662 2507  
2508

May 28, 1976  
(Dictated May 27, 1976)

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Congressman, Seventh District  
House Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Kenneth:

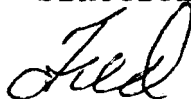
I am writing this letter on behalf of Thomas J. Wilson, and I hope that you will consider him when the time comes to appoint a district judge for the Western District of Virginia. If my recollection serves me correctly, I do not believe the area from Winchester to Harrisonburg has had a judge since the late Judge John Paul.

I have known Tom Wilson since approximately 1942. We went to V.M.I. together and were very good friends. To my knowledge he was a good student. After some five years during World War II, I entered the Law School and he was also a student at the Law School, and of course, our friendship continued.

I know Tom's wife and am familiar with his family background. He comes from a very good family in Clifton Forge, Virginia. He has served as Assistant United States District Attorney for four years and during that period of time carried a substantial part of the workload. I do not know when he first became Referee in Bankruptcy but I have been dealing with him for quite a number of years and I have found him to be most courteous and efficient.

I hope that you will give him your consideration.

Sincerely,



J. Frederick Larrick

JFL/ah

I. RANDOLPH DOVEL  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
102 N. HAWKSBILL STREET  
LURAY, VIRGINIA 22835  
—  
TELEPHONE 743-5026

May 26, 1976

Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson, M. C.  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Kenneth:

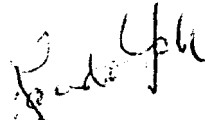
Our mutual friends in Harrisonburg are hopeful that the President will appoint Tom Wilson, Judge for the Western District of Virginia. It is obvious that Poff and Williams can not be and we are hopeful if the President will appoint Tom that Bill Scott will go along with it.

As you have probably been told we need a Judge in the Northern part of the Western District and Tom Wilson would certainly be an excellent choice.

I sincerely hope that you can do everything within your power to have the President appoint Tom at the earliest possible date. If we don't do this soon the appointment may be held up by the Senate until after the election.

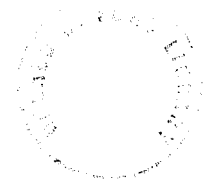
With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



I. Randolph Dovel

IRD/meb



LAW OFFICES  
**LARGENT, ANDERSON, LARRICK AND GROVES**

FLOURNOY L. LARGENT, JR.  
JOHN F. ANDERSON  
J. RANDOLPH LARRICK  
PHILIP E. GROVES  
ERIC E. ADAMSON  
DAVID N. CRUMP, JR.

GRAICHEN BUILDING  
25 EAST BOSCAWEN STREET  
P. O. BOX 444  
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601  
TELEPHONE: 703-682-0321

FRONT ROYAL OFFICE  
COURT HOUSE SQUARE  
P. O. BOX 848  
FRONT ROYAL, VA. 22630  
TELEPHONE: 703-685-8151

May 26, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Kenneth:

I understand from Bill Wharton and my partner, John Anderson, that there is now some question whether Poff or Glenn Williams can be appointed or will be available for the vacancy in the office of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia to succeed Judge Dalton.

Apparently two or three weeks ago John was in Harrisonburg and was discussing the suitability of Tom Wilson for this vacancy. I believe at that time that John, Phil Stone and Bill Wharton all agreed that Tom would be an excellent selection for this position.

John advised me that Bill Wharton called him this morning and stated that now may be the appropriate and exigent time to contact you concerning this matter.

Thomas J. Wilson, III, is currently the Referee in Bankruptcy in Harrisonburg, Virginia. He was born in 1922 and admitted to the Bar in 1947. Tom graduated from Virginia Military Institute and received his law degree from the University of Virginia.

I believe that for approximately four years he was in the Office of the United States District Attorney for the Western District where he



The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Page 2  
May 26, 1976

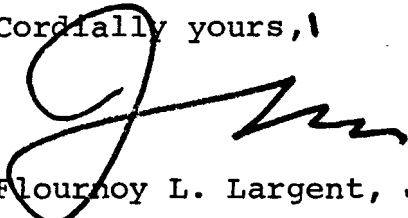
served diligently and with distinction. Tom was in law school at Virginia at the time my partner, John Anderson, was.

For the past 28 or 29 years, Randolph, John and I have had considerable opportunity to observe Tom Wilson's conduct and performance as an Assistant United States Attorney, as a lawyer in private practice, and as a Referee in Bankruptcy. All three of us strongly feel that Tom Wilson would be an excellent judge; that he has the capability to perform the duties of the office; and that he would serve with courtesy, dignity and with the highest degree of legal aptitude.

In addition to our personal knowledge and endorsement of Tom Wilson, I think that it should be carefully considered that we in the Harrisonburg District of this Court have not had a resident (Harrisonburg) judge since Judge Paul. As you know, both Judge Turk and Judge Dalton reside in the Southwest and must travel to Harrisonburg and Charlottesville to conduct the business of the district at those two courts. I believe that you will find the lawyers in Harrisonburg, Winchester, Front Royal and Charlottesville very much in favor of having a judge resident of the City of Harrisonburg.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would consider my position and that of my partners in this matter, and, if at all possible, advise me of the current status of those being considered for this judge vacancy.

Cordially yours,



Flournoy L. Largent, Jr.

jc



LAW OFFICES OF  
LAPSLEY AND DePOY  
VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA 22801

NORVELL A. LAPSLEY  
JACK F. DePOY  
DAVID I. WALSH  
LAWRENCE D. BOWERS, JR.

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 434-6741

June 3, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
United States House of Representatives  
418 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

RE: Appointment of Federal Judgeship for  
Western District of Virginia


Dear Congressman Robinson:

I would appreciate your consideration of Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, member of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham County bar, for the above mentioned appointment. Since Tom's name has been frequently mentioned in regard to this matter, I am confident that you are aware of his fine reputation in our community, both as a citizen and as an attorney. In my opinion he is eminently qualified for the federal bench.

Further, I believe that it would be wise to select an attorney from the Harrisonburg area to fill this vacancy. The case load in our Federal Court here in Harrisonburg certainly justifies having a judge who resides in the community and who can be responsive to the needs of the area served by the Court.

I believe that I am correct when I say that none of the last three appointees to the Federal Court in the Western District have been from this area. Therefore, I and many members of our local bar feel that it is appropriate for the appointment of an attorney from our own area. This is particularly compelling when a man with the qualifications of Tom Wilson is available for the position.

Sincerely,

  
Lawrence D. Bowers, Jr.  
Rockingham County  
Republican Party Chairman



LDB/swm

LAW OFFICES  
**Mc GUIRE, WOODS & BATTLE**  
P. O. Box 1191  
COURT SQUARE BUILDING  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22902  
TELEPHONE (804) 977-2500

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA OFFICE  
ROSS BUILDING  
TELEPHONE (804) 644-4131

June 2, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Ken:

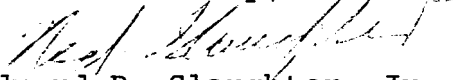
Bill Wharton has asked that I write you concerning the candidacy of Mr. Thomas J. Wilson, III of Harrisonburg, Virginia for the post of United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia. Bill has sent me Mr. Wilson's resume and it is certainly impressive.

As you may know, there has been no federal judge in the Western District residing north of Roanoke since the retirement of the Honorable Thomas J. Michie. While the other judges have been more than accomodating in trying to adjust their schedules for the convenience of the bar in the northern part of the district, it is obviously a convenience to the bar and the public for federal judges to live in different parts of the district.

Bill Wharton, whom I respect tremendously, assures me that Mr. Wilson will make a fine judge and on that basis alone I would recommend his nomination. However, I also think it would be helpful to us to have a judge resident in the northern part of the district.

With my personal regards as always,

Yours sincerely,

  
Edward R. Slaughter, Jr.

ERS,jr./b  
Enclosure  
cc: W. W. Wharton, Esquire





LAW OFFICES  
JOHN F. EWELL  
FRONT ROYAL, VIRGINIA

Formerly  
ATTORNEY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH  
WARREN COUNTY

COURT HOUSE  
P. O. BOX 1239

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 635-2669  
635-5441

June 3, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ken,

I would like to express my support for Thomas J. Wilson, III to be nominated for the office of U. S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia. I feel he is thoroughly competent and well able to fill the position and would be a credit to the office. His fairness and thorough grasp of legal issues is recognized by all who have observed him. His legal background and experience eminently qualify him for this office.

I further feel that it is only fair and equitable that this end of the District have a Judge more accessible than Roanoke for the proper practice of law in the area. The convenience and saving of time would be a great help to those in the northern part of the District.

I am in hopes that you will be able to support his nomination.

Yours very truly,



John F. Ewell



JFE/je

# FORESMAN AND ELKINS

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

HENRY J. FORESMAN  
ESTEL E. ELKINS, JR.

LAW OFFICES  
6 E. WASHINGTON STREET  
LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA  
24450  
703-483-7141

4 June 1976

Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Robinson:

I am writing for the purpose of urging you to recommend to the President of the United States that Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, be nominated as U. S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

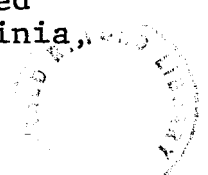
Tom and I have known each other for more than thirty-five years, as Tom was one year behind me at Virginia Military Institute. During the time that we were in the Corps of Cadets together, I was quite close to Tom, as we ate at the same table for three years, as well as being members of the same Company.

During the intervening years, we have been associated together in a number of cases, and, of course, during Tom's tenure as Assistant U. S. Attorney for the Western District of Virginia, I was involved in a number of criminal cases which Tom prosecuted.

Since Tom's appointment as U. S. Bankruptcy Judge, I have appeared before him on numerous occasions.

Tom Wilson is a man of the highest integrity and possesses a most astute and penetrating legal mind. He has demonstrated his judicial temperament and fairness while occupying the bench as U. S. Bankruptcy Judge, and I believe that Tom Wilson would be a truly outstanding member of the federal judiciary.

Geographically, Tom's appointment would balance the Western District, as the Chief Judge and the only retired Judge of the Western District live in the Radford, Virginia, area.

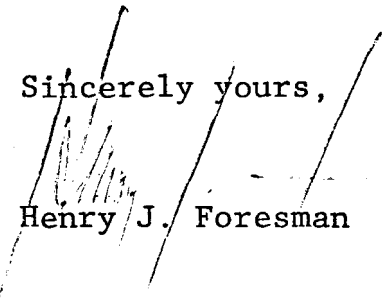


In writing this letter, I have presumed upon the fact that we were formerly a part of the Seventh Congressional District, and upon the fact that you have been so helpful in the past in connection with the Flood Control Project in Buena Vista.

Incidentally, your son, Jim, might be interested in knowing that Henry, Jr., graduated from VMI last month and will head to Fort Bragg next week for summer camp. All of us enjoyed Jim so much the summer he spent in Lexington.

With kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

  
Henry J. Foresman

HJF/cms



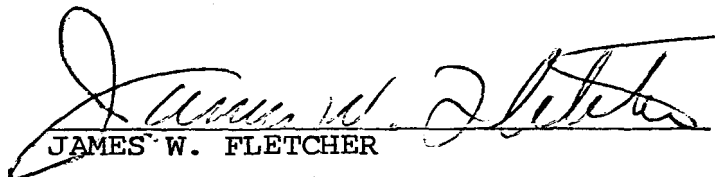
June 2, 1976

RESOLUTION OF RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Upon motion of James W. Fletcher, seconded by George H. Davis, Jr., the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rappahannock County Bar Association does hereby recommend Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire of Harrisonburg, Virginia, be appointed United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, by the President of the United States; and,

That the said Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, is a member in good standing with his local and state bar associations, is a competent member of the legal profession, is eminently endowed with judicial countenance and integrity, and is highly qualified for an appointment to the bench.

  
JAMES W. FLETCHER

  
GEORGE H. DAVIS, JR.

  
MAURICE F. BIDDLE

HOOVER & HOOVER  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA 22801

LAWRENCE H. HOOVER  
LAWRENCE H. HOOVER, JR.  
DAVID A. PENROD  
CHARLES S. McNULTY, III

306 VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 433-2444

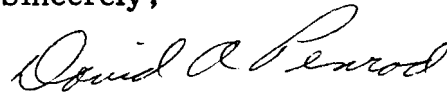
June 2, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
The House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Robinson:

Enclosed is a copy of a resolution recently passed by the  
Harrisonburg-Rockingham Bar Association of Virginia relative to the  
appointment of a Federal Judge for the Western District of Virginia.  
We respectfully request that you give this resolution your attention  
and consideration.

Sincerely,



David A. Penrod, Secretary  
Harrisonburg-Rockingham Bar  
Association

DAP/nws

Enclosure



WHEREAS, a vacancy exists for a judgeship in the Western District of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, said judgeship should be filled as soon as possible to prevent further overloading of said court; and

WHEREAS, no judge of said District is resident in the northern part thereof; and

WHEREAS, a judge is badly needed in the northern part of the District to expedite the handling of cases and to eliminate long and expensive travel for lawyers and clients; and

WHEREAS, Glen William's name has been proposed by Senator William L. Scott, but it appears that the President of the United States does not wish to forward his name to the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, a lawyer now serving as Bankruptcy Judge and resident in Harrisonburg, is eminently qualified in every way to assume this judgeship; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Bar Association does this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 1976 wholeheartedly and unanimously endorse Thomas J. Wilson, III, for said judgeship and most respectfully urges the President to nominate him at the earliest possible time. Be it further RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forthwith sent to the President, to Senators Scott and Harry F. Byrd, Jr., to Congressman J. Kenneth Robinson and to the Attorney General of the United States.

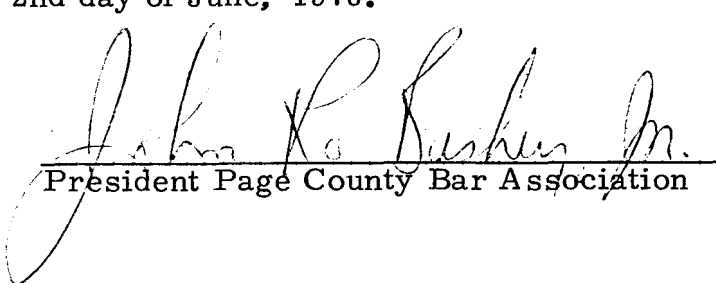



At a called meeting of the Page County Bar Association held at the Courthouse at Luray, Virginia, at 4:00 p.m. on June 2, 1976, on motion of Attorney A. E. Hackley, seconded by Attorney John M. Swetnam, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted by the members of the Bar.

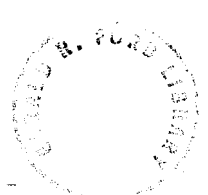
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Page County Bar Association endorse Honorable Thomas J. Wilson, III, of 805 Oak Hill Drive, Harrisonburg, Virginia, for appointment to the vacant Judgeship of the Federal Court for the Western District of Virginia, the members of this Bar being fully acquainted with the excellent qualifications of Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, both professionally and personally, for this most important position.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to The Honorable Edward H. Levi, The Attorney General of the United States, The Honorable William L. Scott, Senator from Virginia, and The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson, Congressman from the Seventh District of Virginia, with our urgent request that they approve and support this appointment.

Respectfully submitted this 2nd day of June, 1976.

  
President Page County Bar Association

  
Secretary Page County Bar Association



WAYNESBORO BAR ASSOCIATION

POST OFFICE BOX 1140 • WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA 22980

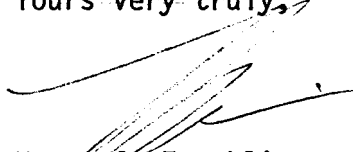
June 3, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I am enclosing herewith a resolution adopted by the Waynesboro Bar Association in regard to the nomination and election of Thomas J. Wilson, III, as Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

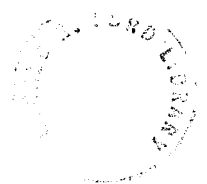
Yours very truly,



Humes J. Franklin  
President of the Waynesboro Bar  
Association

HJF/eak

Encl.





RESOLUTION OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION  
OF THE CITY OF WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA,  
ADOPTED JUNE 2, 1976

The following Resolution duly adopted by the Bar Association of the City of Waynesboro, Virginia, on June 2, 1976, was directed to be mailed forthwith to The Honorable Edward H. Levi, Attorney General of the United States; The Honorable William Lloyd Scott, United States Senator from Virginia; and The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson, Member of the House of Representatives from the Seventh District of Virginia.

RESOLVED: That the nomination and election of Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, 805 Oak Hill Drive, Harrisonburg, Virginia, as Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, be urged upon the addresses hereof for the reasons following:

(1) That he is eminently qualified by birth, education, and national military service.

(2) That he has practiced law with success since 1947, having served as Chairman of the Seventh District Virginia State Bar Association, and as Regional Vice-President of the Virginia State Bar Association.

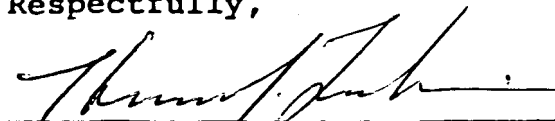
(3) That he has been Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia.

(4) That he has been United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Virginia, and a permanent member of the Judicial Conference of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

(5) That he is a churchman and former Senior Warden, married, with four children.

(6) That he is of a judicial temperament, evidencing scholarship and a devotion to the principles of the Rule of Law as a way of life for free people.

Respectfully,



Humes J. Franklin,  
President of the Bar Association  
of the City of Waynesboro, Virginia

J. KENNETH ROBINSON,  
7TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE:  
APPROPRIATIONS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

OFFICES IN THE 7TH DISTRICT:  
112 N. CAMERON STREET (P.O. Box 714)  
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601  
TELEPHONE: (703) 667-0990

212-B POST OFFICE BLDG. (P.O. Box 136)  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22902  
TELEPHONE: (804) 295-2106

5 POST OFFICE BLDG. (P.O. Box 336)  
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA 22401  
TELEPHONE: (703) 373-0536

June 8, 1976

Philip W. Buchen, Esquire  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Buchen:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have sent to the President in regard to the judgeship vacancy in the Western District of Virginia.

As will be seen, I am commending to the consideration of the President Thomas J. Wilson, Esquire, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, an attorney in private practice who formerly served as an Assistant U. S. Attorney for the Western District of Virginia and has served, as required, since 1965 as Bankruptcy Judge, or referee, for that district.

In addition to the copies of local Bar Associations resolutions which I sent to the President, I am enclosing, for your information, copies of other expressions I have received in his behalf.

In particular, I should like to direct your attention to the recurring comments as to the need of a Judge residing in the northern area of this court's jurisdiction, in order to provide more convenient access for attorneys who now often find it necessary to travel to Roanoke to present matters to the court.

The Harrisonburg division of the court has not had a Judge on regular duty since the late Judge John Paul retired in 1958, although he continued to serve in the capacity of a senior Judge until his death in 1963. The docket in that division, I am informed, now is the heaviest it has been in many years.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. Kenneth Robinson

PLEASE REPLY TO WASHINGTON UNLESS INDICATED: ☐ WINCHESTER ☐ CHARLOTTESVILLE ☐ FREDERICKSBURG

May 21, 1976

Thomas J. Wilson, III  
805 Oak Hill Drive  
Harrisonburg, Virginia

Born at Somerset, Orange County, Virginia, October 13, 1922, the son of the late State Senator and Mrs. Thos. J. Wilson, Jr., of Clifton Forge, Virginia.

Graduated at age 19 from Virginia Military Institute in 1942. Cadet Commissioned Officer with Academic Distinction 3rd and 4th years. R O T C Honor Graduate.

1942 - 1946. U. S. Army Field Artillery Officer with 20 months service in Europe - - 11 months combat duty as artillery forward observer in France, Belgium and Germany with 5 battle stars. Army reserve after war. Rank - Capt.

University of Virginia Law School graduate in February, 1948.

1947 - admitted to Virginia State Bar.

Practiced law at Woodstock, Virginia, and Harrisonburg, Virginia, 1948 - 1953.

Vice Chairman, 7th District Republican Committee, 1952-53.

Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia, 1953-58.

1958 to date, practice of law at Harrisonburg, Virginia.

1959 - Vice President, Virginia State Bar Association, Valley region.

1962-63 - Chairman, 7th District Committee of the Virginia State Bar.

1963 - President, Harrisonburg Bar Association.

U. S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Virginia on a part-time basis, 1965 to date.

Permanent member, Judicial Conference of the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Married to the former Margaret Brock of Harrisonburg. Four children, all of whom are in college.

Thomas J. Wilson, III  
May 21, 1976  
Page -2-

Former Vestryman and Senior Warden, Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
at Harrisonburg.

Member, Virginia State Bar Association, Virginia State Bar,  
Masonic Order, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.



# HATMAKER, DINSMORE & STABLES

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

206 VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA 22801

DAVID J. HATMAKER  
ROBERT C. DINSMORE, JR.  
WILLIAM L. STABLES, JR.

May 26, 1976

TELEPHONE (703) 434-7306

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
418 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

My Dear Kenneth:

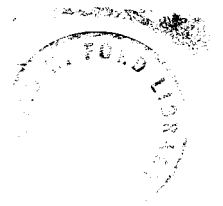
I am very sorry not to have had an opportunity to say hello to you Saturday at the convention, especially to thank you and Mr. Mathisen for your efforts on behalf of Bob Dinsmore regarding his appointment as an FHA attorney. That has not yet come through, but we expect it will.

In any event, congratulations on your renomination. The Democrats' failure to oppose you is more eloquent than anything I could say.

As you know, the judgeship for the Western District of Virginia is still under consideration. Please let me express the high regard that I and so many of us at the local bar have for Tom Wilson. In the event that the President should see fit to withdraw his present nomination, I can think of no one better qualified for this bench than Tom.

We badly need a judge in this part of the Western District. Presently, we see our federal judge only once every several weeks, and often, lawyers from Winchester, Front Royal, Woodstock, Luray and Charlottesville must travel to Roanoke to be heard. This is a great burden on them and their clients.

The case load in the Harrisonburg and Charlottesville Divisions compares favorably with that at Abingdon in the southern end of the District. I am told that as of May 6, 1976, the pending civil case load was:



The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Page Two  
May 26, 1976

Harrisonburg	94 cases	
Charlottesville	<u>67</u> cases	
Total Northern Divisions		161 cases
Abingdon		662 cases

The seeming disparity is caused by the fact that an estimated 75% of Abingdon's civil cases are black lung cases. I understand these are now heard by a recently appointed full time magistrate who sits in Abingdon. Of the remaining civil cases in that Division, it is my understanding that a large proportion are social security disability appeals, which are heard by the District Judge on review only.

Excluding black lung cases but including social security cases, the relative case loads are estimated at:

Harrisonburg- Charlottesville	161 cases pending
Abingdon	166 cases pending

I would suggest the conclusion that the relative case load between here and Abingdon is about equal. Considering the additional element of geography and distance, however, it is my belief that a judge who resides in our area should be appointed.

I believe that the endorsements of bar associations in the northern part of the Western District could be obtained for Tom in a relatively short time. His friends have not yet done so because of the delicacy of this matter at the present.

I write this letter both as an attorney and as newly-elected Harrisonburg City Republican Chairman. If you wish any further information which I can provide, please call on me.

Sincerely yours,



David J. Hatmaker

DJH/nab



Wesley B. Timberlake, Jr.  
Richard W. Smith  
Colin J. S. Thomas, Jr.  
P. Donald Moses  
John W. Sills III  
James G. Welsh

*Law Offices*  
*Timberlake, Smith, Thomas & Moses*

*The Virginia Building*  
*Staunton, Virginia 24401*  
*Post Office Box 2566*

*Area Code 703*  
*Telephone 885-1517*

May 24, 1976

Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

It is my understanding that Mr. Thomas J. Wilson, III, of Harrisonburg, Virginia is being considered for nomination as United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia and I certainly hope that you can assist in obtaining his nomination for this post.

I have known Mr. Wilson since he entered practice and can recommend him most highly both from the standpoint of ability and character. He is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute and the University of Virginia School of Law and has served as Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia, and is presently a Bankruptcy Judge in this District. In addition to this, he was engaged in private practice in Harrisonburg for a number of years with marked success. Throughout his adult life he has been a loyal and dedicated member of the Republican Party.

In addition to my interest in Mr. Wilson, himself, I feel that there is a crying need for a federal judge in Harrisonburg to serve our area of the Valley. There has not been one since Judge Paul retired and, in my opinion, this has resulted in a substantial burden and expense to the people and members of the bar in the entire northern portion of the Valley.

Thanking you for any assistance that you can render  
I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
W. B. Timberlake, Jr.



WBT/thc

ALLEN, DALTON AND WATKINS

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

L. B. & B. BUILDING

POST OFFICE DRAWER 219

WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA 22980

CARTER R. ALLEN  
R. TOMS DALTON, JR.  
G. WILLIAM WATKINS

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 943-1145

May 24, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Member of Congress  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20513

Dear Congressman Robinson:

Along with many other residents of the Western District of Virginia I am concerned about the vacancy in the United States District Court occasioned by the retirement of Judge Dalton and the failure of Senate confirmation of William B. Poff, who appears to me to be eminently qualified.

Another concern has been that since the death of Judge Paul no Judge of the Western District has resided north of Roanoke in the Seventh Congressional District and the northern most portion of the Sixth Congressional District.

Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, of Harrisonburg, is eminently qualified. He has served for some time as a Bankruptcy Judge. He has a judicial temperament; he has demonstrated ability and legal scholarship, and has a wide range of experience.

I would hope that this letter might enlist your efforts in support of Thomas J. Wilson, III as a nominee for Senate confirmation.

Very respectfully;



CARTER R. ALLEN

CRA:kay



**LAW OFFICES**  
**LOGAN & LOGAN**  
132-134 WEST COURT STREET  
**WOODSTOCK, VIRGINIA 22664**  
TELEPHONE 459-2121

May 25, 1976

Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
U. S. House of Representatives  
418 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Kenneth:

It was nice talking with you in Stafford last Saturday. We in the 7th., District are very fortunate in having a Congressman of your ability and dedication to represent us.

I spoke with you on Saturday concerning the vacancy existing on the Federal Bench in the Western District of Virginia, suggesting to you the name of Thomas J. Wilson. We, in this area, would like to see a Judge named who would be from our general area. It is my opinion that the Honorable Thomas J. Wilson, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, is eminently qualified to serve on the Federal Bench as a District Judge.

I have known Tom from the time he finished Law School. As a matter of fact, he started his practice in Woodstock, Virginia, with me, and I have kept in rather close touch with him since that time.

I would be pleased, if at the appropriate time, you would feel justified to suggest his name for appointment to the vacancy which now exists.

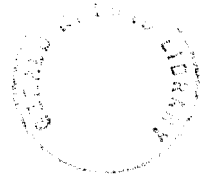
With best wishes.

Sincerely,

LOGAN & LOGAN

*Bill Logan*  
WILLIAM H. LOGAN

WHL:mls



JOHN M. SWETNAM

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW

LURAY, VIRGINIA

22835

ASSOCIATE  
W. DALE HOUFF

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 743-4511

May 27, 1976.

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Robinson:

I am writing to request your consideration of The Honorable Thomas J. Wilson, Bankruptcy Judge, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, for the nomination and appointment as Federal District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

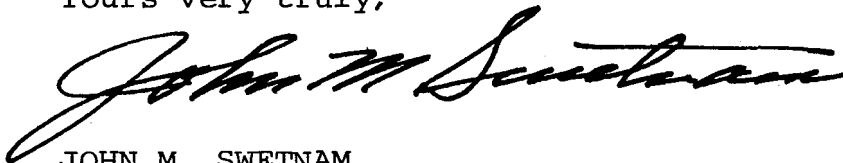
I might state that in my opinion Judge Wilson is eminently qualified from both his legal training and background, and I do not hesitate in any way to strongly urge his consideration and your support.

I would also like to point out that this section of Virginia has not had a Federal Judge since the death of The Honorable John Paul some years ago.

My associate, Mr. W. Dale Houff, is in accord with my views on this matter.

Thanking you for your sincere consideration, I am

Yours very truly,



JOHN M. SWETNAM

JMS/sy



LAW OFFICES  
LARRICK AND WHITE  
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601

35 EAST BOSCAWEN STREET

J. FREDERICK LARRICK  
JOSEPH W. WHITE  
D. P. RABUN  
DANIEL J. PERRY

P. O. BOX 764  
TELEPHONE  
AREA CODE 703  
662 2507  
2508

May 28, 1976  
(Dictated May 27, 1976)

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Congressman, Seventh District  
House Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Kenneth:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Thomas J. Wilson, and I hope that you will consider him when the time comes to appoint a district judge for the Western District of Virginia. If my recollection serves me correctly, I do not believe the area from Winchester to Harrisonburg has had a judge since the late Judge John Paul.

I have known Tom Wilson since approximately 1942. We went to V.M.I. together and were very good friends. To my knowledge he was a good student. After some five years during World War II, I entered the Law School and he was also a student at the Law School, and of course, our friendship continued.

I know Tom's wife and am familiar with his family background. He comes from a very good family in Clifton Forge, Virginia. He has served as Assistant United States District Attorney for four years and during that period of time carried a substantial part of the workload. I do not know when he first became Referee in Bankruptcy but I have been dealing with him for quite a number of years and I have found him to be most courteous and efficient.

I hope that you will give him your consideration.

Sincerely,



J. Frederick Larrick

JFL/ah

I. RANDOLPH DOVEL  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
102 N. HAWKSBILL STREET  
LURAY, VIRGINIA 22835  
—  
TELEPHONE 743-5028

May 26, 1976

Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson, M. C.  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Kenneth:

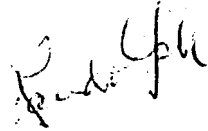
Our mutual friends in Harrisonburg are hopeful that the President will appoint Tom Wilson, Judge for the Western District of Virginia. It is obvious that Poff and Williams can not be and we are hopeful if the President will appoint Tom that Bill Scott will go along with it.

As you have probably been told we need a Judge in the Northern part of the Western District and Tom Wilson would certainly be an excellent choice.

I sincerely hope that you can do everything within your power to have the President appoint Tom at the earliest possible date. If we don't do this soon the appointment may be held up by the Senate until after the election.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



I. Randolph Dovel

IRD/meb



LAW OFFICES  
**LARGENT, ANDERSON, LARRICK AND GROVES**

FLOURNOY L. LARGENT, JR.  
JOHN F. ANDERSON  
J. RANDOLPH LARRICK  
PHILIP E. GROVES  
ERIC E. ADAMSON  
DAVID N. CRUMP, JR.

GRAICHEN BUILDING  
25 EAST BOSCAWEN STREET  
P. O. BOX 444  
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601  
TELEPHONE: 703-662-0321

FRONT ROYAL OFFICE  
COURT HOUSE SQUARE  
P. O. BOX 848  
FRONT ROYAL, VA. 22630  
TELEPHONE: 703-635-3151

May 26, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Kenneth:

I understand from Bill Wharton and my partner, John Anderson, that there is now some question whether Poff or Glenn Williams can be appointed or will be available for the vacancy in the office of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia to succeed Judge Dalton.

Apparently two or three weeks ago John was in Harrisonburg and was discussing the suitability of Tom Wilson for this vacancy. I believe at that time that John, Phil Stone and Bill Wharton all agreed that Tom would be an excellent selection for this position.

John advised me that Bill Wharton called him this morning and stated that now may be the appropriate and exigent time to contact you concerning this matter.

Thomas J. Wilson, III, is currently the Referee in Bankruptcy in Harrisonburg, Virginia. He was born in 1922 and admitted to the Bar in 1947. Tom graduated from Virginia Military Institute and received his law degree from the University of Virginia.

I believe that for approximately four years he was in the Office of the United States District Attorney for the Western District where he



The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Page 2  
May 26, 1976

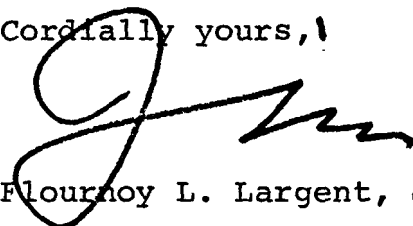
served diligently and with distinction. Tom was in law school at Virginia at the time my partner, John Anderson, was.

For the past 28 or 29 years, Randolph, John and I have had considerable opportunity to observe Tom Wilson's conduct and performance as an Assistant United States Attorney, as a lawyer in private practice, and as a Referee in Bankruptcy. All three of us strongly feel that Tom Wilson would be an excellent judge; that he has the capability to perform the duties of the office; and that he would serve with courtesy, dignity and with the highest degree of legal aptitude.

In addition to our personal knowledge and endorsement of Tom Wilson, I think that it should be carefully considered that we in the Harrisonburg District of this Court have not had a resident (Harrisonburg) judge since Judge Paul. As you know, both Judge Turk and Judge Dalton reside in the Southwest and must travel to Harrisonburg and Charlottesville to conduct the business of the district at those two courts. I believe that you will find the lawyers in Harrisonburg, Winchester, Front Royal and Charlottesville very much in favor of having a judge resident of the City of Harrisonburg.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would consider my position and that of my partners in this matter, and, if at all possible, advise me of the current status of those being considered for this judge vacancy.

Cordially yours,!



Flournoy L. Largent, Jr.

jc

LAW OFFICES OF  
LAPSLEY AND DEPOY  
VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA 22801

NORVELL A. LAPSLEY  
JACK F. DEPOY  
DAVID I. WALSH  
LAWRENCE D. BOWERS, JR.

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 434-6741

June 3, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
United States House of Representatives  
418 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

RE: Appointment of Federal Judgeship for  
Western District of Virginia


Dear Congressman Robinson:

I would appreciate your consideration of Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, member of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham County bar, for the above mentioned appointment. Since Tom's name has been frequently mentioned in regard to this matter, I am confident that you are aware of his fine reputation in our community, both as a citizen and as an attorney. In my opinion he is eminently qualified for the federal bench.

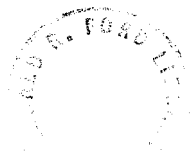
Further, I believe that it would be wise to select an attorney from the Harrisonburg area to fill this vacancy. The case load in our Federal Court here in Harrisonburg certainly justifies having a judge who resides in the community and who can be responsive to the needs of the area served by the Court.

I believe that I am correct when I say that none of the last three appointees to the Federal Court in the Western District have been from this area. Therefore, I and many members of our local bar feel that it is appropriate for the appointment of an attorney from our own area. This is particularly compelling when a man with the qualifications of Tom Wilson is available for the position.

Sincerely,



Lawrence D. Bowers, Jr.  
Rockingham County  
Republican Party Chairman



LDB/swm

LAW OFFICES  
**Mc GUIRE, WOODS & BATTLE**  
P. O. Box 1191  
COURT SQUARE BUILDING  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22902  
TELEPHONE (804) 977-2500

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA OFFICE  
ROSS BUILDING  
TELEPHONE (804) 644-4131

June 2, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Ken:

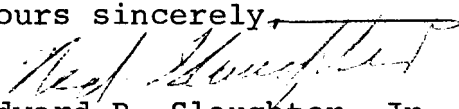
Bill Wharton has asked that I write you concerning the candidacy of Mr. Thomas J. Wilson, III of Harrisonburg, Virginia for the post of United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia. Bill has sent me Mr. Wilson's resume and it is certainly impressive.

As you may know, there has been no federal judge in the Western District residing north of Roanoke since the retirement of the Honorable Thomas J. Michie. While the other judges have been more than accomodating in trying to adjust their schedules for the convenience of the bar in the northern part of the district, it is obviously a convenience to the bar and the public for federal judges to live in different parts of the district.

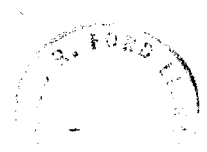
Bill Wharton, whom I respect tremendously, assures me that Mr. Wilson will make a fine judge and on that basis alone I would recommend his nomination. However, I also think it would be helpful to us to have a judge resident in the northern part of the district.

With my personal regards as always,

Yours sincerely,

  
Edward R. Slaughter, Jr.

ERS,jr./b  
Enclosure  
cc: W. W. Wharton, Esquire





LAW OFFICES  
JOHN F. EWELL  
FRONT ROYAL, VIRGINIA

Formerly  
ATTORNEY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH  
WARREN COUNTY

COURT HOUSE  
P. O. BOX 1239

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 635-2660  
635-5441

June 3, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.


Dear Ken,

I would like to express my support for Thomas J. Wilson, III to be nominated for the office of U. S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia. I feel he is thoroughly competent and well able to fill the position and would be a credit to the office. His fairness and thorough grasp of legal issues is recognized by all who have observed him. His legal background and experience eminently qualify him for this office.

I further feel that it is only fair and equitable that this end of the District have a Judge more accessible than Roanoke for the proper practice of law in the area. The convenience and saving of time would be a great help to those in the northern part of the District.

I am in hopes that you will be able to support his nomination.

Yours very truly,

  
John F. Ewell

JFE/je

# FORESMAN AND ELKINS

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

HENRY J. FORESMAN  
ESTEL E. ELKINS, JR.

LAW OFFICES  
6 E. WASHINGTON STREET  
LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA  
24450  
703-463-7141

4 June 1976

Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Robinson:

I am writing for the purpose of urging you to recommend to the President of the United States that Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, be nominated as U. S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

Tom and I have known each other for more than thirty-five years, as Tom was one year behind me at Virginia Military Institute. During the time that we were in the Corps of Cadets together, I was quite close to Tom, as we ate at the same table for three years, as well as being members of the same Company.

During the intervening years, we have been associated together in a number of cases, and, of course, during Tom's tenure as Assistant U. S. Attorney for the Western District of Virginia, I was involved in a number of criminal cases which Tom prosecuted.

Since Tom's appointment as U. S. Bankruptcy Judge, I have appeared before him on numerous occasions.

Tom Wilson is a man of the highest integrity and possesses a most astute and penetrating legal mind. He has demonstrated his judicial temperament and fairness while occupying the bench as U. S. Bankruptcy Judge, and I believe that Tom Wilson would be a truly outstanding member of the federal judiciary.

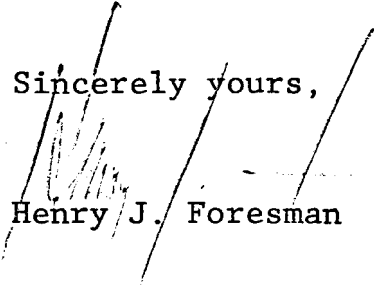
Geographically, Tom's appointment would balance the Western District, as the Chief Judge and the only retired Judge of the Western District live in the Radford, Virginia, area.

In writing this letter, I have presumed upon the fact that we were formerly a part of the Seventh Congressional District, and upon the fact that you have been so helpful in the past in connection with the Flood Control Project in Buena Vista.

Incidentally, your son, Jim, might be interested in knowing that Henry, Jr., graduated from VMI last month and will head to Fort Bragg next week for summer camp. All of us enjoyed Jim so much the summer he spent in Lexington.

With kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

  
Henry J. Foresman

HJF/cms

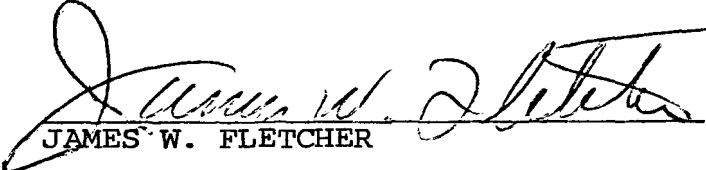
June 2, 1976

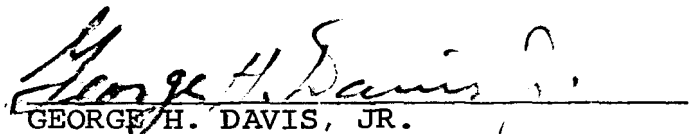
RESOLUTION OF RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

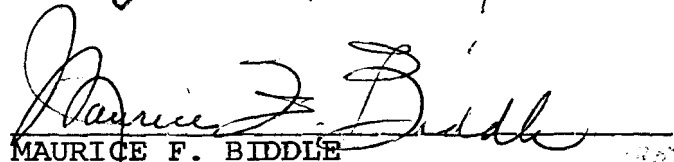
Upon motion of James W. Fletcher, seconded by George H. Davis, Jr., the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rappahannock County Bar Association does hereby recommend Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire of Harrisonburg, Virginia, be appointed United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, by the President of the United States; and,

That the said Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, is a member in good standing with his local and state bar associations, is a competent member of the legal profession, is eminently endowed with judicial countenance and integrity, and is highly qualified for an appointment to the bench.

  
JAMES W. FLETCHER

  
GEORGE H. DAVIS, JR.

  
MAURICE F. BIDDLE

HOOVER & HOOVER  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA 22801

LAWRENCE H. HOOVER  
LAWRENCE H. HOOVER, JR.  
DAVID A. PENROD  
CHARLES S. McNULTY, III

308 VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 433-2444

June 2, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
The House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Robinson:

Enclosed is a copy of a resolution recently passed by the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Bar Association of Virginia relative to the appointment of a Federal Judge for the Western District of Virginia. We respectfully request that you give this resolution your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



David A. Penrod, Secretary  
Harrisonburg-Rockingham Bar  
Association

DAP/nws

Enclosure

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists for a judgeship in the Western District of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, said judgeship should be filled as soon as possible to prevent further overloading of said court; and

WHEREAS, no judge of said District is resident in the northern part thereof; and

WHEREAS, a judge is badly needed in the northern part of the District to expedite the handling of cases and to eliminate long and expensive travel for lawyers and clients; and

WHEREAS, Glen William's name has been proposed by Senator William L. Scott, but it appears that the President of the United States does not wish to forward his name to the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, a lawyer now serving as Bankruptcy Judge and resident in Harrisonburg, is eminently qualified in every way to assume this judgeship; now therefore be it

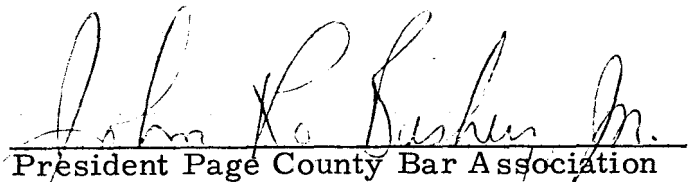
RESOLVED that the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Bar Association does this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 1976 wholeheartedly and unanimously endorse Thomas J. Wilson, III, for said judgeship and most respectfully urges the President to nominate him at the earliest possible time. Be it further RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forthwith sent to the President, to Senators Scott and Harry F. Byrd, Jr., to Congressman J. Kenneth Robinson and to the Attorney General of the United States.

At a called meeting of the Page County Bar Association held at the Courthouse at Luray, Virginia, at 4:00 p.m. on June 2, 1976, on motion of Attorney A. E. Hackley, seconded by Attorney John M. Swetnam, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted by the members of the Bar.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Page County Bar Association endorse Honorable Thomas J. Wilson, III, of 805 Oak Hill Drive, Harrisonburg, Virginia, for appointment to the vacant Judgeship of the Federal Court for the Western District of Virginia, the members of this Bar being fully acquainted with the excellent qualifications of Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, both professionally and personally, for this most important position.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to The Honorable Edward H. Levi, The Attorney General of the United States, The Honorable William L. Scott, Senator from Virginia, and The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson, Congressman from the Seventh District of Virginia, with our urgent request that they approve and support this appointment.

Respectfully submitted this 2nd day of June, 1976.

  
President Page County Bar Association

  
Secretary Page County Bar Association

WAYNESBORO BAR ASSOCIATION

POST OFFICE BOX 1140 • WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA 22980

June 3, 1976

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I am enclosing herewith a resolution adopted by the Waynesboro Bar Association in regard to the nomination and election of Thomas J. Wilson, III, as Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Humes J. Franklin', written over a horizontal line.

Humes J. Franklin  
President of the Waynesboro Bar  
Association

HJF/eak

Encl.



RESOLUTION OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION  
OF THE CITY OF WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA,  
ADOPTED JUNE 2, 1976

The following Resolution duly adopted by the Bar Association of the City of Waynesboro, Virginia, on June 2, 1976, was directed to be mailed forthwith to The Honorable Edward H. Levi, Attorney General of the United States; The Honorable William Lloyd Scott, United States Senator from Virginia; and The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson, Member of the House of Representatives from the Seventh District of Virginia.

RESOLVED: That the nomination and election of Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, 805 Oak Hill Drive, Harrisonburg, Virginia, as Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, be urged upon the addresses hereof for the reasons following:

(1) That he is eminently qualified by birth, education, and national military service.

(2) That he has practiced law with success since 1947, having served as Chairman of the Seventh District Virginia State Bar Association, and as Regional Vice-President of the Virginia State Bar Association.

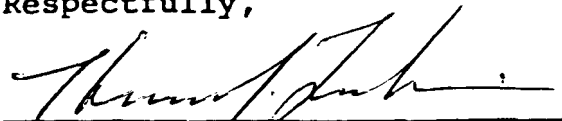
(3) That he has been Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia.

(4) That he has been United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Virginia, and a permanent member of the Judicial Conference of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

(5) That he is a churchman and former Senior Warden, married, with four children.

(6) That he is of a judicial temperament, evidencing scholarship and a devotion to the principles of the Rule of Law as a way of life for free people.

Respectfully,



Humes J. Franklin,  
President of the Bar Association  
of the City of Waynesboro, Virginia

Judicial  
appointments

Wednesday 9/8/76

10:00 Paul Manafort had asked for a copy  
of Glen Williams' bio -- we have  
xeroxed a copy for them.

I have the files on  
Ed Wilson + Williams  
in the safe.

9/9/76 files ret'd to  
Dawn for  
return to  
Modlin



Wednesday 9/8/76

3:22 Trudy called to say the President  
has signed the nomination for  
Glen Williams for the Virginia judgeship.

Do you want to call Sen. William Scott? ✓

And Congressman Dan Daniel?

Anyone else?



Wednesday 9/8/76

2:50

Trudy said the package is still with the President -- he has not yet acted on the Virginia judgeship.

She will call us when she gets something back.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: PHILIP W. BUCHEN *P.*

Chief Judge Turk and Judge Ted Dalton of the U. S. District Court of the Western District of Virginia called this morning and asked me to report to you that they find Glenn Williams to be much more qualified for appointment to fill the vacancy in that Court than they do Thomas Wilson.

These judges have previously asked to confer directly with you. I believed it was unnecessary and inappropriate for you to meet with these judges but I did offer to pass their comments on to you in this fashion.

cc: Douglas Bennett  
William Nicholson



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 3, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FROM:

JAMES E. CONNOR *JEE*

SUBJECT:

Virginia Judgeship

The President reviewed your memorandum of September 2 and approved the recommendation that he propose Tom Wilson to become the U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

In addition, the following notation was made:

"If possible or necessary, set up meeting with Congressional members for Tuesday A.M."

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

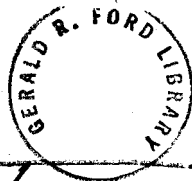
cc: Messrs. Jack Marsh

Max Friedersdorf

Douglas Bennett

Peter McPherson

Jerry Jones



*Phil - Meeting set for  
9 a.m. on Wednesday  
May 7.*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 3, 1976

*For filing -  
we have meeting  
set for Wednesday  
J.*

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHILIP W. BUCHEN  
FROM: JAMES E. CONNOR *JEB*  
SUBJECT: Virginia Judgeship

The President reviewed your memorandum of September 2 and approved the recommendation that he propose Tom Wilson to become the U. S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

In addition, the following notation was made:

"If possible or necessary, set up meeting with Congressional members for Tuesday A.M. "

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Messrs. Jack Marsh  
Max Friedersdorf  
Douglas Bennett  
Peter McPherson  
Jerry Jones



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 2, 1976

*Judgeships*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: PHILIP W. BUCHEN *P.*

SUBJECT: Virginia Judgeships

A meeting was held this afternoon among the following: Jack Marsh, Max Friedersdorf, Douglas Bennett, Peter McPherson and me. It is the considered recommendation of this group that you propose Tom Wilson to become the U. S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

It is desirable that your nomination be submitted on Tuesday, September 7, as soon as the Senate returns.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

See Me \_\_\_\_\_

cc: Mr. Jack Marsh  
Mr. Max Friedersdorf  
Mr. Douglas Bennett  
Mr. Peter McPherson





THOMAS J. WILSON III

*US Dist Judge - Western Dist of Va.*

born: October 13, 1922 Somerset, Virginia

Legal Residence: Virginia

Marital Status: Married Wife-Margaret Brock; 4 children

Education: 1938-1942 Virginia Military Institute  
B. A. (1942)

1946-1948 University of Virginia Law School  
LL. B. (1948)

Bar: 1947 Virginia

Military Service: 1942-1946 United States Army  
First Lieutenant.

1946-1960 United States Army Reserves  
Captain

Experience: 1948 William H. Logan, Attorney

1948-1953 Private Practice of Law

1953-1958 Assistant United States Attorney  
Western District of Virginia

1958-1966 Attorney at Law with Clarke, Wilson  
and Bradshaw (subsequently named  
Clark and Wilson)

1966 - Present Private Practice of Law

1966 - Present Referee in Bankruptcy, Western  
District of Virginia (part-time)

Home Address: 805 Oak Hill Drive  
Harrisonburg, Virginia

Political Affiliation: Republican



9/7/76

Files on  
De Simone  
and Westbringer  
are being  
returned to  
Modlin at Justice  
(according to Dawn)

Mr. B has Wilson  
Bennett's office is sending  
Williams file to us.



*Virginia  
Judgeship.*

Tuesday 9/7/76

Meeting  
9/7/76  
1:50 p.m.

11:30 Nancy Kennedy called to invite you to  
a meeting at 1:50 today (Tuesday 9/7)  
with the President and Sen. William Scott.

(Sen. Scott refused to come to the meeting  
tomorrow.)

The meeting at 9 a.m. tomorrow (Wednesday 9/8)  
is still on also.



August 26, 1976

*file*

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ED SCHMOLTS

FROM:

JACK MARSH

Jack White, Administrative Assistant to Senator Bill Scott of Virginia, says that as a result of a Judiciary Committee meeting yesterday, the Senator feels there is still a chance to get cleared an appointee for the Western District of Virginia.

The Senator requests that we do everything we can to expedite this. I told White I would pass this message to you. He indicated if we could get Wilson's name up, or some other nominee, we could get it through.

There is another matter in reference to this which I would like to discuss with you at your convenience which relates to the President's desire to get the interested Congressional parties together to push this matter.

cc: ✓ Phil Suchen  
Max Friedersdorf  
Doug Bennett

JOM/dl



*Judicial  
Appointments*

Friday 8/13/76

11:55 Judge Tyler called and I transferred the  
call to Jack Marsh.

(Re President's request concerning Tom Wilson  
for the Judgeship in Virginia)



August 11

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

TO: PHIL BUCHEN

FROM: JOHN O. MARSH, JR.

\_\_\_\_\_ For Direct Reply

\_\_\_\_\_ For Draft Response

XX For Your Information

\_\_\_\_\_ Please Advise <sup>RD</sup>



M. CALDWELL BUTLER  
9TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

MEMBER:  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
COMMITTEE ON  
SMALL BUSINESS

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
109 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-5431



*Re  
Enclosure*

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

*file* 8-11  
DISTRICT OFFICES:  
513 U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE  
BUILDING  
900 CHURCH STREET  
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24505  
(804) 843-1378  
111 FEDERAL BUILDING AND POST OFFICE  
200 S. WAYNE AVENUE  
P.O. Box 1045  
WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA 22980  
(703) 942-7758  
(IN STAUNTON DIAL "6" ASK FOR ENTERPRISE 736)

402 RICHARD H. POFF FEDERAL BUILDING  
AND U.S. COURTHOUSE  
210 W. FRANKLIN ROAD  
P.O. Box 865  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24005  
(703) 982-6200

August 9, 1976

*mf  
encl*

Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
Executive Office of the President  
The White House Office  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to enclose a copy of the Resolution of the  
Pulaski County Bar Association endorsing Jackson L. Kiser  
for appointment as Judge of the United States District Court  
for the Western District of Virginia.

I am pleased to pass this resolution on to you and to assure  
you that from my observation and contact with Mr. Kiser he  
would make an excellent Federal Judge. If I may provide additional  
specific information, please do not hesitate to let me know.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

*M. Caldwell*

M. Caldwell Butler

Enclosure



**GILMER, SADLER, INGRAM, SUTHERLAND & HUTTON**

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
MIDTOWN PROFESSIONAL OFFICE BUILDING  
PULASKI, VIRGINIA 24301

P. O. BOX 878

TELEPHONE 980-1360

AREA CODE 703

BLACKSBURG OFFICE

208 NORTH MAIN STREET

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA 24060

P. O. BOX 908

TELEPHONE 552-1061

HOWARD C. GILMER, JR. (1906-1975)  
ROBY K. SUTHERLAND (1909-1975)  
PHILIP M. SADLER  
ROBERT J. INGRAM  
JAMES L. HUTTON  
THOMAS J. MCCARTHY, JR.  
BYRON R. SHANKMAN  
ROBERT L. MORRISON, JR.  
E. PETER KANE

July 30, 1976

The Honorable M. Caldwell Butler  
Representative, 6th Congressional District  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a copy of the unanimous  
Resolution of the Pulaski County Bar Association  
endorsing Jackson L. Kiser, Esquire, for the vacancy  
created by the retirement of Judge Ted Dalton, of the  
U. S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

Sincerely yours,

PULASKI COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

By R. Edmund Lockbill  
Secretary

4:n



AUG 6 1976



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is understood that The Honorable Ted Dalton, Judge of the U. S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia, has announced contemplated senior status, upon the appointment of a successor; and

WHEREAS, it is understood that a vacancy therefore exists, or will exist in this district, for this Judgeship;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Pulaski County Bar Association, that its endorsement for a successor to Judge Dalton's bench be extended to Jackson L. Kiser, Esquire, of the Martinsville - Henry County Bar, in recognition of Mr. Kiser's unique experience in trial matters, his excellent temperament and his keen grasp of legal issues in this day and time, all of which the undersigned Bar Association believes to qualify him as the best candidate now available for this highly important judicial office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to make this resolution known, the Secretary of this Association be directed to extend copies of the same to The Honorable Gerald Ford, President of the United States, to The Honorable William L. Scott, Senator from Virginia, The Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Jr., Senator from Virginia, to The Honorable M. Caldwell Butler, Representative from Virginia's 6th Congressional District, The Honorable William C. Wampler, Representative from Virginia's 9th Congressional District, The Honorable Edward H. Levi, Attorney General for the United States, The Editor of "The Roanoke Times", The Editor of "The Southwest Times" and to Mr. Jackson L. Kiser, Esquire.

WITNESS our hands and seals this the 20th day of July, 1976.

PULASKI COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

By: 

President

  
Secretary

*Virginia Judgeships*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DOUG BENNETT

FROM:

ED SCHULTS 

SUBJECT:

Virginia Judgeship

Congressman Caldwell Butler called me today to say that he had heard Wilson (and possibly Davis) was running into some ABA rating problems. Butler said that if this were true he was afraid that the Department of Justice might drag its feet and the President would miss an opportunity for an early confirmation. Butler recommended the name of Jack Kizer, from Martinsville, Virginia, which is in Congressman Daniel's district. Butler said that Kizer is a first class lawyer.

cc: Phil Buchen



August 10

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

TO: PHIL BUCHEN  
FROM: JOHN O. MARSH, JR.

           For Direct Reply

           For Draft Response

XX For Your Information

           Please Advise



14  
M. CALDWELL BUTLER  
6TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

MEMBER:  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
COMMITTEE ON  
SMALL BUSINESS

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
109 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-5431



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, D.C. 20515

8-5  
DISTRICT OFFICES:  
313 U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE  
BUILDING  
900 CHURCH STREET  
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24505  
(804) 843-1378  
111 FEDERAL BUILDING AND POST OFFICE  
200 S. WAYNE AVENUE  
P.O. Box 1045  
WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA 22980  
(703) 942-7758  
(IN STAUNTON DIAL "6" ASK FOR ENTERPRISE 759)  
402 RICHARD H. POFF FEDERAL BUILDING  
AND U.S. COURTHOUSE  
210 W. FRANKLIN ROAD  
P.O. Box 865  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24005  
(703) 982-6200

August 4, 1976

MP  
encl  
Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
Executive Office of the President  
The White House Office  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to enclose a copy of the Montgomery-Radford-Floyd Bar Association's endorsement of the Honorable B. A. Davis, III, of Rocky Mount, Virginia, for appointment as Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

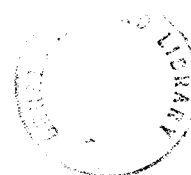
I am pleased to pass this endorsement on to you and to assure you that from my observation and contact with Mr. Davis he would make an excellent Federal Judge. If I may provide additional specific information, please do not hesitate to let me know.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

  
M. Caldwell Butler

Enclosure



DEVORE & GRUBBS

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
COURTHOUSE SQUARE  
P. O. BOX 389

CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA 24073

KENNETH I. DEVORE  
RAY W. GRUBBS

July 26, 1976

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE { 382-4911  
382-4912

R. Keith Neely,  
Associate

The Honorable Gerald F. Ford  
President  
White House  
Washington, D. C. 20000

The Honorable William L. Scott  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable William C. Wampler  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable M. Caldwell Butler  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Jr.  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Gentlemen:

As Secretary of the Montgomery-Radford-Floyd Bar Association of the Twenty-Seventh Judicial Circuit of Virginia, it is with pleasure that I announce that this Bar Association endorses the Honorable B. A. Davis, III, of Rocky Mount, Virginia, for the Federal Judgeship in the Western District of Virginia.

Respectfully yours,

DEVORE & GRUBBS

*R. Keith Neely*  
R. Keith Neely

RKN: jc

cc: Warren G. Lineberry, Esquire



JUL 28 1976

C  
O  
P  
Y

*Judgeship*

Thursday 8/5/76

Meeting

8/6/76

10 a.m.

1:45 Mr. Marsh wanted you to know that Ray Edwards, a Delegate from Martinsville, Virginia, would like to chat with you about a suggestion he has for the Virginia Judgeship.

Mr. Edwards will be calling.

2:55 *They talked*



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Thursday 8/5/76  
1:45 p.m.

Message from Jack Marsh --

Ray Edwards, a Delegate from Martinsville, Virginia, would like to chat with Mr. B. re a name suggestion he has for the Virginia Judgeship. When Mr. Edwards calls that is what he will be wanting to discuss.

Wednesday 8/4/76

Meeting  
8/4/76  
6:30 or 6:45

5:50 Jack Marsh said he is going over to the reception for delegates from Virginia. One of the delegates would like to stop by and talk to you about the vacancy in the Western District of Virginia -- a very able person named Miller ----- Senator Nathan Miller.

Mr. Marsh would appreciate it if you would talk with him for a few minutes. He will be back from the reception by 6:30 or 6:45 and will come up.





*Filing*

July 26, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DOUG BENNETT

FROM:

MAX FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT:

Virginia Federal Judgeship

Representative Caldwell Butler (R-VA) advises that he has no objections if the President desires to nominate Glenn Williams for the Federal Judgeship in Virginia.

He is very concerned that Tom Wilson would not be confirmable.

cc: Jack Marsh  
Phil Buchen



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 16, 1976

*For Review  
Appoint.*

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE HONORABLE HAROLD TYLER  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

SUBJECT: Judgeship for the Western  
District of Virginia

Attached is a copy of the endorsement signed  
by various attorneys of the Carroll County  
Bar in support of Jackson L. Kiser for the  
above appointment.

*P.W.B.*

Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Attachment

cc: Mr. Douglas Bennett



GEORGE B. COOLEY  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
HILLSVILLE, VIRGINIA 24843

TELEPHONE  
AREA CODE 703  
728-2241

July 12, 1976

Honorable Phillip Buchen  
Counsel to the President  
General Counsels Office  
White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Buchen:

I am herewith enclosing an endorsement and recommendation that Jackson L. Kiser of Martinsville, Virginia, be appointed as Federal District Judge for the Western District of Virginia to fill the vacancy now existing, and shall appreciate your utmost attention.

Yours very truly,  
*George B. Cooley*  
George B. Cooley *dum*

GBC:awm

Enclosure

HONORABLE PRESIDENT GERALD FORD

ATTENTION: MR. PHILLIP BUCHEN  
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT  
GENERAL COUNSELS OFFICE  
WHITE HOUSE  
1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



We, the undersigned lawyers and members of the Carroll County Bar, do endorse and recommend to you that you appoint Jackson L. Kiser of Martinsville, Virginia, as Federal District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, to fill the vacancy now existing.

Given under our hands this 9th day of July, 1976.

Name	Address
<u>George B. Cooley</u>	<u>Box 336 Hillsville, Va 24343</u>
<u>A. E. Cooley</u>	<u>Box 56, Hillsville, Va. 24343</u>
<u>John Alderman</u>	<u>P.O. Box 7 Hillsville, Va</u>
<u>John Perry Alderman</u>	<u>Box 647 Hillsville, Va</u>
<u>L. Thompson III</u>	<u>P.O. Box 185 Hillsville, VA 24343</u>
<u>B. Thompson</u>	<u>P.O. Box 185 Hillsville Virginia</u>
<u>Joseph H. McHardy</u>	<u>P.O. Box 605 Hillsville, Va. 24343</u>
<u>Joseph L. Laila</u>	<u>Box 516 Hillsville, Va. "</u>
<u>Raleigh M. Cooley</u>	<u>Hillsville, Va 24343</u>
<u>Craig E. Teller</u>	<u>P.O. Box 647, Hillsville</u>
<u>J. Swanson Smith</u>	<u>P.O. Box 187, Hillsville, Va</u>

cc: Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Jr.  
Honorable William L. Scott  
Honorable William C. Wampler  
Honorable W. C. Daniel  
Honorable M. Caldwell Butler

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 12, 1976

*Kiser,  
Jackson L.  
Judgeship*

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE HONORABLE HAROLD TYLER  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

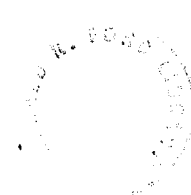
SUBJECT: Nomination for Judgeship --  
Western District of Virginia

Attached for your information is correspondence from Martinsville-Henry County Bar Association endorsing Jackson L. Kiser for the above position.

*P.W.B.*

Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Attachment



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 12, 1976

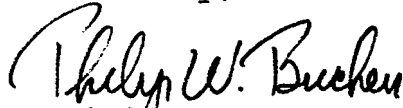
Dear Mr. Young:

Many thanks for sending me a copy of the resolution passed by the Martinsville-Henry County Bar Association endorsing Jackson L. Kiser for appointment to the vacancy in the Western District of Virginia.

The initial review of perspective nominees for judgeships is conducted at the Department of Justice, which then makes its recommendations to the President. I am therefore sending a copy of your resolution to Deputy Attorney General Tyler at the Department of Justice, where it will be given prompt attention.

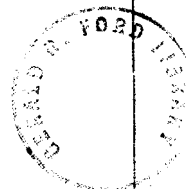
Thank you very much for your interest.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. R. Reed Young, III  
Secretary  
Martinsville-Henry County  
Bar Association  
Post Office Box 2  
Martinsville, Virginia



~~Martinsville~~-Henry County Bar Association

POST OFFICE BOX 2  
MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA  
24112

July 2, 1976

Philip Buchen, Esquire  
Counsel to The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Buchen:

It is our understanding that you are the proper person to whom information pertaining to appointments of Federal Judges is to be sent. Accordingly, on behalf of the Martinsville-Henry County Bar Association I enclose herewith a Resolution unanimously endorsing Jackson L. Kiser for the appointment to a vacancy in the Western District of Virginia.

I would appreciate your bringing this to the attention of the President.

Very truly yours,

MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY  
BAR ASSOCIATION

*R. R. Young III*  
Secretary

RRY III/d

Enclosure



# Martinsville-Henry County Bar Association

Post Office Box 2

MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

24112

July 2, 1976

The Martinsville-Henry County Bar Association, in a called meeting at which a quorum was present, unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED that said Bar Association, in a meeting assembled after due deliberation, unanimously recommended JACKSON L. KISER, of Martinsville, Virginia, to be appointed United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of United States District Judge Ted Dalton, of Radford, Virginia.

In making this recommendation to the President of the United States, the Bar Association respectfully advises the President as follows:

Jackson L. Kiser was born at Welch, West Virginia, June 24, 1929. He attended public schools in Virginia and West Virginia. He received B. A. degree from Concord College, Athens, West Virginia, in 1951, and J. D. degree from Washington & Lee University, Lexington, Virginia, 1952. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Law School, ranking third in a class of approximately sixty. He was a member of the Order of the Coif and on the Student Editorial Board of the Washington & Lee Law Review.

Upon graduation from Law School, he entered the United States Army as a First Lieutenant in the Judge Advocate Generals Corps. After completing the basic JAG school course in Charlottesville, he was assigned to the Defense Appellate Division in Washington, D. C. His duties were to handle on appeal general courts martial. This consisted of briefing and arguing cases before Army Boards of Review and the United States Court of Military Appeals. During his tenure, he handled approximately 750 appeals. He was honorably discharged from active duty on February 28, 1955.

Upon his release from the Army, he actively engaged in private practice in his own law office in Galax, Virginia, where his practice was general, including both criminal and civil matters.

In March, 1958, he was appointed an Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia. He was a trial attorney and during his three-year tenure in that



Martinsville-Henry County Bar Association

PO BOX 2

MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

24112

office the trial work for the office was handled primarily by one other assistant and Mr. Kiser.

On the 1st of March, 1961, he resigned from the U. S. Attorney's office and came to Martinsville, Virginia, to practice law, where after a short stay, his present law partner, R. R. Young, Jr., Douglas K. Frith and Mr. Kiser formed a law partnership. He is still engaged in the active practice of law with Mr. Young; however, the other members of the firm have changed from time to time. His practice is primarily trial oriented although they do a substantial amount of office type practice. In the fifteen years he has been practicing in Martinsville, he has handled numerous trials that have involved almost every conceivable facet of the law. This would include serious criminal cases such as murder and robbery; major personal injury cases, both from the plaintiff and defense side; civil rights litigation and commercial litigation. In addition to trial work, he has had extensive experience before the Supreme Court of Virginia and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

He is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, United States District Court, United States Court of Claims, United States Court of Military Appeals, Supreme Court of Virginia and all courts of record and inferior courts. He is a member of the American Bar Association, Virginia Bar Association, Virginia State Bar, Virginia Trial Lawyers Assn., and Martinsville-Henry County Bar Association (President 1966-1967).

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Association forward the original of this resolution to The President of The United States, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C., and a copy of the same to Senator Harry Flood Byrd, Jr., and to Senator William Scott, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY  
BAR ASSOCIATION

By R. Reid Young III  
Secretary

APPROVED:

J. Grady Monday  
President

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 6, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN  
FROM: JACK MARSH

Following up on our conversation, I received a call from Martinsville, Virginia, indicating that the local bar there had endorsed for consideration for the Federal judgeship in the Western District of Virginia, Jack Keiser, an outstanding attorney in that community.

I wanted to bring the name of this individual to your attention.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 24, 1976

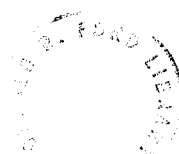
*Wilson  
Thomas J.  
F. J. Ford  
J. J. Ford*

MEMORANDUM FOR: DOUG BENNETT

FROM: PHIL BUCHEN *T.*

Attached are copies of various incoming letters supporting the nomination of Thomas J. Wilson, III to become the District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

Attachments

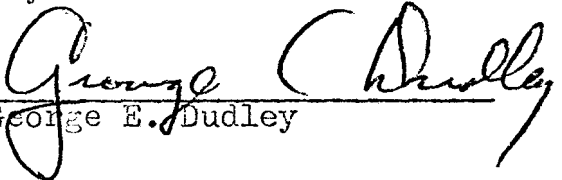



June 15, 1976

His Excellency  
The President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

At a meeting of the Highland County, Virginia Bar Association on this date it was unanimously resolved that we support the candidacy of Honorable Thomas J. Wilson, III of Harrisonburg, Virginia for appointment as a Federal District Judge for the western district of Virginia.

This resolution is signed by all of the members of the Highland County Bar.

  
George E. Dudley

  
John R. Lohr

  
R. Turner Jones

THOMAS J. WILSON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA 22801  
203 VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

AREA CODE 703  
TELEPHONE 434-0702

June 16, 1976

The Honorable Phillip Buchen  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Buchen:

Congressman J. Kenneth Robinson has informed me that I may be considered by the President for appointment as Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

At his suggestion, I write to inform you that I would, of course, be available in the event of appointment.

Sincerely yours,

  
Thomas J. Wilson



KOSTEL, WATSON, CARSON & SNYDER

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
COVINGTON AND CLIFTON FORGE, VA.

GEORGE J. KOSTEL  
FLETCHER D. WATSON  
WILLIAM E. CARSON  
JAMES D. SNYDER  
DABNEY L. PASCO

PLEASE REPLY TO:

P. O. Drawer 635  
Clifton Forge, Virginia 24422

COVINGTON OFFICE  
703 965-3331  
CLIFTON FORGE OFFICE  
703 862-4293

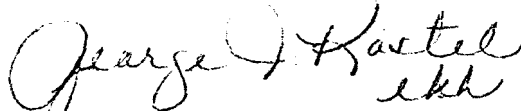
June 16, 1976

The Honorable Philip Buchen  
Counsel to the President  
White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Buchen:

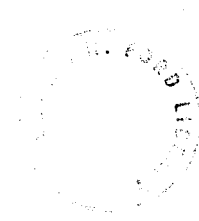
I herewith enclose a copy of a resolution endorsed by members of the Bars of the Cities of Clifton Forge and Covington, Virginia and Alleghany County, Virginia. I ask that you convey our endorsement of Thomas J. Wilson III to the President at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George J. Kostel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

George J. Kostel

GJK/lkb  
Enclosure  
cc: William A. Julias, Esquire



WHEREAS, the retirement of The Honorable Ted Dalton has created a vacancy and the need for a new judge in the Western District of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the ever-increasing case load indicates the immediate appointment of a judge to fill the said vacancy; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable James Turk, the other judge in the Western District of Virginia, is a resident of Southwest, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, it is the feeling of the undersigned members of the Bars of the Cities of Clifton Forge and Covington, Virginia and Alleghany County, Virginia that the vacancy should be filled by the appointment of a judge in the area north of Roanoke; and

WHEREAS, Thomas J. Wilson III is well qualified to fill the vacancy.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the undersigned members of the Bars of the Cities of Clifton Forge and Covington, Virginia and Alleghany County, Virginia, do hereby respectfully endorse Thomas J. Wilson III to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of The Honorable Ted Dalton and further hereby respectfully urge the President of the United States to nominate Thomas J. Wilson III to fill said vacancy.

*James G. [unclear]*

*James G. [unclear]*

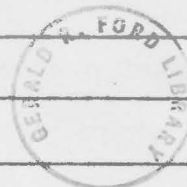
*William George*

*Howard H. Scott*

*Robert [unclear]*

*William [unclear]*

*Ray [unclear]*



June 18, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JACK MARSH  
PHIL BUCHEN

FROM:

MAX FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT:

Virginia Judgeship

Senator Bill Scott (R-VA) has been advised that the President intends to nominate Thomas Wilson, of Virginia, for a Federal judgeship.

Representative Ken Robinson (R-VA) has also been advised of the pending nomination.

Ed Schmults and Ken Lazarus have been alerted to the necessity of expediting this nomination.

cc: Doug Bennett  
Ed Schmults  
Ken Lazarus



J. KENNETH ROBINSON  
7TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE:  
APPROPRIATIONS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

*copy to Doug Bennett*  
OFFICES IN THE 7TH DISTRICT:  
112 N. CAMERON STREET (P.O. Box 714)  
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601  
TELEPHONE: (703) 667-0990

212-B POST OFFICE BLDG. (P.O. Box 136)  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22902  
TELEPHONE: (804) 295-2106

5 POST OFFICE BLDG. (P.O. Box 336)  
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA 22401  
TELEPHONE: (703) 373-0535

June 15, 1976

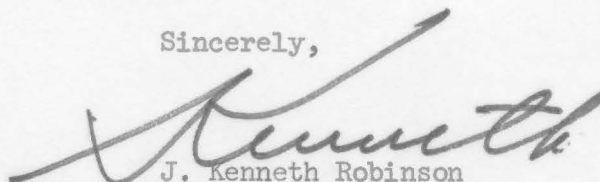
Philip W. Buchen, Esq.  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Phil:

I enclose, for your further information, a copy of an additional endorsement of Thomas J. Wilson, III, of Harrisonburg, Virginia for the vacancy on the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, this being the expression of the Shenandoah County (Va.) Bar Association.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,



J. Kenneth Robinson

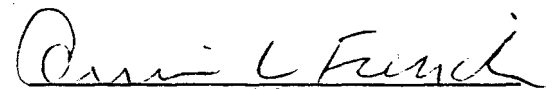
Enclosure

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists for a judgeship in the Western District of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, said judgeship should be filled as soon as possible to prevent further overloading of said court; and

WHEREAS, Thomas J. Wilson, III, Esquire, a lawyer now serving as Bankruptcy Judge and resident in Harrisonburg, is eminently qualified in every way to assume this judgeship; now thereofre be it

RESOLVED that the Shenandoah Bar Association does this 3rd day of June, 1976 unanimously endorse Thomas J. Wilson, III, for said judgeship and most respectfully urges the President to nominate him at the earliest possible time. Be it further RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forthwith sent to the President, to Senators William L. Scott and Harry F. Byrd, Jr. to Congressman J. Kenneth Robinson and to the Attorney General of the United States.

  
President

ATTEST

  
Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 16, 1976

*For Williams*

*Williams  
Glen  
Judge*

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN

FROM: JACK MARSH *Jack*

U. S. Marshal in the Western District of Virginia, W.A. Quick, called yesterday to indicate the strong view of Judge Dalton and Judge Turk that Judge Glen Williams be appointed to the judgeship.

He understood there are several other names being suggested by Scott but he hoped in the consideration of the three names, the two new names and Williams, that the President would still select Williams.

I told him I could not offer him any assurances of what the President was going to do and he understood.

*WILLIAMS*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*For filing*

Date: June 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

PHIL BUCHEN

FROM:

WILLIAM W. NICHOLSON

SUBJECT:

R. V. McCoy, Jr., P. O. Box 579,  
Clintwood, Virginia 24228

The attached is for your appropriate handling.

Thank you.

*Called him*  
*6/18/76*



The White House  
Washington

ACTION

SCHEDULE BD.

DATE RECEIVED

1976 JUN 14 AM 12 54 JUN 14 1976

MESSAGE

SPEAKERS BUREAU

OTHER

Bucher  
APPOINTMENT OFFICE

VNA005(2346)(2-024536E165)PD 06/13/76 2346

ICS IPHNTZZ CSP

7039268451 TDNT CLINTWOOD VA 68 06-13 1146P EST

PMS PRESIDENT GERALD R FORD

WHITE HOUSE DC

DEAR MISTER PRESIDENT,

AS A FORMER DICKENSON COUNTY VIRGINIA REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN, FORMER  
MEMBER OF THE VIRGINIA REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, FORMER  
WINNER RICHARD A MAY AWARD, AS OUTSTANDING LOCAL REPUBLICAN  
CHAIRMAN, I WOULD LIKE FIVE MINUTES OF YOUR TIME ON A VERY IMPORTANT  
MATTER CONCERNING THE APPOINTMENT OF A FEDERAL JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN  
DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA.

SINCERELY

R V MCCOY JUNIOR PO BOX 579 CLINTWOOD VA 24228 TELEPHONE (703) 926-8451



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 4, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

✓ PHIL BUCHEN  
ED SCHMULTS

FROM:

JACK MARSH 

In reference to the Virginia judgeship matter, Congressman Dan Daniel called to mention the name of an attorney for whom he has the highest regard, B. A. Davis.

The Congressman would like him to be one of the names considered in selecting a nominee for this post.

Many thanks.

cc: Max Friedersdorf  
Doug Bennett

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 4, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

✓ PHIL BUCHEN  
ED SCHMULTS

FROM:

JACK MARSH

Congressman Kenneth Robinson of the 7th Congressional District of Virginia indicated he would like to discuss with White House representatives an individual for consideration as a nominee for the judgeship for the Western District of Virginia.

I suggested that he call either Phil Buchen or Ed Schmuls.

cc: Max Friedersdorf  
Doug Bennett



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 15, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH  
/PHIL BUCHEN

FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT: Virginia Judgeship

Congressman Ken Robinson (R-Va.) contacted me today reference the vacant federal judgeship in Virginia.

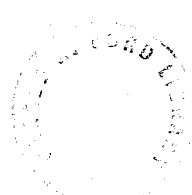
As you know, both Robinson and Senator Bill Scott (R-Va.) were notified last Friday, per the instructions of White House Personnel Office, that the President had decided not to submit the name of Glen Williams and instead would prefer a new recommendation that would have the unified support of the Congressional delegation.

Congressman Robinson indicated to me today that it was his understanding that Senator Scott had met with Tom Wilson of the 7th Congressional District and Monk Davis of the 4th Congressional District.

It is Scott's intention, according to Robinson, to send the White House a letter this week indicating that if the President does not intend to nominate Glen Williams, Scott would support either Tom Wilson or Monk Davis for the position.

Congressman Robinson believes that it is imperative the nomination be submitted very soon and he strongly recommends that it be Tom Wilson because Wilson is from the 7th Congressional District which comprises a greater portion of the judicial district where the vacancy exists, and Wilson also is from a Republican Congressional district.

cc: Doug Bennett





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Judicial  
appointments*

March 19, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DOUGLAS BENNETT

FROM: PHIL BUCHEN *P.*

Senator Bill Scott called me on March 18 regarding the controversy over the President's nomination of a Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

Scott, in a very unrestrained fashion, made these points:

1. Candidate Wampler is thoroughly qualified.
2. Although the Senator is supporting Reagan, he is doing so only because he has not liked some of the Ford appointments.
3. On the other hand, the Senator has been strongly supportive of the President in his votes on legislative matters.
4. This kind of support for the President may disappear because, as the Senator put it, a fire plug can only take so much from passing dogs before it will start squirting back.
5. The entire Senate will be supportive of Scott because all Senators want to protect Senatorial privileges in regard to judicial appointments.

I told the Senator that I would pass this information on to the other people concerned in the matter of this appointment.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 16, 1976

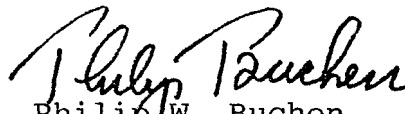
*Indorse  
(See  
Sergeant,  
Buc)*

Dear Mr. Sergeant:

My apologies for not being able to reach you by telephone, but I now appreciate your having set forth your thoughts on the subject of the vacancy in the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

As you may realize, we have had sharply conflicting views on this subject from people of Virginia who are concerned to have the matter resolved. Before a final decision is made, your views will be carefully considered and I thank you very much for your interest.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Birg E. Sergeant  
P. O. Box 426  
Pennington Gap, Virginia 24277



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 15, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DOUG BENNETT

FROM: PHIL BUCHEN *P.*

Attached is another letter on the Poff/Williams issue in reference to the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

I leave it to you as to whether these views should be passed on to the President.

Attachment



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Handwritten:*  
J. Edgar Hoover  
(see page)

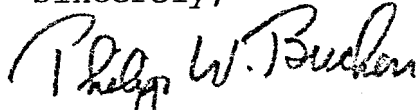
March 12, 1976

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

Thank you for your letter regarding the matter of the judicial vacancy in the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

I appreciate your interest and concern in this matter, but as you must appreciate, we have had a variety of conflicting views on this issue from people whose Republican credentials are worthy of respect. We are trying to take into consideration all of these views before the President arrives at his choice for the nomination.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Joseph E. Wolfe  
Box 636  
Jonesville, Virginia

*Handwritten:*  
March 12, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 28, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DOUG BENNETT  
✓ PHIL BUCHEN

FROM: JACK MARSH 

Senator William Scott of Virginia spoke with me on the phone Thursday to vigorously urge the appointment of Glenn Williams to a judgeship.

He stated Williams was an outstanding law student, a district attorney and was otherwise well qualified to fill this position. He asked me to relay this information which I am doing by this memo.

He indicated if the President did not appoint Williams, he would like a meeting with the President before a final decision is made.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 25, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DICK CHENEY

FROM:

MAX FRIEDERSDORF

*M. G.*

SUBJECT:

Virginia Federal Judgeship

Both Senator Bill Scott and Congressman Bill Wampler request a meeting with the President jointly before a decision is reached on the Federal District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, involving their candidate Glen Williams and William Poff, who is strongly supported by Congressman Caldwell Butler.

Scott will, of course, block Poff and both Scott and Wampler are bringing heavy pressure to bear for Williams.

I understand we are pretty well committed to go with Poff and if we hold to course, I'm not sure a meeting with Scott and Wampler should be approved.

I need your guidance on this one.

cc: Jack Marsh  
Phil Buchen  
Doug Bennett

