THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

November 30, 1990

Dear Bob:

I wanted to write to thank you, Senator Thurmond, and your colleagues for all your help this session with judicial nominations and confirmations. I think we have had a very successful year, culminating with Justice Souter's confirmation. I look forward to working with all of you on future nominations.

I do have one additional request to make. As you know, one of my priorities as President has been to seek out candidates from varied backgrounds to serve in my Administration. I think it is important to carry that principle through all Federal appointments. Given the special role of Republican Senators in helping to identify candidates for the district court, I would like your assistance in ensuring that your colleagues engage in aggressive efforts to seek out qualified women and minority candidates for the district court. By "qualified candidates," I mean not only persons who have the training, intellect, character and temperament to be excellent judges, but also persons who understand the separation of powers and the judicial role within our constitutional system and who are committed to interpreting the law and not legislating from the bench.

I know and appreciate your personal commitment to assisting in this enterprise, and I look forward to working with you further on this important task.

Sincerely,

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The Honorable Robert Dole Republican Leader United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510