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NEWS RELEASE

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Senate Confirms New Judge for U.S. District Court for Southern District of California

SAN FRANCISCO – The United States Senate today voted 83-12 to confirm President Donald Trump’s nomination of Todd W. Robinson to serve as a U.S. district judge for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California.

Mr. Robinson was nominated for the judgeship on November 21, 2019, and his nomination was one of the 15 out of the 17 judicial nominations pending in the Ninth Circuit federal courts that was returned to the president when the First Session of the 116th Congress adjourned on January 3, 2020. President Trump renominated Mr. Robinson on February 13, 2020. He had his hearing June 17, 2020 before the Senate Judiciary Committee, which reported his nomination out of the committee on July 23, 2020. He fills a judgeship vacant since September 30, 2016, when District Judge Marilyn L. Huff assumed senior status.

Mr. Robinson began working in the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California in 1997 and has been a senior litigation counsel since 2008. He served as deputy chief of the General Crimes Section in 2007 and as an assistant U.S. attorney from 2005 to 2006 and from 1997 to 2003. Mr. Robinson worked as an operations officer for the Central Intelligence Agency in 2004. Previously, he was a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, Narcotic and Dangerous Drug Section, from 1993 to 1997.

Born in Jacksonville, Florida, Mr. Robinson received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1989 from the University of California, Berkeley, where he was the captain of the U.C. Berkeley Varsity Swimming Team from 1988 to 1989. Mr. Robinson participated in the U.S. Olympic Trials for Swimming in 1988. He received his Juris Doctor, cum laude, in 1993 from the Georgetown University Law Center, where he was an associate editor of the Journal of Law and Policy in International Business, from 1992 to 1993.

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Mr. Robinson has been a member of the National Association of Assistant U.S. Attorneys since 2005 and has served as its district representative since 2015. He has been a member of the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California's Death Penalty Review Committee and Hiring Committee since 2005.

The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California had 8,235 new case filings in calendar year 2019. The court is authorized 13 judgeships and currently has four vacancies.

Appointed under Article III of the U.S. Constitution, federal district court judges are nominated by the president, confirmed by the Senate and serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior.

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