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August 3, 2004

Hon. Richard W. Knepper
Sixth Appellate District
One Constitution Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43624

To Whom It May Concern:

Please consider this to be my enthusiastic endorsement of Judge Knepper as a private mediator. This office was recently involved in a complex medical malpractice case involving a shoulder dystocia and brachial plexus injury. Our client was a newborn infant in Western Ohio who had sustained a permanent birth injury. As discovery wound down, all parties agreed to mediate the matter.

At the suggestion of counsel for one of the defendants, Judge Knepper was chosen to serve as the privately retained mediator. On the day of the mediation, Judge Knepper was conversant with all of the issues in the case having spoken with all counsel over the phone prior to mediation. It soon became obvious that the Judge had also studied all of the written pre-mediation materials provided to him by the parties.

At the mediation, Judge Knepper skillfully used his knowledge of the case together with his years of experience on the bench to rapidly crystallize the issues at play and to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the positions of all parties. The Judge's persistence together with the gravitas which his judicial experience brought to the proceeding helped all parties to evaluate the value of the case in a realistic manner. By the end of the day all of the parties, save one, were able to amicably resolve their issues.

After the day of mediation, Judge Knepper remained in contact with the non-settling party and through multiple phone calls placed upon the Judge's own initiative eventually managed to settle the case in total.

Judge Knepper brings with him all of the qualifications which this office looks for in a