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TO PROMOTE THE ART OF ADVOCACY
AND THE EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON CHAPTER

February 23, 2005

PRESIDENT 2005

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Richard Creatura
Gordon Thomas, et al.
1201 Pacific Avenue, Suite 2100
P.O. Box 1157
Tacoma, WA 98402

Dear Rick:

Thank you for bringing to ABOTA's attention the proposal to split the Ninth Circuit. ABOTA is a national association of trial attorneys representing plaintiff and defense attorneys. Our mission is to preserve the Seventh Amendment's right to a jury trial. This organization believes that jury trials are important to achieving justice in society as well as a balance of power. Among our members are many of the best trial attorneys in the state. There are over 100 members in the Washington chapter.

We reviewed this proposal and oppose splitting the Ninth Circuit. We believe the judiciary should be independent and the current Ninth Circuit is working fine and should be maintained. We were also distressed at the costs of breaking the Ninth Circuit into multiple circuits.

If the Washington chapter of ABOTA can be of any further assistance, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

REED P. SCHIFFERMAN
President, Washington Chapter of ABOTA

RPS/dg

Dictated 2/4; held pending receipt of ABOTA letterhead

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