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February 7, 2014

Committee on Rules of Practice
and Procedures
Administrative Office of the
United States Courts
Suite 7-240
Washington, DC 20544

Re: Proposed Amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure

Dear Committee:

This letter is submitted by our firm in support of the Committee's proposed amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

We agree with and adopt the proposals submitted by Lawyers for Civil Justice in its August 30, 2013 Public Comment to the Advisory Committee on Civil Rules entitled: "Reducing the Costs and Burden of Modern Discovery: Why the Proposed Amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure are Urgently Needed (With a Few Important Improvements)." The Committee's proposed amendments are fair and, in particular, would help reduce the burden of discovery on defendants, and significantly tighten the standard that plaintiffs' lawyers must meet to obtain sanctions for non-preservation of evidence, an issue of great concern to most businesses.

We also agree with and emphasize the comments in the *Wall Street Journal* article by Jon Kyl regarding "A Rare Chance to Lower Litigation Costs:"

"The American civil justice system is in crisis. Litigants are fleeing U.S. courts for other forums of dispute resolution, or if they are unable to do so, settle cases for strictly economic reasons no matter the merits.

Companies that do business in the U.S. are losing their competitive advantage because the costs of resolving disputes here are needlessly inflated.

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The committee's proposals are a step forward and should be embraced and supported."

We encourage the adoption of the Committee's proposed amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Thank you for your hard work and thoughtful consideration in this regard.

Very truly yours,

RichardsonClement PC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Morris Wade Richardson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Morris Wade Richardson
For the Firm

MWR/lcm

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Via E-mail:

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