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October 25, 2024

John M. Nolan  
Chair, Member Selection Committee  
c/o American College of Real Estate Lawyers  
220 N Market Street, Suite 100  
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear John:

It is with great pleasure that I second the nomination of Brooks Smith for membership in the American College of Real Estate Lawyers made by Gene Leone.

I have known Brooks for over 20 years and consider him a friend. I have worked with him on several real estate transactions, but they were all probably 15-20 years ago. That said, I have a very high regard for Brooks' skill, professionalism and collegiality. I was not personally aware of Brooks' give-back to the real estate law profession, but I have now reviewed his resume and it is both extensive and impressive.

I have received and reviewed the Proposal for Membership submitted by Gene Leone and certify that Brooks Smith satisfies the criteria for selection to the College as set forth in Section 4 of the Guidelines for Regular Member Selection. In my opinion and to my knowledge, the Nominee satisfies ACREL's Statement of Professionalism and exemplifies the standards of professional integrity and civility as provided in the Guidelines. I am not (a) in the same firm, business entity, faculty or other organization as the Nominee, (b) related by birth or marriage to the Nominee, or (c) a current Governor or member of the Member Selection Committee of the College. Neither the nominee nor his/her employer regularly employs or retains me or my law firm or employer, and I have no business relationship with the nominee.

I heartily second Gene Leone's nomination of Brooks Smith to be a fellow in ACREL.

Yours truly,



Kenneth P. Ezell, Jr.  
ACREL Member

cc: Gene Leone

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