

October 18, 2024

Mr. 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 Mr. Nolan:

It is with great pleasure that I second the nomination of Jeffrey M. Smith for membership in the American College of Real Estate Lawyers made by Billie Ellis.

I have known Jeff for over 20 years. Jeff was an associate and then a partner with my Firm, Locke Lord LLP, before leaving to join Winston & Strawn LLP. I found Jeff to always be a pleasure to work with, to provide prompt and professional service to clients and to consistently produce high quality work product. He is a well-recognized expert in the area of landlord-tenant law. Jeff is a distinguished practitioner and would be an asset to ACREL.

I have received and reviewed the Proposal for Membership submitted by Billie Ellis, and certify that Jeffrey M. 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. Except as disclosed below, neither the nominee nor his/her employer regularly employs or retains me or my law firm or employer, and my business relationship, if any, with the nominee is as follows: None.

Yours truly,



Victoria M. deLisle  
ACREL Member

VMD/cf  
cc: Billie Ellis