IN THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF GEORGIA

BRIAN STEEL, *Appellant*, v. STATE OF GEORGIA, *Appellee*.	CASE NO. S24A1245

STATEMENT OF INTEREST OF DUI DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION AS *AMICUS CURIAE* IN SUPPORT OF APPELLANT BRIAN STEEL

1. Amicus DUI Defense Lawyers Association, known as DUIDLA, further offers this Statement of Interest:

DUI Defense Lawyers Association (DUIDLA) is a national association of criminal defense attorneys who share a common interest in vigorously defending individuals facing prosecution in criminal courts throughout the country, particularly, but not exclusively, those charged with driving under the influence charges. Moreover, DUIDLA strongly believes in educating and providing a meeting place for competent advocates demonstrating excellence in representing their respective clients and supporting those who attempt to do so zealously, ethically and competently when they find themselves facing improper punishment for doing so. DUIDLA believes that the Appellant, Brian Steel is such a person and finds himself in that precise situation. DUIDLA has

an interest in the case before this honorable Court as every bar association and every lawyer should; punishment of any advocate for the accused for zealously, ethically and competently representing a client poses a threat to all that do so and threatens the constitutional right to counsel of all citizens who may have to defend themselves against accusations of the government. Members of the Bar who represent the accused are required and ethically bound to make their legal arguments on behalf of their clients based on the facts and law. This is never more the case than when a trial for a person's liberty is on the line.

2. *Amicus Curiae* DUI Defense Lawyers Association (DUIDLA) hereby adopts the arguments and positions presented to this Honorable Court by the Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (GACDL) as Amicus Curiae in its September 12, 2024, Brief in Support of Appellant Brian Steel. DUIDLA supports Attorneys Steel's right to represent his client to the fullest extent without the threat of jail for himself as he does so.

3. Undersigned Counsel Kimberly Keheley Frye has been a member of the Supreme Court of the State of Georgia Bar since the 21st day of June, 1994.

4. Undersigned Counsel Kimberly Keheley Frye has been admitted to practice in the following courts on the dates indicated below:

    a. State Bar of Georgia on July 2, 1993

    b. Georgia Court of Appeals May 26, 1994

c. Supreme Court of the United States December 8, 2014

5. Undersigned Counsel Kimberly Keheley Frye has never been formally disciplined or sanctioned by any court in any state.

6. No formal, written disciplinary proceedings have been brought against Undersigned Counsel Kimberly Keheley Frye by any disciplinary authority in any jurisdiction.

7. Undersigned Counsel hereby certify that I am in good standing as members of the State Bar of Georgia.

8. Undersigned Counsel certify that Local Counsel, Lawrence J. Zimmerman, has permission to file this STATEMENT OF INTEREST OF AMICUS **DUI DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION** AS *AMICUS CURIAE* IN SUPPORT OF APPELLANT BRIAN STEEL in this Honorable Court on behalf of **DUI DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION**.

This 18th day of October, 2024.

This submission does not exceed the word-count limit imposed by Rule 20.

/s/ *Kimberly Keheley Frye*

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