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November 14, 2018

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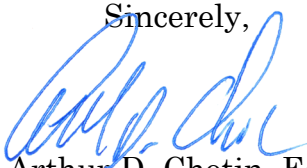
**RE: No. 18-378: MERCK & CO., INC., MERCK SHARP & DOHME CORP., AND IONIS
PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. V. GILEAD SCIENCES, INC.**

Dear Sir or Madam:

As required by Supreme Court Rule 33.1(h), I certify that the Respondent's Brief in Opposition referenced above contains **8,996** words, excluding the parts of the document that are exempted by Supreme Court Rule 33.1(d).

As a member of the Supreme Court Bar, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Sincerely,



Arthur D. Chotin, Esq.
Principal