



*Serving Colorado, Promoting Justice*

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March 9, 2010

**VIA FACSIMILE TO 202-224-9516 and 202-224-9102**

Senator Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

***Re: The Nomination of William J. Martinez for the United States District Court for the District of Colorado***

Dear Chairman Leahy and Esteemed Committee Members:

I am president of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association (“CHBA”). The CHBA represents hundreds of Hispanic attorneys in Colorado and is actively involved in both the Hispanic and legal communities. The CHBA’s primary function is to serve the public interest by furthering the fair administration of justice, advancing the standing of its members in the legal profession, and promoting a high-quality and diverse judiciary.

With the full support of the CHBA, I write to endorse wholeheartedly the President’s nomination of William J. Martinez for a position on the United States District Court for the District of Colorado. The CHBA respectfully urges the Committee to advance his nomination to the full Senate as expeditiously as possible.

Mr. Martinez is eminently qualified to serve as one of our next federal judges. He was born in Mexico and immigrated with his family to the United States as a young boy. He was the first in his family to attend college, where he gained distinction as an Illinois Scholar during his time at the University of Illinois. He then attended the University of Chicago, where he earned his law degree. Thereafter, he went into private practice where he gained extensive trial experience, particularly in the area of employment law – qualifications which will serve the District Court well during Mr. Martinez’ tenure.

Mr. Martinez uniformly is regarded as an extremely well-qualified candidate for this post. He is an accomplished trial attorney and has practiced in a wide variety of civil areas. Along these same lines, the CHBA believes that his experience as an American Arbitration Association arbitrator will likewise serve the District Court well. He has a strong command of the Court’s procedures and practice standards. This breadth of experience will be a tremendous asset to the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado.

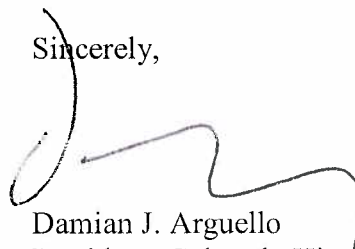
According to counsel who have worked with Mr. Martinez as co-counsel and opposing counsel alike, Mr. Martinez has superior analytical and writing skills, has served as a strong advocate for his clients, and has handled himself and his cases with a high-degree of professionalism. Further, he is extremely hard-working, and employs a practical approach to his practice. Undoubtedly, Mr. Martinez will follow the rule of law and apply it with the same measured temperament and demeanor he is known for by his colleagues.

Since his days at the University of Chicago Law School, Mr. Martinez has emerged as a leader in the Denver legal community. From his time at the respected firm of Pendleton & Sabian, to his tenure as U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission's Regional Attorney and his present role as a partner in the highly-regarded firm of McNamara, Roseman, Martinez & Kazmierski LLP, Mr. Martinez has demonstrated the ability to master an array of complex legal matters and achieve outstanding results for his clients. He has served as an adjunct professor at the University of Denver College of Law, and has mentored students and attorneys throughout his career. His public service also includes appointment to the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge, an appointment by the Colorado Supreme Court, and membership on the U.S. District Court's Committee on Conduct. Mr. Martinez' strong sense of civic responsibility makes him an outstanding candidate for the U.S. District Court. We are also fortunate to count him as one of our CHBA members.

Finally, the CHBA recognizes the paramount need to increase diversity in the federal courts. However, we do not endorse Mr. Martinez because he is diverse, but because he represents the epitome of what diversity can bring to the bench: excellence and commitment to serving the needs of the District's diverse communities.

The CHBA respectfully urges this Committee to do all it can to quickly advance Mr. Martinez' nomination. Please feel free to contact me at (303) 892-7411 if you have questions or comments on this matter.

Sincerely,



Damian J. Arguello  
President, Colorado Hispanic Bar Association

cc: Senator Mark Udall  
Senator Michael Bennet  
William J. Martinez