



September 12, 2008

Via Hand Delivery

Honorable Bill Ritter, Jr.
136 State Capitol Building
Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Endorsement of Cheryl Rowles-Stokes for the Eighteenth Judicial District Court

Dear Governor Ritter:

It is with the full support of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association (“CHBA”) that I write to endorse Cheryl Rowles-Stokes for the Eighteenth Judicial District Court.

Ms. Rowles-Stokes will come to the bench with a depth of knowledge not only in litigation and trial practice, but also practical business experience. Ms. Rowles-Stokes began her career in the corporate world, first as a director of human resources, and later, expanding into legal affairs and employment law. Ms. Rowles-Stokes’ early career demonstrates her astute managerial skills and leadership while overseeing the creation and directorship of a company’s human resources department.

After her tenure in private practice, Ms. Rowles-Stokes began her career in public service in 2001 as a Deputy District Attorney (“DDA”). She is currently DDA in the Economic Crimes Unit for the Eighteenth Judicial District Attorney’s Office. Not only has Ms. Rowles-Stokes prosecuted over 600 criminal cases, but she has also employed her supervisory and administrative skills as the County Court Trainer and Supervising County Court Deputy District Attorney for the District Attorney’s Office. She oversaw the management and training of the Office’s County Court deputies for the four counties served by the Eighteenth Judicial District Attorney’s Office.

Ms. Rowles-Stokes' dedication to the principles of equal justice, integrity, and professionalism is well testified to by colleagues and peers. She has been described as evenhanded, reflective and cooperative. As a DDA, she has conducted the State's prosecutorial endeavors with utmost respect for all parties, witnesses, and victims alike. Ms. Rowles-Stokes is lauded for her sense of fairness, "listening to both sides of every case," and making decisions with well reasoned deliberation. Her mastery of the rules of evidence and trial practice and procedure, as well as her analytic and executive skills will certainly be an asset to the bench. Ms. Rowles-Stokes has demonstrated through her practice and public service that she possesses the knowledge, integrity, and temperament necessary for the judiciary.

Aside from her work as an advocate, Ms. Rowles-Stokes has also served the legal community as an active member and former president of the Sam Cary Bar Association. She has worked within this organization and others to promote diversity in the profession. Her support of cross-cultural understanding and cooperation extends from her days as corporate counsel creating employment policies and procedures fostering opportunity for qualified diverse candidates for employment, to her present position as DDA.

It is with great pleasure and the full support of the CHBA that I respectfully recommend that you appoint Cheryl Rowles-Stokes for appointment to the Eighteenth Judicial District Court. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at (303) 290-1600. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



José A. Ramirez
President, Colorado Hispanic Bar Association

cc: Trey Rogers
Cheryl Rowles-Stokes