



COLORADO HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION
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April 23, 2008

Honorable George W. Bush
c/o Fred Fielding, Esq.
White House Counsel
Executive Office of the President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20502

Re: Endorsement of Christine Arguello for the United States District Court for the District of Colorado

Dear President Bush:

On behalf of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association ("CHBA"), I am proud to submit our highest endorsement of Christine Arguello for the existing vacancy on the United States District Court for the District of Colorado.

Christine Arguello is eminently qualified to become Colorado's next federal jurist for the District of Colorado. A 1980 Harvard Law School graduate, Ms. Arguello has excelled in each phase of her career. She has a rare combination of experience in both the public and private sectors, as a manager and supervisor, litigator, author, professor, partner at two prominent Colorado law firms and currently as university counsel.

For years, the CHBA has maintained a Nominations and Endorsement Committee ("Committee") that routinely reviews and endorses judicial candidates, both Hispanic and non-Hispanic. Before the Committee endorses a candidate she must meet our initial threshold criteria. The Committee then conducts extensive due diligence, which includes interviews of the candidate's references and consultations with CHBA members who know the candidate and her work. Any questions or concerns raised during the due diligence process require the Committee to consult with the CHBA board of directors. In this case, Ms. Arguello, well known and respected by our membership, exceeded our threshold criteria and generated the highest recommendations from her references and those within the CHBA.

Among members of the legal community, our due diligence revealed a unanimous, unqualified opinion that Ms. Arguello is an excellent choice for the Federal bench. She has earned a reputation as a superior intellect with exceptional analytical and writing skills and an extraordinarily diligent lawyer who motivates and inspires subordinates, superiors and colleagues. Ms. Arguello built this reputation with a diverse and distinguished legal career that includes: passing bar examinations in three states-- Colorado, Florida and Iowa; equity partnerships in two prestigious Colorado firms--Holland & Hart and Davis, Graham & Stubbs; law professorships at the University of Kansas School of Law, University of Denver College of Law and University of Colorado (CU) School of Law; public service as Chief Deputy in the Colorado Attorney General's Office and, currently, as Associate Counsel for CU, and; as an author of numerous legal articles and as co-author of "*Evidence: The Objection Method*" used by law schools throughout the country.

United States Attorney Troy Eid, having known and worked with Ms. Arguello since he was legal counsel to Colorado Governor Owens, believes Ms. Arguello would make a "superb federal judge." The US Attorney's Office is a "big stakeholder of the federal court" and, thus, is particularly interested in maintaining judicial excellence. US Attorney Eid occupied a unique position because he observed Ms. Arguello's work as a Deputy Attorney General and has followed her career from that time. He describes Ms. Arguello as possessing the "right combination of skills: high quality work, very fair and open minded, is a good listener, very strong and willing to stand up for what she believes while not being afraid to admit mistakes." He further noted, "[Ms. Arguello] brings a life perspective, a diverse, professional insight," "who is willing to do the right thing," "who will never shirk her responsibility;" and who is "too well grounded to suffer" from the grandiosity of the federal bench.

In conducting our due diligence, partners, associates, colleagues and judges have been unequivocal in their praise and respect of Ms. Arguello's talent, tenacity, compassion and temperament. "She was always polished, well-prepared and strategic [as an associate]," and did an "outstanding job" in representing the state, noted one judge, also familiar with Ms. Arguello's work as an associate. Numerous individuals, highlighting Ms. Arguello's extensive litigation experience in the public and private sectors, viewed this unique blend of experience as constituting a tremendous asset to the Federal bench. Interviewees described her as "smart" and "talented" with a "great combination of high energy and humor." Others have described Ms. Arguello's fine performance as a litigator or negotiator in difficult and complex situations. "She stays focused through tricky emotional issues and will bring a steady hand to the bench." "She has a great enthusiasm for life, works hard and takes nothing for granted." "The task in front of her gets her full attention." "Ms. Arguello has the highest work ethic, never faltering from her responsibility or the work required." She has the "highest work standards and greatest respect for people from which the Federal bench and those appearing before her will benefit."

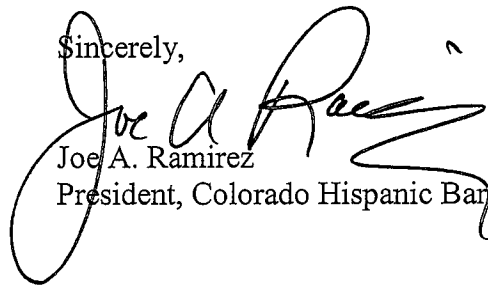
CHBA's reference checks spanned Ms. Arguello's life and included individuals who have known Ms. Arguello since her college days, in law school, through her fledging legal career and now to her current position as Managing Senior Associate University Counsel. From her college days as a Teacher's Assistant to the present time, colleagues described Ms. Arguello as "very demanding, insisting on the highest quality, possessing the highest work ethic" and as the "best teacher in both college *and* law school." "Anyone who can be a partner in two major law firms, become a tenured faculty and go back and forth with such agility between two different

sets of [jobs] requiring different skill sets, speaks to Ms. Arguello’s ability to successfully traverse the demands of the federal bench,” stated a mentee and now, successful Denver lawyer.

The CHBA places great significance in a candidate’s public service and advocacy on behalf of the Latino community in Colorado. Ms. Arguello has served as a mentor, officer and role model for members of the CHBA. She was active in the Kansas Bar Association, and has served on numerous boards and commissions within the Latino and greater communities in Denver and the State of Colorado. Her professional distinction, invaluable experience and continued ability to inspire and motivate people have earned her the highest regard from her colleagues. During the due diligence process, Ms. Arguello was routinely and consistently described as the person with the necessary skill set and personality to effectively and efficiently succeed on the Federal bench. Among many other things, Ms. Arguello was described as a “great leader” with “incredible work ethic,” as a person “able to succinctly crystallize the issues for the court,” who “honors and respects the law,” is “fundamentally fair,” “calm in the eye of the storm” and above all else has “uncompromising integrity” and “respect for all people.”

I would be remiss in failing to note that there has never been a Hispanic appointed to the United States District Court bench for the District of Colorado. In Ms. Arguello, you have the unique opportunity to appoint a most eminently qualified lawyer who is also an esteemed member of our diverse Colorado community.

Sincerely,



Joe A. Ramirez
President, Colorado Hispanic Bar Association

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Thursday, April 24, 2008

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