



COLORADO HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION
1550 Larimer Street, #636
Denver, CO 80202

April 25, 2008

Via Hand Delivery

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

Re: Endorsement of F. Michael Goodbee for the Seventeenth Judicial District Court

Dear Governor Ritter:

It is with the support of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association (“CHBA”) that I write to endorse F. Michael Goodbee for the Seventeenth Judicial District Court.

Like you, Mr. Goodbee has dedicated his career to public service, first through his work as Deputy, then Chief Deputy, and finally District Attorney for the Fifth Judicial District. He later served in the Colorado Attorney General’s Office under Ken Salazar, supervising its Criminal Justice Section. Today, Mr. Goodbee serves as the Assistant District Attorney for Adams and Broomfield Counties. This wealth of management and trial experience makes him particularly well suited to serve on the Seventeenth Judicial District Court.

Beyond his experience, the CHBA was particularly impressed with comments from not only his peers within the prosecutors’ offices, but from defense counsel involved in the complex and high-profile cases in which Mr. Goodbee was involved. Most recently, Mr. Goodbee served as the lead prosecutor in *People vs. Timothy Masters*, which involved thirty days of contested hearings in a highly publicized post-conviction matter. Defense counsel Maria Liu and David Wymore both commented on his fairness and professionalism. Ms. Liu said she would “endorse him wholeheartedly,” and that “he was always able to maintain professionalism and decorum.” All individuals interviewed echoed these comments, stating that Mr. Goodbee was extremely ethical and fair. One defense attorney commented that Mr. Goodbee would concede issues rather than take the “hard-line” to prosecution; that Mr. Goodbee was “someone who can look at both sides.”

This sentiment was also echoed by the members of the bench. District Court Judge W. Terry Ruckriegle stated that, Mr. Goodbee “has a balanced approach to looking at a case.” Judge Ruckriegle also commented on Mr. Goodbee’s “excellent demeanor,” knowing to accept disagreement and accepting of the legal process. Summit County Court Judge Edward Casias, an active member of the CHBA and former Deputy District Attorney under Mr. Goodbee, also commented on Mr. Goodbee’s compassion and dedication to fairness.

Mr. Goodbee has also demonstrated a commitment to Colorado’s Hispanic professionals, having appointed Edward Casias as the first Hispanic Assistant District Attorney in the State. Thereafter, Mr. Goodbee was instrumental in Judge Casias appointment to the Summit County Court. While District Attorney, Mr. Goodbee also appointed Rachel Olguin-Fresquez as Chief Deputy of the Clear Creek District Attorney’s Office and later supported her appointment to the Clear Creek County Court. As the supervisor of the Criminal Justice Section under Ken Salazar, Mr. Goodbee supported the careers of diverse attorneys under his charge. For these reasons, several of our members have likewise voiced their support of Mr. Goodbee’s nomination.

Given the foregoing, we wholeheartedly endorse Mr. Goodbee’s nomination and respectfully request that you appoint him to the Seventeenth Judicial District Court. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 303-290-1600. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jose A Ramirez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

José A. Ramirez
President, Colorado Hispanic Bar Association

cc: Trey Rogers
F. Michael Goodbee