



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 Anthony (“Tony”) Navarro for the Colorado Court of Appeals

Dear Governor Ritter:

It is with the full support of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association (“CHBA”) that I write to endorse one of its members, Tony Navarro, for the Colorado Court of Appeals. We have endorsed Tony for this position in the past, and it is our honor and privilege to do so again. As with our initial review in 2006, all those contacted described Tony Navarro as being best qualified to serve on the Colorado Court of Appeals.

Tony comes to you uniquely qualified for this position. Having been born and raised in Pueblo, Colorado, he brings a fresh perspective to the bench. He was born into a poor family and worked extremely hard to earn admission into the University of Colorado and later Yale Law School. Tony was a Boettcher Scholar, made the Dean’s List all semesters during college, and further distinguished himself as a superb writer, winning Best Petitioner’s Brief in the 1995 National Moot Court Competition and being awarded the position as editor of the Yale Journal of International Law.

After law school, Tony served as a judicial clerk for Supreme Court Justice Alex Martinez for nearly two years. In that position, he gained valuable insight into the workings of appellate courts. He then joined the Colorado Attorney General’s Office, serving in their Appellate Division for six years. Most recently, Tony has gained significant litigation and appellate experience in the private sector as an associate attorney at Holland & Hart.

Beyond this wealth of experience, it is perhaps Tony's brilliant intellect and exquisite writing for which he is best known. While in the Attorney General's Criminal Justice Section, Tony researched, briefed, and presented on issues before the Colorado Court of Appeals and The Colorado Supreme Court. His superior writing and oral presentations established his reputation at the Attorney General's office as a consistent, excellent and dependable lawyer. Those with the privilege of working with Tony at Holland & Hart were equally impressed with his work. One partner commented, "Tony is an outstanding all-around litigator" who handles a diverse caseload of complex matters ranging from products liability to water rights cases. Undoubtedly, despite his age, Tony possesses a rare intellectual capacity, with an equally rare gift for writing. Those familiar with his work describe him as a "great writer," "very sharp analytically" and an individual who produces "marvelous work." By all accounts, Tony is a "superstar."

Tony is also known as an absolutely fair individual - a "calm and unflappable" person who always listens carefully and quietly to both sides of an argument before providing thoughtful analysis and insight. All those interviewed relayed that Tony possesses the judicial demeanor to handle the issues brought to the Court by litigants, and the stamina to produce the high volume of work demanded by the Court of Appeals.

Finally, the CHBA recognizes the paramount need to increase diversity on the State's courts. However, we do not endorse Tony 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 Colorado's diverse communities.

For all these reasons, we respectfully request that you appoint Tony Navarro to the Colorado Court of Appeals. Should you have any 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
Tony Navarro