



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

July 31, 2009

Honorable Barack H. Obama
c/o Gregory B. Craig, Esq.
White House Counsel
Executive Office of the President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20502

Re: Endorsement of Bill Martinez for the United States District Court for the District of Colorado

Dear President Obama:

On behalf of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association (“CHBA”), I am proud to submit our highest endorsement of Bill Martinez for one of the two existing vacancies on the United States District Court for the District of Colorado. The CHBA represents the interests of the more than 500 Hispanic lawyers in the state and the Hispanic community. Our due diligence process before endorsing a candidate for the bench involves reviewing the candidate’s judicial application by members of the CHBA’s Nominations and Endorsements Committee; contacting and interviewing the references identified in the candidate’s judicial application; identifying, contacting and interviewing CHBA members who know the work of the judicial candidate; and, often, conducting a personal interview of the candidate.

Bill Martinez is eminently qualified to serve as one of our next federal judges. Mr. Martinez 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, successfully matriculating from the University of Illinois with a B.S. degree in Environmental Engineering and a B.A. degree in Political Science. He gained distinction as an Illinois Scholar during his time at the University of Illinois.

Our due diligence revealed that Mr. Martinez uniformly is regarded as an extremely well-qualified candidate for this post. Mr. Martinez is an accomplished trial attorney. Though his focus has been in employment law representing both employers and employees, he has practiced

in a wide range of civil areas. That breadth of experience will be a tremendous asset for the U.S. District Court, which carries a large civil docket and a significant number of employment cases. Along these same lines, the CHBA believes that his experience as a AAA arbitrator in employment disputes will serve the U.S. District Court very well.

According to co-counsel and opposing counsel alike, Mr. Martinez has strong analytical and writing skills, has been a tremendous advocate for his clients, is professional and courteous with all, is extremely hard-working, and has a very practical approach to practicing law. To a person, all expressed the belief that Mr. Martinez will follow the rule of law, and will have an excellent judicial temperament and demeanor. Additionally, Mr. Martinez is viewed to be fair and reasonable, and a person who will be respectful of all litigants and their counsel.

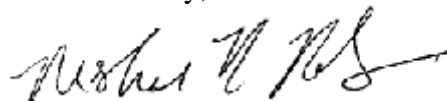
Mr. Martinez has practiced a significant amount in the U.S. District Court. He has a strong command of the Court's procedures and practice standards, as well as the Federal Rules of Evidence. This background, coupled with Mr. Martinez' outstanding demeanor and temperament, make him uniquely qualified to become a U.S. District Court judge.

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 EEOC 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 issues 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 confident that he will bring these capabilities and commitment to the U.S. District Court bench. His recent introduction as a Fellow into the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers in Washington, D.C. is a tribute to those qualities.

For all these reasons, we strongly endorse Bill Martinez for appointment to the U.S. District Court. Thank you, Mr. President, for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Meschach Rhoades
President, Colorado Hispanic Bar Association

cc: Bill Martinez