September 19, 2022

Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Hon. Margaret Guzman

Dear Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

Please accept this letter in support of the nomination of Margaret R. Guzman for appointment to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. I have known Judge Guzman for the past thirteen years as a colleague in the Massachusetts District Court. Prior to my retirement from the bench in July, I served as Chief Justice of the Massachusetts District Court.

Since her appointment to the District Court bench in 2009, Judge Guzman served with distinction as an Associate Justice of the District Court and then as First Justice of Ayer District Court, the leadership position which I appointed her to in 2019. During this time, I witnessed Judge Guzman carry out her important responsibilities with competence and integrity. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she established an excellent professional reputation from her work as a lawyer in the private practice of law. Her legal experience is wide ranging and extensive.

In addition to handling her responsibilities on the bench, Judge Guzman has made excellent contributions to the legal community as a contributing member of several Trial Court committees that have enhanced the professional development, training and education for Judges, Clerk Magistrates, and members of the Bar in Massachusetts.

Throughout my interactions with her, I can attest that Judge Guzman is a highly capable and dedicated Judge with a strong work ethic. I suggest that these important and essential qualities will serve Judge Guzman well in assuming the duties of a federal Judge.

I respectfully submit that Judge Guzman will be a positive asset to the federal Judiciary, and I am pleased to support her nomination. If any of the recipients of this letter have any questions regarding her qualifications, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul C. Dawley Chief Justice, Massachusetts District Court Department (ret.)