

September 9, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

It is with great enthusiasm that we write in strong support of Judge Margaret R. Guzman's nomination to the District Court for the District of Massachusetts. As former colleagues of Judge Guzman during her time with the Committee for Public Counsel Services (the public defender agency of Massachusetts), we believe that Judge Guzman possesses the personal and professional background, legal experience, intellectual capability, sense of fairness, and temperament required of a District Judge.

Throughout her legal career, Judge Guzman has personified the highest standards of the legal profession. In addition to her current position as a state district court judge, she is an experienced litigator and a dedicated public servant. As a former staff public defender and private attorney who accepted appointments to represent indigent clients, Judge Guzman worked hard on behalf of those who sought to be treated fairly and with respect by the criminal justice system. Judge Guzman is also intimately familiar with the difficult circumstances facing many of those involved with our legal system and the powerful role the judiciary can play in safeguarding civil rights and constitutional protections. Her unique experience and perspective provide us with a deep sense of confidence that she will continue to bring those qualities to the federal bench and skillfully and effectively serve the citizens of Massachusetts.

All of us who worked with Judge Guzman -- as her supervisors, colleagues, and mentees -- experienced firsthand her devotion to public service and the justice system. Judge Guzman earned the respect of her adversaries and members of the judiciary for her consistent work as an ethical, professional, and committed advocate, and later as a judge of the highest integrity.

In addition to her professional obligations, Judge Guzman has participated in countless educational efforts, including as a presenter and panelist at continuing legal education programs, as well as engaging with secondary school students interested in the workings of the legal system.

Judge Guzman has also dedicated herself not only to her clients, but also to her community. She has actively served on many community boards, commissions, and with local non-profit agencies working to address issues affecting vulnerable youth, as well as former offenders making the transition back to society.

As an attorney, Judge Guzman always treated her clients and witnesses with courtesy and respect and continued that approach in her dealings with those who appeared before her as a judge.

Judge Guzman, if confirmed, will be the only active Latina judge on the district court, a district that serves a multi-ethnic community. Her confirmation, at this critical time in American history, will continue to bring much needed diversity to the District of Massachusetts bench.

Judge Guzman's personal and professional experience demonstrates her unwavering commitment to justice and her community. As a judge, she can be both firm and compassionate, as the occasion requires. Her honesty, integrity, and professional competence are of the highest caliber. She has the qualifications, experience, intellect, and adherence to the rule of law that mark a distinguished judge, and we proudly endorse Judge Guzman to serve as a District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

Very truly yours,

Michael S. Hussey
Donna M. Cuipyllo
John J. Roemer
Liam D. Scully
Paul Rudolf
Lynda L. Dantas
Janet L. Lombardi
Jennifer Sellitti
Kimberly L. Annesi
Wendy Perkins
Craig Smith
Jorge Villali

Benjamin Brooks
Anthony J. Benedetti
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Jennifer Ginsburg
Max Burwick
Timothy G. Watkins
Keren Goldenberg
Catherine K. Byrne