



Inter American University of Puerto Rico
School of Law
Office of the Dean

July 6, 2022

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

**LETTER ENDORSING THE CONFIRMATION OF HON. CAMILLE L. VÉLEZ-RIVÉ AS
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I am honored to write this letter supporting Magistrate Judge Camille L. Vélez-Rivé for one of the vacant positions of district judge in the District of Puerto Rico. Magistrate Judge Vélez-Rivé is uniquely qualified among the candidates due to her impressive academic and professional credentials.

I have known Magistrate Judge Vélez-Rivé for many years. She has been a guest lecturer at criminal and civil courses at the Inter American University School of Law, where I am the Dean. She has always highly impressed the faculty and the students for her humility, intelligence, passion for her job, and dedication to public service.

It is impressive that during her distinguished judicial career as a magistrate judge for over seventeen years, she has been re-appointed twice after being thoroughly examined by two merit selection panels. Magistrate Judge Vélez-Rivé has overseen a myriad of matters in civil and criminal cases by referral and by consent of the parties. Her reputation on the bench is impeccable. She is extremely well respected by the federal bar as a hardworking, thoughtful, fair, devoted, and respectful jurist who issues her decisions based on an impartial application

of the law. Her judicial temperament and commitment to equal justice under the law are also among her greatest attributes.

As a female candidate and mother, she will bring diversity to the bench and a wealth of experience in judicial proceedings. In summary, Magistrate Judge Vélez-Rivé has the knowledge, wisdom, integrity, sensibility, and maturity to be an Article III Judge.

I strongly encourage you to confirm Judge Vélez-Rivé to district judge in the District of Puerto Rico.

Thank you so much for considering my recommendation.

Most respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Julio Fontanet Maldonado', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Julio Fontanet Maldonado
Dean