



CHAMBERS OF  
GARY R. OROZCO  
Judge

# Superior Court of California County of Fresno

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May 16, 2023

Senator Richard Durbin, Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Lindsey Graham, Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Judge Ana de Alba to the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

Dear Senators Durbin and Graham:

It is with great enthusiasm and unwavering support that I submit this letter urging the confirmation of U.S. District Judge Ana de Alba to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

I was Judge de Alba's supervising judge during her first two plus years at the Fresno County Superior Court. As I have shared with others, when she was vetted for the District Court seat, Judge de Alba brought forth a well-developed skill set for managing hundreds of cases a week and for fairly meting out individual justice for every litigant that came before her. Judge de Alba has a solid work ethic and an admirable sense of humility and kindness that she shares with all who come into contact with her. On the bench, Judge de Alba made tough decisions on complex search and seizure issues as well as some vexing sentencing decisions. Her fidelity to the law was not compromised by any consideration of outcome. In my 21 years on the bench, half of which I have served as supervising judge, I can say that Judge de Alba stands out as one of the brightest and most hardworking judges that I have met.

Before arriving to the Fresno Superior Court, Judge de Alba was a respected civil litigator, trial attorney and partner for a Preeminent AV rated employment and business law firm here in Fresno. However, Judge de Alba was even better known for the countless hours she devoted to her pro bono work on behalf of the Central San Joaquin Valley's underserved citizens. Judge de Alba was exceptional in her commitment and was recognized many times by the Fresno Bar Association for her dedication.

I know, academically, Judge de Alba was prepared for her remarkable journey by attending the prestigious University of California, Berkeley law and undergraduate schools. As a person, her humble upbringing in Dos Palos, California, instilled in her the values, high moral character, and empathy, that have made her well-suited for her role as a judge.

Senator Richard Durbin and Senator Lindsey Graham

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Judge de Alba's nomination is a first for the Fresno Superior Court and the Eastern District of California-and the entire Central Valley of California. Confirmation to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals is consistent with the arc of her brilliant career. She has worked extremely hard to make our community, our Valley and the Eastern District of California a better place for all. Her confirmation to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals will serve as a North Star for all who wish to know what a combination of intelligence, kindness, empathy, and grit can bear from even the humblest of beginnings.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter of support for Judge de Alba. Please feel free to contact me to discuss her qualifications.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "GRO", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Gary R. Orozco

GRO:jlk