



*Francisco Rebollo López*  
*Associate Justice, Retired*  
*Supreme Court of Puerto Rico*  
*San Juan, Puerto Rico*

July 7, 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

*FR L*

**Letter in Support of Judge Gina R. Méndez-Miró to the U.S. District Court**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I write to strongly support Judge Gina R. Méndez-Miró's nomination to serve as a District Court Judge at the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. I make this recommendation based on my experience as former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico (1982-2008), former prosecutor at the Puerto Rico Department of Justice, former trial court judge and a practicing attorney for nearly sixty years.

I worked directly with Judge Méndez-Miró back when she served as General Counsel and Director of the Legal Affairs Office of the Puerto Rico Office of Court Administration, but have known of her from many years before, since she was a classmate of my son Eduardo, who is also a judge. After retiring as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico, I continued the practice of the law and often provided legal advice on issues impacting the Judicial Branch of Puerto Rico. As General Counsel of the Office of Courts

Administration, Judge Méndez-Miró requested my legal representation and advice for certain sensitive and high-profile cases. During that time, I witnessed how she worked tirelessly to lead and manage the cases handled at the Legal Affairs Office, which included significant legal claims and disputes brought before both federal and state courts as well as administrative agencies. As an attorney, she showed full command of the law and the workings of the judicial system, and was always very sharp, eloquent, and respectful. She stood out to me for her keen intelligence, her vibrant personality, and her kindness. Above all she is honest and ethical. She always gave a fair assessment on the cases at hand and a person the Chief Justice and then Court Administrator could always depend upon for her discerning analysis of the most difficult legal questions and her commitment to collaboration across the different administrative offices and judicial regions.

In conclusion, I believe that Judge Méndez-Miró is extremely well-rounded in her legal experience. She has practiced in State and Federal court as an Associate in one of Puerto Rico's top law firms. In addition, she has served impeccably as an attorney in all three branches of government. Furthermore, now as sitting judge at the Puerto Rico Court of Appeals, for the past six years she has demonstrated she is a fair and balanced adjudicator. Judge Méndez-Miró has authored hundreds of opinions on many important issues of law, and has consistently demonstrated respect for precedent, deciding only after an exhaustive review of the judicial record and accurately applying the law to the facts of the case. I understand that she maintains the deportment required of trial judges in arriving at fair and equitable decisions.

I must emphasize that I rarely have written to the Senate Judiciary Committee in support of judicial nominees. I only write when I know the nominee personally and hold the strong conviction that the nominee will be a superb judicial officer. It is not important to me whether the judge is the nominee of a President of a particular party or has views on certain questions of law that agree with my own. What is important to me is that a nominee possesses the qualities, credentials, and temperament necessary to serve as a judge, particularly a trajectory of understanding that a good judge is neutral, non-partisan, exercises self-restraint, and approaches each case with an open mind to reach as just result.

Based on what I know of Judge Méndez-Miró, from her record on the bench and my own interactions with her, I believe she has been that kind of a judge and will continue be that kind of a judge at the federal bench. I am therefore pleased to support her nomination to the District Court and urge you to promptly consider her confirmation.

Respectfully,

  
Francisco Rebollo López