

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

RE: Letter requesting the confirmation of Honorable Magistrate Judge Camille Velez-Rive for Puerto Rico's Federal Article III Judge vacancy

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

The Honorable Joe R. Biden has nominated Honorable Magistrate Judge Camille Velez-Rive as an Article III Federal District Court Judge of the Puerto Rico Federal District Court. It is our honor to write this letter requesting her confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

Magistrate Judge Velez-Rive possesses all the experience and preparation for such an important position. She finished her Juris Doctor Magna Cum Laude from the University of Puerto Rico School of Law. Also, she clerked for now retired Judge Carmen Consuelo-Cerezo, U.S. District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, and for Hon. Francisco Rebollo-Lopez, former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico. Then, she became an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Puerto Rico tending to criminal and civil matters until 2004, when she was appointed as a Federal Magistrate Judge in Puerto Rico and has been ever since. Undoubtedly, Magistrate Judge Velez-Rive is a proven and dedicated public servant that has very successfully walked up every step of the ladder to become an Article III District Judge.

In our opinion, Magistrate Judge Velez-Rive meets and exceeds all the qualities that a Federal District Court Judge must have. To the local legal community, her character, integrity, and general reputation are outstanding. She is a hard worker and accountable, keeping her courtroom and docket up to date. She has always been neutral and unbiased to litigants and parties. Most importantly, she has an enviable sense of humor and does not hesitate to share a big smile.

Magistrate Judge Velez-Rive's depth of legal knowledge is impressive, which she complements with her keen intellect. Her judgment is reflected in her well-versed opinions and orders, which are thorough, very detailed and well founded in the law.

But perhaps her biggest attribute is her judicial temperament. She is a patient and open-minded person that treats all litigants with courtesy, tact, humility, understanding and common sense, but does not quiver on being firm and courageous. When the time comes, she has demonstrated sharp mediation skills and enjoins the parties into reaching final agreements. Her stellar performance as a Magistrate Judge has proven that she is the best candidate to fill any vacancy as a District Judge. In our opinion, not only Magistrate Judge Velez-Rive deserves to be confirmed: Puerto Rico's society and legal community need her on the bench. That is why we are recommending her so highly.

Do not hesitate to call if any questions, cordially,

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