

Carlos Bollar National President

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Chairman Dick Durbin U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dana Remus White House Counsel The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. Washington, DC 20500 Ranking Member Chuck Grassley U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

RE: Endorsement of Gina Méndez-Miró for Federal Judge

Dear Chairman Durbin, Ranking Member Grassley, and White House Counsel Remus:

We write on behalf of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) to endorse the nomination of Judge Gina Méndez-Miró to the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico.

The HNBA is a non-profit, non-partisan national membership association that represents the interests of Hispanic attorneys, judges, law professors, law students, and other legal professionals in the United States and Puerto Rico. One of the HNBA's many institutional objectives is to advocate and work to ensure that the federal and state judiciary is diverse and reflects the citizens that come before the courts on a daily basis.

The HNBA has conducted due diligence on Judge Méndez-Miró. Our evaluation included an initial paper screening of resumes, social media, and writings/articles to establish minimum qualifications. Candidate and reference interviews along with interviews with peers, attorney peers, and community leaders were conducted to assess relevant legal experience, scholarly work, temperament, reputation, and involvement in the Hispanic community. Judge Méndez-Miró has an impressive career, is actively involved in the local legal community, and has a good temperament for the bench.

Judge Méndez-Miró earned her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Puerto Rico (Magna Cum Laude), her Masters in Romance Languages and Literature from Princeton University, and her Juris Doctorate from the University or Puerto Rico School of Law.

Judge Méndez-Miró started her career as an Associate Attorney at O'Neill & Borges where she spent four years in their labor and employment department. She then went on to become an Assistant Attorney General for Human Resources at the Puerto Rico Department of Justice, where she handled human

resources policies and practices of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's Department of Justice.

Judge Méndez-Miró worked as the Director of Judicial Programs at the Puerto Rico Office of Court Administration for two years, and advised the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico and the Director of the Office of Courts Administration on public and administrative policies, projects, and programs. She then became the General Counsel and Director of the Legal Affairs Office at the Puerto Rico Office of Court Administration for three years. In this role, she advised the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico and the Director of the Office of Court Administration and oversaw the defense strategy in significant legal claims, disputes, and litigation. Judge Méndez-Miró then became the Chief of Staff for the President of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Judge Méndez-Miró has been a judge at the Puerto Rico Court of Appeals since December 2016. In her current role, she reviews a majority of civil cases with topics ranging from labor and employment disputes, employment discrimination, medical malpractice claims to insurance claims, electoral law, family law, and other civil matters. She reviews criminal cases, including issues on bail, right to counsel, searches and seizures, and post-conviction procedures.

Judge Méndez-Miró is well respected and admired by her colleagues and other members of the Bar for her high intellect, notable competence, and good character.

We endorse Judge Méndez-Miró for your consideration and selection for the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico.

If you have any questions concerning this endorsement, please do not hesitate to contact us at the HNBA National Office at (202) 223-4777 or contact Carlos Bollar directly at president@hnba.com.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carlos Bollar HNBA National President

Robert Raben Chair, HNBA Judiciary Committee

Alexander Gonzalez Co-Chair, HNBA Judiciary Committee

cc:

Mariana Bravo, HNBA National President-Elect