

June 21, 2022



Elia Diaz-Yaeger
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton
U.S. House of Representatives
2136 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dana Remus
White House Counsel
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Endorsement of Ana Reyes for Federal Judge

Dear Rep. Norton and White House Counsel Remus:

We write on behalf of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) to endorse the nomination of Ms. Ana Reyes to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

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 Ms. Reyes. 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. Ms. Reyes has an impressive career, is actively involved in the local legal community, and has a good temperament for the bench.

Ms. Reyes was born in Uruguay and her family moved to Barcelona, Spain before settling in Kentucky. She attended Harvard Law School where she graduated *magna cum laude* and served as a member of the *Harvard Law Review*. After clerking for Judge Amalya L. Kearse on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, Ms. Reyes went to work as an associate at Williams & Connolly. She currently sits on Williams & Connolly's Executive Committee, which is charged with running the firm. Ms. Reyes has appeared multiple times in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

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As part of Ms. Reyes's practice she has an astonishingly large pro bono commitment to asylum and immigration organizations and their legal challenges. She has waived more than a million and a half worth of fees for her pro bono counsel. In 2019, she represented nine asylum seekers who challenged a new regulation barring refugees crossing between ports of entry from seeking asylum (*O.A. v. Trump*, 1:19-cv-5272-RDM (D.D.C)). She has also represented girls fleeing female genital mutilation in Ethiopia, a judge targeted for prosecution in Egypt, activists fleeing political violence in Afghanistan, girls feeling forced rape and marriage in Central America, and girls fleeing Boko Haram in Nigeria. Furthermore, Ms. Reyes serves on the Board of The Feminist Majority Foundation where she works to advance reproductive rights in the Latinx community. In 2017, she received the "Woman Lawyer of the Year" award from the Women's Bar Association of D.C. Ms. Reyes is well respected and admired by her colleagues and other members of the Bar for her high intellect, notable competence, and good character. Attached is Ms. Reyes's resume.

We endorse P Ms. Reyes for your consideration and selection for the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

If you have any questions concerning this endorsement, please do not hesitate to contact the HNBA National Office at (202) 223-4777 or contact National President Elia Diaz-Yaeger directly at (504) 310-9170 or president@hnba.com.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Elia Diaz-Yaeger
HNBA National President



Robert Raben
Chair, HNBA Judiciary Committee

cc:
Carlos Bollar, HNBA National President-Elect