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July 5, 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 in Support of María Antongiorgi's Nomination as U.S. District Judge for Puerto Rico.

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I am a retired Immigration Judge who devotedly served the Department of Justice for thirty-seven (37) years. As such, I soundly recommend María Antongiorgi, Esq. for the position of U.S. District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico. Ms. Antongiorgi was nominated by President Biden for said position on June 15, 2022. As documented by her Curriculum Vitae and background report, Ms. Antongiorgi is exceptionally qualified for this position. She has the extensive well-rounded knowledge, experience, and credentials for the position of District Judge.

I have known Ms. Antongiorgi for over twenty-five (25) years, as a dear friend and professionally. Thus, I attest to her vast experience, the caliber of her character and her professional ethics.

Ms. Antongiorgi held partner status in the firm of McConnell Valdés, LLC, Puerto Rico's largest and most prestigious law firm. She served the Firm for twenty-three (23) years during which she gained vast experience in federal and state civil litigation, having an exceptional

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command of the law and the rules of evidence. Ms. Antongiorgi also worked under the Criminal Justice Act, providing criminal defense to indigent individuals charged in federal court. She is fully committed to the rule of law.

For the past three (3) years, Ms. Antongiorgi has been Clerk of Court for the District of Puerto Rico. As such, she has a superb knowledge of court governance and federal judiciary policies and practices. Her matured character, experience and knowledge in federal litigation, criminal matters, and court governance, makes her a prime and ideal candidate for the federal bench. She is well respected in the legal community and possess the trust and confidence of members of the bar and all District Judges.

Ms. Antongorgi has the substantive knowledge, litigation experience and keen mind necessary to become an outstanding district judge. For all these reasons, I strongly and enthusiastically recommend her for the position of United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.

Respectfully,

Crimilda Guilloty (Immigration Judge Retired)