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May 5, 2022

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**Latina/o Bar  
Association of  
Washington**  
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Chair Dick Durbin  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Chuck Grassley  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Support of Appointment of Judge Salvador Mendoza

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

On behalf of the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington (LBAW), we write to express our support of the appointment to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit of Judge Salvador Mendoza. Judge Mendoza's background and breadth of experience will make him an excellent judge on this court.

LBAW's purpose is to represent the concerns and goals of Latinx attorneys and Latinx people of Washington State. Our membership includes judges on all levels of the bench, attorneys who work in the private, public, and non-profit sectors, law students, and community members. Our impact reaches courthouses all over the state and the country. Yet, demographically, Latinx people make up a small percentage of attorneys and judges.

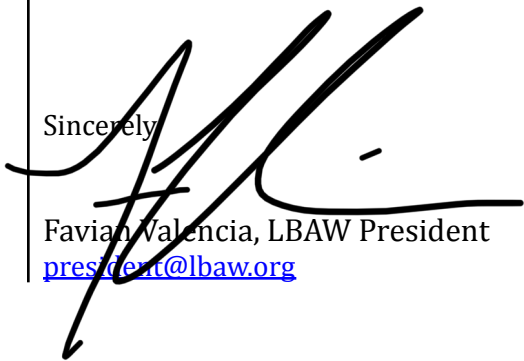
Often, LBAW members are the first in our families to attend law school, go to college, or even complete high school. Judge Mendoza, having grown up as a farm worker in the Yakima Valley in Central Washington, is an important example of what all Latinx people can accomplish.

In his time on the bench, Judge Mendoza has shown a strong commitment to his work and also his community. This commitment has included welcoming latinx law students to his chambers both to answer questions about his profession, but also to demonstrate to latinx law students that becoming a judge, including at the federal level, is possible. He meets and exceeds the qualifications required to serve as a federal judge on the court of appeals and also his humility and life experience ensure he will bring important experience and perspective to this court.

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LBAW strongly urges the Committee on the Judiciary to approve the nomination of Judge Salvador Mendoza to serve as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'FV', is written over the word 'Sincerely' and extends over the name and email address below.

Favian Valencia, LBAW President

[president@lbaw.org](mailto:president@lbaw.org)