

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



HECTOR H. BALDERAS
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 26, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Mr. Matthew Garcia for appointment to the United States District Court,
District of New Mexico**

Dear Senator Durbin and Senator Grassley,

It is my pleasure to recommend Matthew Garcia for appointment to the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico. I have known Mr. Garcia for over 18 years, and he has established himself as among the best and brightest attorneys in New Mexico. Born in New Mexico, he chose to seek his undergraduate degree at UNM, an experience that propelled him to study at our nation's and the world's most prestigious schools. With this knowledge, he chose to return to New Mexico to attend law school and to serve the State that raised him.

His career has always been marked by choosing New Mexico first. While in private practice, Mr. Garcia repeatedly chose to represent New Mexicans who lacked a voice in their struggles against institutions who harmed them. He has been a staunch advocate for the rights of all New Mexicans, using his advocacy to work collaboratively with law enforcement agencies to make safer communities for New Mexican families. He has demonstrated a dedicated service to the Bench, the Bar, and our community; and central to his service are core principles of justice and equality under the law.

Currently, Mr. Garcia serves as trusted counsel to Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham. He has deftly served through numerous legislative sessions, managing to best serve New Mexicans'

interests, bringing stakeholders from community organizations to law enforcement together to arrive at consensus on important public safety issues to the benefit of New Mexicans. Since taking on this role, Mr. Garcia has worked closely with my office to protect the public on a wide range of issues, including public safety and consumer protection, as well as open government and healthcare matters. Through our work, Mr. Garcia has exhibited the highest standards of ethics and professionalism, and he has continued to excel as an attorney. His capacity and demeanor as an attorney make him an outstanding candidate for our federal Bench.

Mr. Garcia represents the qualities and characteristics befitting of our Federal Courts, and he is a candidate with the proven experience, commitment to public service, and vast knowledge of the law that will further make New Mexico a safe, just, and better place to live.

Respectfully,



Hector Balderas
Attorney General