

September 5, 2022

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chair
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

Re: *Judge Mia R. Perez, Esquire*
Judicial Nominee to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are members of the Pennsylvania legal community and the Hispanic Bar Association, an organization comprised of Hispanic lawyers and law students both in Pennsylvania and nationwide, who write to you in strong and enthusiastic support of Mia R. Perez's nomination to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Judge Perez is an advocate for justice, a mentor, and a respected member and active leader in the Hispanic legal community. She is an inspired choice for the Court. We thank President Joe Biden for selecting a diverse and eminently qualified nominee like Judge Perez.

Judge Perez's experience, background, and qualifications speak for themselves. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge and skill in a wide range of practice areas. Judge Perez previously worked as an Assistant Public Defender, an associate at a full-service law firm, and she even started her own private practice in 2011. Notably, in 2016, Judge Perez was one of the youngest judges to be elected to the Court of Common Pleas in Philadelphia. Moreover, given the nature of Judge Perez's practical experience, she has a working command of both the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. Judge Perez also has a high level of comprehension and familiarity with Pennsylvania's rules, laws, and regulations. Throughout her career, she has shown herself to be a vigorous advocate, a compassionate attorney, an impartial judge, a mentor for students entering the profession and above all has demonstrated a commitment to justice. Her reputation for fairness and equity is beyond reproach. Undoubtedly, she will continue to exemplify these characteristics and qualities on the federal bench and for those reasons and because of her exemplary qualifications, we urge Judge Perez's speedy confirmation to the Federal bench.

We also must identify and appreciate the need for diversity on our Court. Upon confirmation, Judge Mia Perez would serve as the second Latina ever to sit on the Federal bench for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, an overdue and important recognition. Judge Perez would greatly fulfill our need for more female and Latino representation on this Court. The people within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will unquestionably benefit immensely from the diversity of her experience, practice, perspective, and background that she will bring as a judge on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

In short, we wholeheartedly believe that Judge Mia R. Perez represents the best and brightest of our legal community and will be an outstanding addition to the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Thank you for taking the time to consider our views, we appreciate it very much.

Respectfully,

Priscilla E. Jimenez, Esquire
Hispanic National Bar Association, Region IV President
Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania, Past President
Hispanic Bar Association Legal Education Fund of Pennsylvania, Past President

Fernando Rivera, Esquire
Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania, President

Isabel C. Naveira López, Esquire
Hispanic Bar Association Legal Education Fund of Pennsylvania, President

Diana Cortes, Esquire
Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania, Past President

Melissa Martinez, Esquire
Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania, President-Elect

Jennifer Gomez Hardy, Esquire
Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania, Past President

Juan Baez, Esquire
Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania, Past President

James P. Faunes, Esquire
Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania, Past President