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May 9, 2022

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

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

I am writing to you in my personal capacity to support the nomination and appointment of Judge Salvador Mendoza Jr. to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. I am serving my third term as the Elected Prosecuting Attorney for Franklin County Washington and have observed the legal works of Judge Mendoza for nearly 18 years.

I started my legal career as a deputy prosecuting attorney in the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office. I met Judge Mendoza as a practicing attorney in our community. During the course of interactions with Judge Mendoza, I always found him to be a zealous advocate and he had great respect for the law. He also served as a judge pro tem where I witnessed firsthand his quest for just outcomes. His decisions were well thought and based on the rule of law. He has always been well respected by his colleagues and by those who entered his courtroom. He was fair and just.

Judge Mendoza was appointed to the federal bench after only serving approximately a year and a half as one of our Superior Court Judges. He was quickly recognized for his thoughtful decision making with the appropriate temperament we desire in a District Court Judge.

As a former police officer and current prosecutor, I expect a judge to consider the facts of a given case, and apply the appropriate law. Judge Mendoza honors the rule of law, holds offenders accountable, and ensures the rights of the accused are protected consistent with our US Constitution and federal laws. These are the attributes of a great judge.

I strongly urge the Judiciary Committee to approve the nomination of Judge Mendoza to serve as a judge on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Mendoza has served the citizens of Eastern Washington well and brings the experience and acumen to serve the interests of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sant