



**SILA M. CALDERÓN**

Via Email: [phillip\\_brest@judiciary-dem.senate.gov](mailto:phillip_brest@judiciary-dem.senate.gov)

July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Durbin:

It is a pleasure to write to you. The purpose of my letter is to express my unconditional support for Magistrate Judge Camille L. Vélez-Rivé being confirmed as a District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.

Magistrate Judge Vélez-Rivé has a long and distinguished career in the federal bench where she has displayed a judicial temperament and fairness; she is also well-liked and respected by the parties and their attorneys. Importantly, Magistrate Judge Vélez-Rivé has consistently defended the rights of criminal defendants who appear before her, carefully watching over and guaranteeing their constitutional rights from the time of their arrest. Moreover, she has not hesitated to recommend suppression of evidence where constitutional rights have been violated by the state, including unreasonable search and seizures. She also has vast experience in civil cases many of which she has presided upon consent of the parties, including twenty-four jury trials. Some of these cases involved allegations of civil rights violations such as sex and gender discrimination, housing discrimination, workplace sexual harassment, discrimination on the basis of disability, among others.

Magistrate Judge Vélez-Rivé enjoys a strong reputation among members of the public and within the legal community for her fairness, impartiality and

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for applying justice equally to all. She always treats all litigants with the utmost respect.

On a personal level, Magistrate Judge Vélez-Rivé is a single mother who has been able to balance her life between her demanding job and her daughter even under the most strenuous circumstances. Her daughter was diagnosed with leukemia at an early age and has undergone extensive chemotherapy treatment. During these trying times, she never neglected her judicial duties while helping her daughter to overcome the disease successfully.

Her experience, proven dedication to public service and solid record of understanding the federal laws and those of Puerto Rico, explain why she has bi-partisan local and national support, thus making her the right nominee for appointment to one of the vacancies in the District of Puerto Rico. The citizens of Puerto Rico will be well served having Magistrate Judge Vélez-Rivé as a District Judge.

Thank you very much for the attention you bring to my letter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a long, sweeping diagonal stroke on the left and a series of connected, rounded loops on the right.