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May 8, 2022

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

I write to express the support of the Tri-Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Salvador Mendoza, Jr. to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Mr. Mendoza's background and legal and courtroom experience make him an outstanding candidate for this set.

The Tri-Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is a membership based organization that works with both Hispanic business owners and non-Hispanic businesses and organizations to increase economic growth and prosperity in the community while also increasing mutual understanding and respecting between the Hispanic and non-Hispanic communities in the Tri-Cities.

Mr. Mendoza has been an outstanding member of the community as an individual, lawyer and judge. He has successfully served on a number of important boards including Columbia Basin College from which he received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Spirit Award for his many contributions to the community. He is one of the main organizers of Law & Justice Day which exposes many youth, many from poor and minority communities, to different areas of the legal system. He also serves as an example and inspiration for many young Latinx individuals whose families, like those of Mr. Mendoza, work in the fields. Seeing Mr. Mendoza achieve so much lets them know that they too can reach for the starts.

Mr. Mendoza has already proved his legal acumen and District Judge and a Superior Court Judge in Washington and these have undoubtedly provided him with the experience necessary to carry out the work on the Ninth Circuit Court.

We support Judge Mendoza without reservation and know that he will do an excellent job if appoint to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Martin Valadez", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Martin Valadez  
Executive Director