

QUIJANO, ENNIS & SIDERIS

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

52 DUANE STREET

FLOOR 7

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007

TELEPHONE: (212) 686-0666

Peter Enrique Quijano Cell: (917) 716-6312

peter@qandelaw.com; nancyleennis@gmail.com annasideris@yahoo.com

Peter Enrique Quijano
Nancy Lee Ennis
Anna N. Sideris

January 18, 2023

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: Judicial Nominee Michael E. Farbiarz, Esq.

Dear Senators Durbin and Grassley.

With respect and enthusiasm, I write in support of the nomination of Michael E. Farbiarz as United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey. As a criminal defense attorney who has practiced primarily in the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York for more than thirty years, I have had the good fortune to encounter Mr. Farbiarz on a number of important federal cases. I first came to know Mr. Farbiarz when he was an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and the Chief of the Terrorism for that Office. In our respective capacities, we both were the lead attorneys in U.S. v. Ahmend Khalfan Ghailani, 98 Cr. 1023 (LAK); he appeared for the Government, while I represented the defendant. The case was extremely complex and demanding. My client, Ahmed Ghailani, was charged with two simultaneous al-Qaeda bombings of the United States Embassies in Tanzania and Kenya in 1998, which resulted in two hundred thirty-eight deaths. The trial, which commenced before the Honorable Lewis A. Kaplan, U.S.D.J., in the autumn of 2010, required mastery of extensive scientific and physical evidence. Further, it was necessary to manage, prepare and present an array of witnesses from Africa and other foreign locations, as well as from various governmental agencies. While Mr. Farbiarz aggressively prosecuted the government's case, he consistently maintained his even-handed and reasonable demeanor. Indeed, I found Michael to be among the most effective of the federal adversaries I have encountered. Throughout this exacting trial, I was able to rely upon Mr. Farbiarz's decency, honesty and ethical conduct.

Subsequently, Mr. Farbiarz and I also served as opposing counsel on other matters in the Southern District of New York. Repeatedly, I had an opportunity to observe his keen legal mind and his extensive preparation. As a result of these experiences, I can readily attest to the Committee that Mr. Farbiarz possesses the intellect, experience, legal acumen, work ethic, and character which would make him a highly regarded federal judge. Given his fundamental fairness, it would be a pleasure to all litigants to appear before Judge Farbiarz.

Accordingly, I wholeheartedly urge the confirmation of Michael E. Farbiarz as a United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey. By his appointment, the Bench, Attorneys, Litigants and the Public will be more than well-served. In short, he is a superbly skilled lawyer, an accomplished legal scholar and a genuinely good person.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Enrique Quijano

Peter Enrique Quijano

cc: Honorable U.S. Senator Corey A. Booker