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June 10, 2022

VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
711 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Women's Bar Association's Endorsement of Ana C. Reyes for Judge, District
Court for the District of Columbia

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia (WBA), I am writing to express our support of Ana C. Reyes for the vacancy on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

We are pleased to inform you that Ms. Reyes was the 2017 WBA Woman Lawyer of the Year (WLY). The WBA WLY award recognizes a leader, like Ms. Reyes, who has championed change in the profession, led by example, advocated for justice, and promoted the advancement of women in the profession.

Ms. Reyes received the competitive WLY award during the WBA's Centennial year, when the organization's theme was, "Looking Back, and Moving Forward." Ms. Reyes' personal and professional trajectory embodied that theme. Born in Uruguay, at the age of five, she immigrated from Spain to the United States. Her experiences influenced her work helping persecuted persons find refuge in the United States. In support of her WBA WLY award, Karen Musalo of the Center for Gender & Refugee Studies at UC Hastings, informed us that "Ana represents the very best of the legal profession: an accomplished and skilled litigator who provides the same high quality zealous advocacy whether she is representing an international corporation, a foreign government, or a refugee child." We agree.

Our principal goal in endorsing judicial candidates is to ensure the appointment of qualified judges and, consistent with that goal, to increase the number of judges who support the mission of the WBA. We consider, in our recommendations, the candidate's background, level of experience, connection to the District of Columbia,

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Endorsement of Ana C. Reyes for Judge, District Court for the District of Columbia

record of public service, commitment to the equality of all litigants, and attention to women's needs and concerns.

We evaluate each candidate for endorsement by reviewing his or her resume and other supporting documentation, and discussing the candidate's skills and character with references. We ask each person contacted specific questions regarding the candidate's qualifications, integrity, temperament, experience, and commitment to the concepts of equal opportunity and equal justice under law.

Ms. Reyes prioritizes mentoring women, minorities, and LGBTQ+ individuals. She is a former Chair of her firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, where she led a number of initiatives to improve retention of diverse candidates. In addition, she serves as a member of the firm's Executive Committee, Women's Initiative, Pro Bono Committee, and LGBTQ+ affinity group.

Much of Ms. Reyes' career focused on international disputes and she serves as Co-Chair of her firm's International Disputes practice group. Her representation of foreign nations, foreign officials, and multinational corporations will give her a unique perspective on the bench.

Ms. Reyes' background and body of work make her uniquely qualified to serve on the District Court for the District of Columbia. As a gay Latina woman with extensive legal expertise and a commitment to the disadvantaged, she will be an asset to the bench and will review matters that come before her from a different frame of reference. The WBA is proud to support Ms. Reyes' candidacy and we believe that she is highly qualified to serve on the District Court for the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Candace Beck".

Candace Beck
President

cc: Ms. Ana C. Reyes