LAW OFFICES

WILLIAMS & CONNOLLY LLP*

680 MAINE AVENUE SW WASHINGTON, DC 20024 (202) 434-5000 WWW.WC.COM

May 19, 2022

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 Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We write to express our enthusiastic support for Ana C. Reyes, who has been nominated to serve as a judge on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

We are partners and senior counsel at Williams & Connolly LLP. For many years, we have been privileged to call Ana our colleague and partner. Although our political viewpoints are varied, we are united in our firm belief that Ana will be an excellent federal judge. Our loss will be the country's gain.

Ana is exceedingly well qualified to serve as a district court judge. Ana has worked at our firm since 2001 and became a partner in 2009. For the past twenty years, she has represented a diverse range of clients in federal and state courts, including in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, and in arbitration proceedings. Ana has tried numerous cases to verdict, judgment, or final decision, and has handled many appeals. She is intimately familiar with the ins and outs of federal district court litigation, and we have no doubt that she will hit the ground running as a district court judge. Her considerable body of work has garnered substantial accolades. In 2017, the Women's Bar Association of D.C. named Ana "Woman Lawyer of the Year." *The National Law Journal* has recognized Ana multiple times, including on its Outstanding Women Lawyers list recognizing "the 75 most accomplished female attorneys working in the legal profession today." And *Benchmark Litigation* has named Ana one of the top 250 women litigators in the country, and has repeatedly named her a "Local Litigation Star." Fortune 500 companies have sought Ana's counsel on a wide variety of issues, from international legal disputes to patent enforcement to multi-district litigation.

Ana possesses many of the qualities that exemplify the best district court judges we have encountered. She is intelligent, fair, and digs deeply into the law. She thinks carefully about how to resolve problems and is always guided by legal precedent. She solicits divergent viewpoints before making decisions. She mentors younger lawyers, is unflappable in the face of challenging circumstances, and, notwithstanding her exceptional accomplishments, is incredibly humble.

We are confident that Ana will contribute to the federal judiciary with the same commitment that she has brought to our firm and to the greater Washington, D.C. community. For several years Ana chaired our firm's Diversity & Inclusion Committee, where she spearheaded our efforts to recruit, retain, and promote diverse attorneys. She also served ably on both our Hiring and Pro Bono Committees. In recognition of these efforts and her dedication to the firm, in 2018 our partnership elected Ana to a four-year term on our Executive Committee (which manages our firm), where she served with distinction until the end of 2021.

Ana has played an especially outsized role in our firm's pro bono work. An immigrant herself, Ana singlehandedly developed our firm's pro bono relationships with organizations providing legal representation to asylum seekers and other immigrants. Over her career, Ana has devoted thousands of hours to representing or supervising representations of asylum seekers and other immigrants, including successful representations of Afghanis fleeing political persecution, Nigerian girls fleeing persecution at the hands of the Boko Haram terrorist group, women fleeing forced marriages across multiple continents, and many, many others. Her tireless work protecting the rights of asylum seekers and immigrants likewise has earned Ana substantial recognition.

Meanwhile, Ana spends significant time outside the office serving others. For a number of years, Ana has been involved with and served on the Board of Calvary Women's Services, which provides transitional and permanent housing and other services to homeless women in the District of Columbia. Ana has served on the Board of the Fuller Project, a global nonprofit newsroom dedicated to objective, groundbreaking reporting on women. And for many years she has volunteered with the Kentucky YMCA, helping youth in her home state prepare mock legal arguments and currently serving on its Board of Overseers.

Finally, Ana is a person of exceptional integrity. She models what it means to represent clients zealously and ethically each and every day. Her work ethic is second to none. She has overcome personal losses with fortitude and grace. She treats everyone at our firm, from attorneys to staff alike, with respect and compassion. Those of us who have worked directly with Ana can attest that we are better lawyers from having worked with her.

Although we will miss Ana, we are immensely proud of her nomination. We are confident that Ana will serve the federal judiciary with integrity, intelligence, and fairness. We respectfully submit that Ana is exceptionally qualified to serve as a district court judge, and we strongly support her confirmation to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Yours sincerely,

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