

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
OCTOBER 2016 FAIRFAX CIRCUIT COURT JUDICIAL SCREENING

DANIEL TOMAS CROWE LOPEZ

Mr. Lopez graduated from Beloit College in 1987 with a joint degree in English Literature / Composition and Spanish, and earned his JD from the George Washington University Law School in 1996. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1996. He was subsequently admitted to practice in the U.S. Federal Court for the Eastern District of Virginia in 1998. He was admitted to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit in 2012 and the United States Supreme Court in 2014. Mr. Lopez was also admitted to the Executive Office for Immigration Review in 1996. He is married with three children and lives in Arlington, Virginia.

EXPERIENCE AND LEGAL ABILITY

Mr. Lopez began his legal career with the Fairfax Public Defender's Office, serving from 1997 to 2002. From 2002 to 2009, Mr. Lopez was a partner with Lopez, Meleen & Sprano, PLC, focusing on criminal defense and immigration. Since 2009, Mr. Lopez has been a partner with BrigliaHundley, PC, with a primary focus on criminal defense and litigation. In this capacity, Mr. Lopez has handled several high-profile cases, including the *Commonwealth of Virginia v. Justin Wolfe* case.

This Committee notes that Mr. Lopez is now the partner in charge of his firm's family law practice. He has taken on several contested divorce and child custody matters. This Committee is impressed that Mr. Lopez has expanded his practice into the area of family law. This demonstrates his commitment to develop the body of knowledge and experience required of a Circuit Court judge.

Since 2007, Mr. Lopez has served as a substitute judge in the General District Courts and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts in Northern Virginia. This has allowed Mr. Lopez to further develop his experience and legal ability in areas of law that he does not normally practice.

It should be noted that Mr. Lopez is also fluent in Spanish, which this Committee feels is a valuable asset to the bench and to the community.

FAIRNESS AND TEMPERAMENT

This Committee was once again impressed with Mr. Lopez's demeanor and presentation. Mr. Lopez has an excellent understanding of the importance of professionalism and civility. As demonstrated during his service as a substitute judge, Mr. Lopez administers justice with fairness and proper temperament. These qualities would serve the Bar and the community well if he were appointed to the Circuit Court bench.

PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY

Mr. Lopez has demonstrated a high level of professionalism and integrity. Mr. Lopez is a member of the Fairfax Bar Association and has served on the Circuit Court Committee since 2015. He is also a member of the Board of the Arlington Soccer Association and works with the organization's anti-gang task force for at-risk youth.

OVERALL EVALUATION

This Committee was very impressed with Mr. Lopez's demeanor and breadth of legal experience. Mr. Lopez has continued to expand upon his knowledge and experience in areas of the law that he did not previously practice. Based on the Committee's review of his application and in consideration of his interview, this Committee highly recommends Mr. Lopez to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: HIGHLY RECOMMENDED