



**HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**P.O. Box 1011 | WASHINGTON, DC 20013
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May 19, 2010

Via electronic mail (dc.jnc@dc.gov)

The Honorable Emmett G. Sullivan,
Chairperson
District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission
616 H Street, N.W., Suite 623
Sixth Floor (Gallery Place)
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Judge Sullivan:

The Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia ("HBA-DC") is pleased to support Magistrate Judge Karen Howze's nomination for the Associate Judge vacancy in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. We believe, based on our research and deliberations, including an interview with Magistrate Judge Howze, that her work as an Associate Judge would be a significant contribution to the Superior Court.

The HBA-DC undertakes a careful review of individuals who seek its endorsement. We ensure that candidates for endorsement meet the letter and the spirit of our endorsement policy, which includes such criteria as demonstrated professional qualifications and personal traits.

On the basis of that review, we believe that Magistrate Judge Howze's contributions as a faculty member in both the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence and the Child Welfare Clinic of the University of the District of Columbia provide the requisite scholarly experience to merit our support. Moreover, Ms. Howze's role as a Magistrate Judge in the Superior Court and her participation in various court committees demonstrate a strong background in judicial work as well as administrative and organizational talent.


Other significant factors encourage our support as well. The HBA-DC highly values a demonstrated commitment to the DC community as well as to the rights or advancement of the Hispanic community or other historically disadvantaged groups. Magistrate Judge Howze's long commitment to litigation in the service of families, children, and the

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elderly, together with her work in the Family Court, demonstrate the kind of sustained commitment to the District and to vulnerable groups that makes the HBA-DC proud to support her nomination.

In sum, the HBA-DC is pleased and proud to recommend Karen Howze's nomination for an Associate Judge position in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. If we can be of further assistance in the nomination process, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fernando Rivero". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Fernando Rivero
Co-Chairperson
HBA-DC Endorsements Committee