



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

**P.O. BOX 1011 | WASHINGTON, DC 20013
WWW.HBADC.ORG**

January 10, 2011

Pauline A. Schneider, Chair
Federal Law Enforcement Nominating Commission
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
1152 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Schneider:

The Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia ("HBA-DC") is pleased to highly recommend Rudolph Contreras as a candidate for a judicial position with the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

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. Mr. Contreras meets and exceeds the letter and spirit of our policy.

Mr. Contreras' dedication to public service is clearly reflected in his legal career at the Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, which includes trial experience and administrative responsibility essential to a federal judge. Mr. Contreras has spent approximately a decade litigating civil cases in federal court, during which time he also became familiar with criminal issues that surface in civil matters. As Chief of the Civil Division at the U.S. Attorney's Office, Mr. Contreras manages a staff of over 75, including more than 40 attorneys. The work handled by the Division in the areas of employment discrimination common law torts, Constitutional violations, freedom of information, and administrative procedures provides Mr. Contreras with highly desirable substantive experience that will serve a federal judge well.

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. Mr. Contreras, a member of the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia, has contributed to the betterment of the Hispanic community, and to the development of young Hispanic lawyers, by serving as a mentor in the HBA-DC's mentoring program. Mr. Contreras is also a member of the U.S. Attorney's Diversity Committee and works to improve the diversity of the government workforce.

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In sum, the HBA-DC is pleased to recommend Rudolph Contreras' nomination for a judicial position with the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. We believe Mr. Contreras can make a significant contribution to the federal bench based upon his qualifications. If we can be of further assistance in the nomination process, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fernando Rivero". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "F".

Fernando Rivero
Co-Chairperson
HBA-DC Endorsements Committee