



# HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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February 12, 2015

*Via Electronic Mail and U.S. Mail*

Ms. Kim M. Whatley  
Executive Director  
Judicial Nomination Commission  
515 5th Street NW, Suite 235  
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Endorsement for Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Dear Ms. Whatley:

The Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (HBA-DC) is pleased to endorse Julie H. Becker for an Associate Judge position on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia (Superior Court). We believe, based on Ms. Becker's exemplary career as a public interest attorney and her demonstrated commitment to community service in the District of Columbia, that she would be a valued and well regarded addition to the Superior Court's roster of Associate Judges.

The HBA-DC undertakes a careful review of individuals who seek its endorsement to make certain that individuals with impeccable credentials, as well as proper temperament and character, are supported for these trusted positions. We ensure that candidates for endorsement meet the letter and spirit of our endorsement policy, which includes such criteria as established professional qualifications, a demonstrated commitment to the District of Columbia community in general, as well as the rights and advancement of minority communities.

Ms. Becker began her legal career in 1999 after graduating from Yale Law School. She began her career as a Law Clerk for then Circuit Judge Sonia Sotomayor, U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit. She then began working as a Staff Attorney at the Legal Aid Society of the District Columbia after being awarded a two year fellowship from Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. Since then, her entire 16 year career has been devoted to public interest law. Ms. Becker currently serves as a supervising attorney in the Housing Unit of the Legal Aid Society of the District Columbia. Her duties include direct representation before the Superior Court, policy advocacy, and public education on behalf of low-income D.C. residents. Ms. Becker also supervises junior attorneys in Legal Aid's Housing Unit. Thus, Ms. Becker's legal

career, comprising both substantive law and litigation experience, has prepared her exceedingly to serve as an Associate Judge.

Ms. Becker has an admirable record of commitment to community service. She currently serves on the D.C. Bar, Judicial Evaluation Committee, as a Litigation Skills Training facilitator for the Washington Council of Lawyers, and as a volunteer judge for the Howard University School of Law Supreme Court Moot Court Program. Ms. Becker has previously volunteered to serve on the D.C. Bar, Courts, Lawyers, and Administration of Justice Steering Committee, as a workshop planner for the National Housing Law Project, Housing Justice Network Conference Planning Committee, and as a volunteer judge for various George Washington University Law School Moot Court Competitions.

Ms. Becker has also received awards and honors for her achievements. In 2009, she was recognized as one of Washington, D.C.'s "Rising Stars" by the National Law Journal, in its "40 under 40" review of the District's legal profession. In 2006, Ms. Becker received the National Housing Law Project's Housing Justice Award. This award is given nationally to an advocate for success in "tackling the systemic and often hostile obstacles that stand in the way of safe, decent and affordable housing for low-income and marginalized people."

In sum, the HBA-DC is pleased to endorse Julie H. Becker for an Associate Judge position on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. We know Ms. Becker is committed to the advancement of the profession, the value of diversity within the profession, and we are confident that her legal acumen, skills, and experience qualify her for an Associate Judge position. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Juan M. Sempertegui". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Juan M. Sempertegui

President

Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia