



HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

P.O. Box 1011 | Washington, D.C. 20013-1011
www.hbadc@hbadc.org

Via Email

June 13, 2016

Ms. Katherine L. Garrett
Executive Director
Judicial Nomination Commission
515 5th Street NW, Suite 235
Washington, DC 20001

**Re: Endorsement of Carmen G. McLean for Associate Judge, Superior Court of
the District of Columbia**

Dear Ms. Garrett:

The Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (HBA-DC) is pleased to endorse Carmen Guerricagoitia McLean for an Associate Judge position on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia (Superior Court). We believe, based on Ms. McLean's litigation experience, her exemplary pro bono and public service work, and her demonstrated commitment to diversity in the legal profession, that she would be a valued 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 and a demonstrated commitment to the District of Columbia community in general, as well as to the rights and advancement of historically disadvantaged and underserved communities.

As a partner at Jones Day, Ms. McLean has distinguished herself as general litigator and trial attorney representing her clients in criminal and civil litigation in federal and state courts. For the last six years, Ms. McLean also has served as the partner in charge of electronic discovery counseling in Jones Day's Washington Office and has expertise in civil procedure, discovery, and motions practice. Work for her billable clients, which are primarily large companies, has involved high-stakes litigation spanning multiple substantive areas. With exception of certain gaps in time, notably her maternity leave, she has regularly appeared in Federal Court, Superior Court, or before an arbitrator from 2001 through early 2011. In Superior Court, Ms. McLean has appeared at hearings and trials for seven separate matters concerning

permanency of at-risk children in the District. For example, she first-chaired a six-day bench trial before Judge J. Michael Ryan representing a maternal grandmother seeking custody of her grandson over the presumptive rights of the defendant, the child's biological father. For this trial involving a novel application of a recently-passed District statute, thirteen witnesses (including expert testimony) were put on the stand, and Ms. McLean argued a number of evidentiary motions, including successfully moving for the admission of a dying declaration and other admissions of key hearsay evidence. Ms. McLean also has first-chaired several other trials in Superior Court related to the permanency of at-risk children, has second-chaired a multi-day trial related to a contract dispute in the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, and has second-chaired many hearings in federal and state courts. Her most recent work involves a large-scale criminal investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice related to price-fixing and bid-rigging in the automotive industry and related class action lawsuits. In recognition of her outstanding litigation experience and pro bono work, the *National Law Journal* named her a "D.C. Rising Star" in 2015.

Ms. McLean's demonstrated commitment to the District of Columbia community through pro bono and public service work is exemplary. During her fifteen year tenure with Jones Day, Ms. McLean has dedicated more than 2,700 hours and recruited more than 30 other attorneys to participate in pro bono work, primarily to helping at-risk children in the District. Ms. McLean served on the Children's Law Center's board of directors from 2009 through 2015 and is now on their emeritus board. Through her long relationship with the Children's Law Center, Ms. McLean has helped disadvantaged children secure safe, permanent, and loving homes through guardianship, custody or adoption. Ms. McLean also served on the board of Best Kids in 2008. For her dedicated commitment to pro bono legal representation of those who wish to provide safe and permanent homes to at-risk children in the District of Columbia, Ms. McLean was awarded "Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year" by the DC Bar in 2012 and named a "Champion of the Legal Profession" by the *National Law Journal* in 2011.

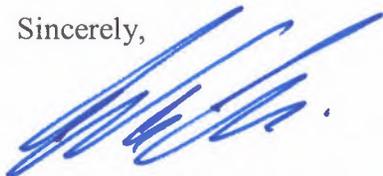
Ms. McLean's commitment to the Hispanic community is also laudable. As the partner in charge of pro bono and public service for Jones Day's Washington Office, Ms. McLean has spearheaded Jones Day's work on behalf of women with children and unaccompanied minors seeking refuge in the United States from violence in Central America. Such work included sending teams of lawyers to team military bases where immigrants were held and conducting "Know Your Rights" presentations to screen cases, as well as providing pro bono counseling at detention facilities in New Mexico and Texas. For its pro bono work under Ms. McLean's leadership, Jones Day earned the American Bar Association's 2015 Pro Bono Publico Award. The firm's efforts in this area continue to this day, and Ms. McLean is the client service lawyer for approximately 10 Latino immigrants.

Finally, Ms. McLean's commitment to diversity in the legal profession is outstanding. Ms. McLean currently serves as co-chair of the Jones Day Washington Office diversity committee. Her leadership in diversity reflects a recognition that such efforts cannot be limited to hiring and promotion, but must also include a commitment to investment in the careers of diverse and women attorneys through focused training, development and retention efforts. Through her pro bono work, she has mentored teams of junior attorneys with the goal of helping

them develop litigation skills, including case strategy and presentation of arguments and evidence at hearings and trials.

In sum, the HBA-DC is pleased to endorse Ms. McLean for an Associate Judge position on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. We know she is committed to public service and 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,



Edgar Class
President
Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia

cc:

Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan, Chair
United States District Court for the District
of Columbia
United States Courthouse
333 Constitution Avenue, NW
Chambers 4935-Annex
Washington, DC 20001
Email: jnc@dcd.uscourts.gov

Ronald S. Flagg, Esq.
Legal Services Corporation
3333 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007
Email: rflagg@lsc.gov

Mr. William Lucy
Vice President, AFL-CIO
1831 Sudbury Lane, NW
Washington, DC 20012
Email: Williamlucy1@comcast.net

Natalie O. Ludaway, Esq.
Office of the Attorney General
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 1100 S
Washington, DC 20001
Email: ludawayn@gmail.com

John J. McAvoy, Esq.
3110 Brandywine Street, NW
Washington, DC 20008
Email: mcavoylaw@aol.com

Woody N. Peterson, Esq.
ZELLE LLP
1775 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 375
Washington, DC, 20006
Email: WPeterson@zelle.com

Rev. Morris L. Shearin, Sr.
Israel Baptist Church
1251 Saratoga Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20018
Email: Revshearin1jnc@yahoo.com

Pedro J. Rivera
Co-Chair, HBA-DC Endorsements
Committee
Email: pjrivera66@gmail.com

Maria Mendoza
Co-Chair, HBA-DC Endorsements
Committee
Email: g.maria.mendoza@gmail.com