



HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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July 20, 2017

Via Email at dc.jnc@dc.gov

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

Re: Highest Endorsement of Magistrate Judge Shelly Mulkey 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 give its highest endorsement to the Honorable Magistrate Judge Shelley Mulkey for an Associate Judge position on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia (Superior Court). We believe, based on Mag. Judge Mulkey's demonstrated commitment to public service in the District of Columbia, her work advancing diversity in the legal profession, and her personal qualities and professional qualifications honed before and on the bench of the Superior Court, 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 in order to make certain that individuals with impeccable credentials, as well as proper temperament and character, are supported for the trusted positions they seek. We ensure that endorsees 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 advancements of minority communities.

Mag. Judge Mulkey possesses the requisite professional experience to serve as an Associate Judge. Before joining the bench, Mag. Judge Mulkey has had a distinguished and diversified career working in the private and public sectors. After serving as a law clerk to a Maryland judge, Mag. Judge Mulkey entered private practice representing predominantly low and middle income clients in civil litigation, including divorce, custody, domestic violence, adoption, bankruptcy, and probate matters. Mag. Judge Mulkey later became an Assistant Attorney General in the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, Child Support Services Division, Legal Services Section, where she represented the District of Columbia in paternity and child support cases before the Superior Court, serving for over 10

years on this high volume calendar. Mag. Judge Mulkey was appointed to the D.C. Superior Court in October 2016, where she handles child support, abuse, neglect, and paternity cases.

Since her appointment, Mag. Judge Mulkey has continued her significant community involvement and volunteerism, reflecting her dedication to the District of Columbia and historically underserved communities. Both before and since joining the bench, Mag. Judge Mulkey has served on various committees and subcommittees of the Superior Court, including the Superior Court's Paternity & Support Subcommittee. She also has partnered with the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) to appoint volunteers for children in abuse and neglect cases and to administer oaths to new CASA volunteers. Given her expertise in family law, Mag. Judge also trains her colleagues on paternity and child support law. As part of our due diligence, we also learned that Mag. Judge Mulkey is a team player on the Superior Court who assists her colleagues when their dockets may be heavier than her own. This work reflects Ms. Mulkey's deep commitment to public service and to improving the administration of justice.

Mag. Judge Mulkey is an active and long-time member HBA-DC, demonstrating her strong commitment to the advancement of diversity in the legal profession. Mag. Judge Mulkey has mentored law students and young lawyer members of HBA-DC, volunteered for several HBA-DC resume review workshops, participated in panels organized in conjunction with HBA-DC, and attended many other HBA-DC events. Once appointed to the Superior Court, Mag. Judge Mulkey joined the HBA-DC Judicial Council where she has participated in discussions involving increasing Latino representation on the bench and has provided guidance to a Latino candidate for Magistrate Judge.

Beyond her participation in HBA-DC, Mag. Judge Mulkey also has devoted time to a wide variety of public and community activities. Her many efforts include serving as a mentor to high school students, law students and new lawyers through a wide variety of organizations, volunteering as a judge in moot court competitions, and serving in various leadership roles with organizations like the Women's Bar Association of District of Columbia, which aim to advance women in the legal profession.

Over the years, we have been impressed with Mag. Judge Mulkey's demeanor and personal qualities, as well as her professional qualifications and community involvement. We are confident that her professional experience, legal acumen and skills, and unwavering commitment to the highest ideals of the legal professional and equal justice will make Mag. Judge Mulkey an outstanding Associate Judge. We urge you to select her for one of the pending Associate Judge vacancies.

Very Respectfully,



Ben Hernandez-Stern
President
Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia

cc:

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