



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: Endorsement of Magistrate Judge Adrienne Noti 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 the Honorable Magistrate Judge Adrienne Noti for an Associate Judge position on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia (Superior Court). We believe, based on Magistrate Judge Noti's exemplary service as a Magistrate Judge, her demonstrated commitment to public service, and her personal qualities and professional qualifications, 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 Noti possesses the requisite professional experience to serve as an Associate Judge, as demonstrated by her past experience and commitment to advocating for underserved communities, families, women, and children. Mag. Judge Noti began her career as a federal law clerk for Judge Carol Bagley Amon in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. Following her clerkship, she worked as a staff attorney for the direct services organizations, such as the Safe Horizon Domestic Violence Law Project, representing low-income domestic violence victims and conducted community outreach. She then spent seven years as a clinical law professor supervising law students in the representation of domestic violence victims, in child custody, child support, divorce and other family law cases, and on immigration matters (including Spanish-speaking clients seeking U and T visas). As a clinic

supervisor, she taught students best practices for representing clients with limited English proficiency and working with interpreters. As a Managing Attorney for the D.C. Bar Pro Bono Program, she coordinated the Advocacy and Justice Clinic, placing low-income clients with volunteers and providing substantive family law guidance to volunteer attorneys. Later, she joined the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Support Enforcement, where she served in policymaking roles regarding federal child support and other family-related legal issues.

Mag. Judge Noti's exemplary service on the Superior Court has prepared her to serve as an Associate Judge, as demonstrated by her high-volume caseload and her efforts to improve the administration of justice. Mag. Judge Noti has presided over the Domestic Violence Unit and the Criminal Division, handling a wide range of decision-making from initial hearings or arraignments through trial and probation. As a judicial officer, she has advanced division-wide improvements. For the Domestic Violence Unit, with the support of Presiding Judges, she implemented several improvements to the arraignment court process, streamlined resources by encouraging all cases involving the same defendant to be heard in one courtroom, and coordinated with the Domestic Violence section leaders of the United States Attorney's office to enhance understanding of the legal implications of crime victims' rights legislation. She also enhanced the procedures for handling release conditions and stay-away orders where defendants charged with misdemeanor cruelty to children also have companion abuse and neglect cases, or are otherwise involved with Child and Family Services. Mag. Judge Noti also has taken number court- and division-wide trainings on domestic violence matters, including the preparation of reference materials and bench books.

As a judicial officer, Mag. Judge Noti has continued her work to promote access to justice, as demonstrated by her commitment to limited English proficient (LEP) communities, including the Latino community in the District of Columbia. As a judicial officer, she has spearheaded the use of Spanish Criminal Stay-Away Orders in her courtroom, assisted in facilitating enhanced legal services to LEP litigants court-wide, and served on the Committee on Court Interpreters. Mag. Judge Noti's dedication to improving access to justice reflects the values HBA-DC seeks in candidates for judicial office. Mag. Judge Noti also has mentored law students and new lawyers with a focus on the advancement of diversity in the legal profession in both her previous roles in academia and as a judicial officer.

In sum, the HBA-DC is pleased to endorse Magistrate Judge Noti for an Associate Judge position on the Superior Court. Mag. Judge Noti is a well-regarded judicial officer, a tireless advocate for the improvement of the administration of and access to justice, and possesses the requisite professional experience and personal qualities to serve as an Associate Judge.

Very Respectfully,



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

cc:

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