



HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

P.O. Box 1011 | Washington, DC 20013-1011

www.hbadc.org

October 15, 2019

Via email to MagistrateJudgeCommittee@dcsc.gov

**Re: Endorsement of Bill Ecenbarger for Magistrate Judge,
Superior Court of the District of Columbia**

The Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (HBA-DC) is pleased to give our endorsement to Bill Ecenbarger for one of the judicial vacancies on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia (DC Superior Court). Based on our careful consideration of Mr. Ecenbarger's experience and record, we believe that his service as a Magistrate Judge would be a significant contribution to the DC Superior Court.

As the leading bar association for Hispanic attorneys in the Washington, DC area, the HBA-DC is committed to promoting the appointment of highly qualified and diverse candidates to leadership positions in our local judiciary. 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.

Mr. Ecenbarger has served as a guardian ad litem for twelve years. Through this work, he has developed deep ties to several organizations that help the District's underserved and low-income communities, including with the Latin American Youth Center, Mary's Center, and Ayuda. Throughout his career, Mr. Ecenbarger has devoted time to a variety of pro bono and community activities. Most notably, has leveraged his experience in advocating for unaccompanied refugee minors and persons eligible for special immigrant juvenile status into holding trainings to ensure others can effectively advocate for this vulnerable group. Before moving to the DC area, Mr. Ecenbarger spent almost a decade litigating domestic and international commercial transportation disputes, with a focus on maritime law.

We are confident that Mr. Ecenbarger's professional experience, compassion, and unwavering commitment to the highest ideals of the legal professional and equal justice will make him an outstanding magistrate judge. We urge you to select Bill Ecenbarger for the Magistrate Judge vacancy on the Superior Court.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Leila J. Levi".

Leila J. Levi
President
Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia