



PRESIDENT
RAKIM BROOKS

CHAIR
PAULETTE MEYER

November 30, 2022

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Chairman Durbin:

On behalf of the Alliance for Justice (AFJ), a national association representing over 150 public interest and civil rights organizations, I write to strongly support the confirmation of Judge Ramon Reyes to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Judge Ramon Reyes, a graduate of Cornell University, Brooklyn Law School, and New York University School of Law, is highly qualified to sit on the Eastern District of New York's bench. After law school and earning his L.L.M, he began his legal career as a legislative attorney for the New York City Council before clerking for Hon. David Trager on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. An experienced litigator in both the private and public sectors, he served as a litigation associate at O'Melveny & Meyers LLP in New York City and as an Assistant United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Southern District of New York. This experience serving in complex commercial litigation and as a prosecutor makes him a well-rounded candidate for the bench.

Further, Judge Reyes' current position as a United States Magistrate Judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, which he has held since 2006, makes him uniquely prepared for this nomination. As a Magistrate Judge, he has presided over 33 trials, including 15 jury trials. Judge Reyes will bring his vast experience in a variety of areas of law, including labor law, civil rights, and trademark law, to the Eastern District of New York.

In addition to his duties as a judge, Judge Reyes fosters the next generation of legal professionals both by teaching at Brooklyn Law School from 2008 to 2017 and currently serving on their Board of Trustees. Judge Reyes's commitment to justice and involvement in New York's legal community has not gone unnoticed. He received the Diversity Leadership Award from Brooklyn Law School's Latin American Law Student Association and Brooklyn Law School's Alumnus of the Year Award in 2012. Further, in 2016, he was also awarded the Jack B. Weinstein Mediation Settlement Award from the Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of New York Chapter.

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Not only is Judge Reyes incredibly qualified for the Eastern District of New York – he would make history on that bench. If confirmed, Judge Reyes would be the second Latino man to serve on the Eastern District of New York. It is critical that our courts reflect the diversity of the communities served, and the confirmation of Judge Reyes would be a step closer to equitable representation of Latinx Americans on our federal courts. For all these reasons, I believe the confirmation of Judge Reyes to this seat would make the federal bench stronger.

Sincerely,

Rakim A.D. Brooks

Rakim Brooks
President, Alliance for Justice