

May 23, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Via Email: Megan_Lacy@Judiciary-rep.senate.gov

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Via Email: Paige_Herwig@Judiciary-dem.senate.gov

Re: Nomination of Rodolfo Ruiz

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We write to express our support for the nomination of Judge Rodolfo Ruiz to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. We are prosecutors and public defenders who practiced before Judge Ruiz during his time on the felony criminal court bench. We, uniformly, have observed that fairness, integrity, and thoughtfulness—virtues essential to judicial excellence—are the qualities Judge Ruiz demonstrates each day in court. He would make an excellent federal judge, and we wholeheartedly support his confirmation.

Respecting his position as a trial judge, he rules by applying the facts and the law; he does not endeavor to make law. He respects how limited judicial resources are by conducting business efficiently; but he never compromises on due process. He affords each lawyer and party ample opportunity to present argument.

Judge Ruiz is courteous, patient, and well-mannered. Even with a difficult lawyer or party, he is calm and rules according to the law. He does not give in to behavior designed to create grounds for recusal or appellate issues. While some may disagree with his rulings—something unavoidable when being a trial judge—nobody could say that he or she did not get a fair hearing. Judge Ruiz is also careful to treat everyone with the same level of decency and respect. In an environment where practitioners and judges alike

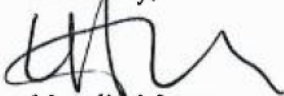
often become desensitized to the realities of criminal matters, Judge Ruiz never loses perspective about the seriousness of these cases to the defendants, the alleged victims, the respective families of both, and the community.

Judge Ruiz's rulings demonstrate his good sense and command of the law. He considers each party's arguments; but he also does his own research. In court and in his writing, he eschews jargon for plain language. His transparent exposition, along with his detailed recitations of facts and law, enhances the court's credibility.

Anyone who has tried a case before Judge Ruiz will tell you, as we do now, that he offers an ideal courtroom experience. He calls the balls and strikes. He doesn't micromanage the lawyers or direct the trial toward a particular outcome. He rules thoughtfully after giving each party adequate time to make its case. He respects the jurors' contribution to our society by making his trials efficient.

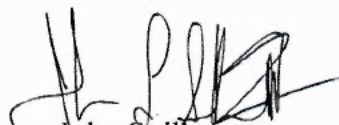
We do not believe that you will find a harder working, more dedicated, or more qualified public servant to join the federal bench in the Southern District of Florida. We, the prosecutors and public defenders who have had the good fortune to be assigned to his courtroom or to have tried cases before him, support and recommend Judge Ruiz for confirmation with great enthusiasm.

Sincerely,



Natalie Moore

Assistant State Attorney



John Sullivan

Assistant Public Defender

We sign this letter on behalf of ourselves and on behalf of the following Assistant State Attorneys and Assistant Public Defenders who join in this endorsement:

Christina Bianchi, APD

Beth Blair, APD

Dylan Boigris, APD

John Brandow, APD

Rachel Burg, APD

Laura Cespedes, AS

Nilo Cuervo, ASA

Damaris DelValle, APD

Loressa Felix, ASA

Elsa Fernandez, APD

Michael Filteau, ASA

Justin Funck, ASA

Rachel Morales-Gellis, ASA

Marbely Hernandez, ASA

Kathleen Hoague, ASA

Sara Imm, ASA

Jenna Kopp, ASA

Lindsay Maultasch, ASA

Ruben Paillere, APD

Dan Parker, APD

Aileen Penate, APD

Annette Rasco, ASA

Natahly Soler, APD

Robert Valdes, APD

Suzanne VonPaulus, ASA

Michael VonZamft, ASA

Abbie Waxman, APD

Dalia Weintraub, APD

Patrick Wilson, APD