



**ROMÁN D. HERNÁNDEZ**  
**NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

March 19, 2010

**Via Electronic Mail**

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6275

The Honorable Jeff Sessions  
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6275

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20410-6275

**Re: HNBA Endorsement of William J. Martinez for Appointment as Judge in the  
United States District Court for the District of Colorado**

Dear Senators Leahy, Sessions, and Reid:

On behalf of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), I write to urge the expeditious confirmation of William “Bill” Martinez for the existing vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado. The HNBA is a non-profit, non-partisan, national membership organization that represents the interests of the more than 100,000 Hispanic attorneys, judges, law professors, law students, and legal professionals in the United States and Puerto Rico. As required by its *Policies and Procedures Governing Judicial Endorsements* (2008), prior to and in conjunction with this endorsement, the HNBA conducted appropriate due diligence. We have considered Mr. Martinez’s background and qualifications carefully and in the context of the requirements for the federal trial and appellate courts. Based on our peer review, we agree with President Barack H. Obama’s conclusion that Mr. Martinez is exceptionally qualified to become Colorado’s next federal jurist for the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado.

As demonstrated during his testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Mr. Martinez combines a broad range of public and private sector experience with sound judicial and legal temperament. Among members of the legal community, our due diligence revealed a unanimous, unqualified opinion that Mr. Martinez is an excellent choice for the federal bench. He has earned a reputation for his superior intellect and exceptional analytical and writing skills.

Several colleagues commented that Mr. Martinez is an extraordinarily diligent lawyer who motivates subordinates, superiors and colleagues.

References also uniformly commented on his well-rounded legal resume. After graduating from the University of Chicago Law School, Mr. Martinez emerged as a leader in the Denver legal community. First, he practiced at Pendleton & Sabian and then moved to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as a Regional Attorney. At present, he is a named-partner at the highly-regarded law firm of McNamara & Martinez. He has also served as an adjunct professor at the University of Denver College of Law and has mentored students and attorneys throughout his career. Finally, his public service also includes appointment to the Office of Presiding Disciplinary Judge, an appointment by the Colorado Supreme Court, and membership on the United States District Court's Committee on Conduct.

His peers described Mr. Martinez as competent, well-prepared, hard-working and ethical. Mr. Martinez is an asset to the bench, bar and diverse communities in Colorado because he is fair, has great character and remarkable integrity. His extensive legal experience, coupled with his commitment to public service and impeccable character, make him an outstanding candidate for appointment to the federal bench.

Accordingly, the HNBA recommends the expeditious confirmation of Mr. Martinez as a judge in the United States District Court for the District of Colorado. I stand ready to assist in your deliberations should there be any questions. Please feel free to contact me through our national office at (202) 223-4777 or directly at (503) 222-9981. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Román D. Hernández  
HNBA National President

cc: William J. Martinez, Esq.  
Diana Sen, Esq., HNBA President-Elect  
Robert Raben, Esq., Chair, HNBA Committee on Judicial Endorsements  
Ramona E. Romero, Esq., HNBA White House Liaison  
Meshach Rhoades, Esq., HNBA Region XIII President  
HNBA Executive Committee  
Zuraya Tapia, Esq., HNBA Executive Director