



U.S. Department of Justice

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November 1, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Room S-221, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Room S-230, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chair
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chair Durbin and
Ranking Member Grassley:

We are prosecutors in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of California. We write to offer our wholehearted support for the nomination of the Honorable Linda Lopez to the United States District Court for the Southern District of California.

Prior to Judge Lopez's appointment as a U.S. Magistrate Judge in 2018, she served as a trial lawyer with Federal Defenders of San Diego. Each of us handled multiple criminal cases with Judge Lopez as opposing counsel. Judge Lopez was a vigorous advocate for her clients and a talented trial lawyer. But what stood out as much as Judge Lopez's legal skills was her commitment to civility and professionalism inside and outside the courtroom. Judge Lopez recognized that prosecutors and defense lawyers are essential to the rule of law and the functioning of our criminal justice system and that the zealous representation of one's client – whether the United States or an individual defendant – was worthy of respect.

Judge Lopez brought her commitment to civility and professionalism to the bench when she was appointed as a Magistrate Judge. Each of us has appeared in her courtroom, and we have witnessed her intellect, temperament and evenhanded approach to every matter before her. Whether it is a bond hearing, a change of plea or a contested preliminary hearing, Judge Lopez possesses an unflappable demeanor and a willingness to fully and fairly consider each party's position before issuing a ruling. We have no doubt that Judge Lopez would bring this same approach to matters before her as a U.S. District Court Judge.

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We have served in U.S. Attorney's Offices for a collective 41 years, and we have handled thousands of criminal cases and over 100 jury trials. That collective experience applied to our knowledge of Judge Lopez as a person, an advocate and a judge leaves us with no doubt that she will be a fair and impartial District Court Judge who will treat litigants and parties with respect and will insist on civility and professionalism in her courtroom. We offer our unequivocal and enthusiastic support for Judge Lopez's nomination.

Sincerely,

s/ David Leshner
Deputy U.S. Attorney

s/ Andrew Haden
Chief, Criminal Division

s/ Alexandra Foster
Deputy Chief, Criminal Division