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January 15, 2014

Senator Patrick Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
224 Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee  
224 Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Nomination of Leon Rodriguez to Director of U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security**

Dear Senators Leahy and Grassley:

Kindly accept this letter in support of the nomination of Leon Rodriguez to the position of Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

I have known Mr. Rodriguez for nearly 30 years. We met in 1985 while students at Boston College Law School in Newton, Massachusetts. Mr. Rodriguez was a strong student, well-liked by his peers and known for his humor, honesty and integrity. I, along with many others, called him a friend.

Public service has defined Mr. Rodriguez's career path. Following graduation from law school, he took a job at the Kings County District Attorney's Office in Brooklyn, New York. While there, he was actively engaged in the prosecution of official corruption, organized crime and sex crimes offenses. I also took a job in that office after law school graduation and I worked

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with Mr. Rodriguez for the entirety of his six year tenure as a New York City criminal prosecutor. He was admired and well-respected by his colleagues, adversaries and judges.

Having recently served in Governor Chris Christie's Cabinet and run New Jersey's Department of Community Affairs (then a department with 1,250 employees with an annual budget of ~\$1.45 billion), I am acutely aware of the complications associated with running a large agency. I am confident Mr. Rodriguez is well-qualified for this position. I am convinced that he is unequivocally committed to justice and equity in the enforcement of laws. I know he is a person of fine moral character and unimpeachable ethics. He is indeed worthy of this Presidential nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lori Grifa', is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'L' and 'G'.

LORI GRIFA

LG/dmm