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March 24, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States, I write to express our strong support for Leon Rodriguez to be the next Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) at the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. Rodriguez has exhibited deft management skills, an extensive knowledge base, and a deep commitment to public service and law enforcement throughout his career. As a prosecutor for the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, Rodriguez helped to spark national awareness of human trafficking by leading one of the first prosecutions of enslaved migrant agricultural workers.

Most recently, as Director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office for Civil Rights, Rodriguez has broadened access to health care for limited-English-proficient patients through the development of HHS's Language Access Plan, as well as the completion of compliance reviews for critical access hospitals in all 50 states.

NCLR has also witnessed firsthand that Rodriguez possesses the competence and compassion that align with our values. Our interaction with Rodriguez has included his participation in an NCLR town hall on Affordable Care Act implementation in Florida.

Mr. Rodriguez's well-rounded qualifications and commitment to public service demonstrate his ability to serve as an outstanding director of USCIS. NCLR strongly supports his prompt confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Rodriguez", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Eric Rodriguez  
Vice President  
Office of Research, Advocacy, and Legislation