

April 2, 2014

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

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

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley,

I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Leon Rodriguez to become Director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for the Department of Homeland Security. His many professional accomplishments and outstanding character make him an ideal candidate for this position. Based on my legal experience and my numerous interfaces with him as the County Attorney for Montgomery County, I believe that Rodriguez is highly qualified and has the integrity to lead USCIS.

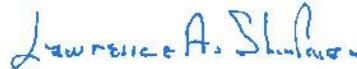
Leon Rodriguez has been an attorney for twenty five years in which time he has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to public service and law enforcement. His diverse career began as an Assistant District Attorney in Brooklyn where he was assigned to the Organized Crime Bureau and the Sex Crimes Special Victims Bureau. He later served as a trial attorney in the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division at the U.S. Department of Justice before becoming the U.S. Attorney in Pittsburgh. He also held positions as the County Attorney for Montgomery County, Maryland, and as the Chief of Staff and Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Department Justice Civil Rights Division. In private practice, at Ober, Kaler, Grimes, & Shiver, I understand that he assisted a number of his clients in resolving investigations while also improving their compliance with fraud and abuse laws.

Currently, Rodriguez serves as head of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office for Civil Rights, where he is responsible for enforcement of laws related to health information privacy and prohibiting discrimination. Under his leadership, his office has evolved and transformed into an outstanding government asset. Rodriguez led HHS's development of its agency-wide language access plan, extended civil rights protections to cases of discrimination based on gender, issued guidelines to afford patients access to their health records, and established a Civil Rights Investigator Training course utilized by multiple federal agencies.

Throughout his career, Rodriguez has used his position to implement significant improvements into the programs that he supervised by making them more effective and productive to their established mission.

In my personal opinion, his outstanding character, impressive background and commitment to service make him an ideal candidate to lead the USCIS.

Sincerely,



Lawrence A. Shulman