

July 6, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

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

My name is Carl Wicklund. I have nearly 50 years of experience working in the criminal justice system. Prior to my recent retirement, I was the Director of the Community Justice Division of Volunteers of America (VOA) for Minnesota and Wisconsin. Before my tenure with VOA, I served as the Executive Director of the American Probation and Parole Association for 19 years, and it was in that capacity that I got to know and work with Myrna Pérez. I write to express my ardent support for her confirmation to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

I have known Myrna for approximately 12 years. I have witnessed up close her uncompromising integrity, her dedication to democracy and the rule of law, and her profound commitment to the service of others. These qualities, among many others Myrna possesses, would make her a phenomenal and fair jurist.

I first met Myrna in 2009 while we were involved in efforts to restore federal and state voting rights for ex-offenders who were disenfranchised by a felony conviction. In her capacity as a convener of a group of nationally representative criminal justice professionals, she ensured that the wide-ranging points of view of law enforcement, prosecutors, and correctional leaders were fairly presented and openly discussed. We worked together on written and oral testimonies for federal and state legislative hearings, and also developed advocacy letters and editorials explaining felony disenfranchisement and expounding on justifications for the restoration of voting rights for ex-offenders. As a fellow advocate in the struggle for voting rights, I can state with certainty that Myrna is among the most dedicated of public servants.

At a time of troubling polarization in this country, I feel compelled to share my observations of Myrna. I find that her dedication to the protection and restoration of voting rights transcends any political party allegiances. Her driving motivations have always been, and continue to be, principle and faith—not politics. It is precisely for this reason that she has built strong, lasting relationships with people across the political spectrum. She works exceptionally well with people

from a wide range of cultural and professional backgrounds, including members of the law enforcement community. In all her work, she approaches issues with independent judgement, a firm grasp of the facts, and an unwavering humanity.

Based on my experiences with Myrna, I enthusiastically encourage her confirmation to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Sincerely,

Carl Wicklund