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November 23, 2021

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

**Subject: Letter of Support for Ruth Bermudez Montenegro for the U.S. District Court
for the Southern District of California**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the Imperial County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express our strong support for U.S. Magistrate Judge Ruth Bermudez Montenegro to serve on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California. If confirmed, Judge Montenegro would be the second Imperial Valley native as a member of the District Court in San Diego, a district comprised of both San Diego and Imperial Counties, and the second Latina among 61 U.S. District Court judges in the state.

In one of her previous capacities, Judge Montenegro served as Assistant County Counsel for the County of Imperial where she provided legal services to the County and its departments. During her tenure, Judge Montenegro was always able to communicate with all parties involved in a calm, professional and courteous manner. Throughout her career, and in her other professional capacities, Judge Montenegro has exhibited and developed many qualities required of a good judge, including integrity, intelligence, legal education, ability to communicate, temperament, and the ability to fairly consider all sides of an event.

Additionally, she has a commitment to improve the quality of life for the residents of Imperial County and a high sense of civic responsibility, which is evident in her work through public service, charitable organizations and community-based organizations that have focused on increasing access to higher education and creating leadership development opportunities for youth.

For these reasons, the Imperial County Board of Supervisors fully supports the nomination and encourages the confirmation of Judge Montenegro as a U.S. District Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California. Thank you for your consideration. Should you or your staff have any questions or need additional information, please contact our Intergovernmental

Relations Director, Rebecca Terrazas-Baxter, at rebeccaterrazas-baxter@co.imperial.ca.us or (442) 265-1014.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael W. Kelley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael W. Kelley, Chairman
Imperial County Board of Supervisors