Skagit County Superior Court

Skagit County Courthouse 205 W. Kincaid Street, Room 202 Mount Vernon, WA 98273 Phone: (360) 416-1200



June 4, 2021

The Honorable Dick Durbin Chairman Senate Judiciary Committee U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley Ranking Member Senate Judiciary Committee U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510 BRIAN L. STILES
JUDGE, DEPARTMENT NO. 1

ELIZABETH Y. NEIDZWSKI

JUDGE, DEPARTMENT NO. 3

HEATHER D. SHAND COURT COMMISSIONER

LISA WEST ADMINISTRATOR SUPERIOR & JUVENILE COURTS LAURA M. RIQUELME JUDGE, DEPARTMENT NO 2

THOMAS L. VERGE
JUDGE, DEPARTMENT NO 4

JAMES DOLAN
COURT COMMISSIONER

MICHELLE COOK

MICHELLE COOK SUPERIOR COURT MANAGER

Re: Nomination of Judge David Estudillo to United States District Court, Western District of Washington

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

I am writing in support of Judge David Estudillo's nomination to the United States District Court. Judge Estudillo is already a respected judge and a steady leader who would be an excellent addition to the federal bench.

Although Judge Estudillo and I serve in different geographic areas of the state, his positive reputation reached me before we had even met. We have crossed paths over the years at multiple trainings. He has consistently expressed an earnest desire to educate new judges in how to ensure due process in the courtroom or to mentor attorneys who seek judicial positions.

I have had the pleasure of developing a closer working relationship with Judge Estudillo through the Superior Court Judge's Association, for which I am a trustee. We have worked together on a recent significant change in state law requiring the resentencing of thousands of prison inmates. Judge Estudillo always has a firm grasp on the legal issues while exercising strong leadership and a calm but focused demeanor during what can be stressful meetings with various stakeholders. These are qualities that I am sure he brings to the courtroom.

I have every confidence in Judge Estudillo as a jurist and strongly support his nomination to the federal bench.

Sincerely

Judge Laura M. Riquelme

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