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July 6, 2022

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

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

RE: Support for the Confirmation of Judge Gina R. Méndez-Miró to the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

As Managing Director and Senior Litigation Partner of McConnell Valdés, LLC (McV), Puerto Rico's oldest and leading full-service law firm, I want to express our full endorsement of the nomination of Judge Gina R. Méndez-Miró to the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico ("USDCPR"). Our law firm has been leading the way for 75 years and playing a significant role in the creation and implementation of some of the most important projects and laws of Puerto Rico. Our attorneys have actively participated in some of the most significant cases before the USDCPR over the past 75 years. I thus respectfully submit that we are uniquely qualified to comment on this important nomination.

I have known Judge Méndez-Miró since she was a law student at the University of Puerto Rico Law School. As the Firm's then Hiring Partner, I was first interested in recruiting her as an Associate in our Litigation Practice Group and subsequently as a Counsel in our Labor and Employment Practice Group. Her honorable calling, however, was to dedicate her career to

public service in all three branches of the Puerto Rico government. Judge Méndez-Miró's career included important positions in the Puerto Rico Department of Justice, the Puerto Rico Office of Court Administration and the Puerto Rico Senate, until her appointment and unanimous confirmation to become a Judge of the Puerto Rico Court of Appeals. For nearly six years she has served with distinction in Puerto Rico's judiciary. A review of her judicial record reflects that during her tenure in the appellate bench, she has reviewed thousands of cases and delivered over 700 decisions on important constitutional, criminal, civil and administrative law issues, the majority of which include matters that are addressed daily in the USDCPR.

Judge Méndez-Miró is well respected and highly regarded by all who have worked with her during the various stages of her career. In her adjudication of cases, she demonstrates a profound respect for precedent and the Constitution, meticulously weighing the facts and legal arguments presented in each individual case and resolving based on applicable law. The general assessment of her work both as an attorney and as a judge, is that she is a hardworking, intelligent, fair, and balanced decision-maker. These qualities have earned her the respect of attorneys, law clerks, students, and her peers on the bench, which is undoubtedly a testament to her character and qualities as a jurist and as a person. In her years as an appellate judge in the PR Commonwealth court system, Judge Méndez-Miró has shown a strong conviction for "doing what is right" within the strictures of the law and precedent, which in my view, translates into a very balanced judicial temperament, a quality that is very important in a judge but which is sometimes lacking. That is certainly not the case for Judge Méndez-Miró.

I firmly believe that Judge Méndez-Miró's service in different capacities throughout her career has prepared her for a position in the federal judiciary. Her record demonstrates that she has ample command of the law, experience in public and private litigation and, moreover, is a proven sitting judge in the Commonwealth Court system. In addition, Judge Méndez-Miró's excellent and proven professional and judicial experience, track record and integrity, as well as her temperament, guarantee that she will be an exemplary addition to the United States District Court for the District Puerto Rico.

In view of the above, I fully and enthusiastically support her nomination to the USDCPR, and very respectfully urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to advance her nomination to the full Senate.

Respectfully,



Arturo J. García-Solá