

# Withdrawn/Redacted Material

## The George W. Bush Library

| DOCUMENT NO. | FORM   | SUBJECT/TITLE                                                                      | PAGES | DATE       | RESTRICTION(S) |
|--------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------|----------------|
| 001          | Letter | Letters to the Editor [with attachments] - To: The Editor - From: Edward C. DuMont | 3     | 05/23/2001 | P6/b6;         |
| 002          | Letter | [Letter] - To: Patrick J. Leahy - From: Justina Gonzalez-Marti                     | 1     | 09/09/2002 | P6/b6;         |
| 003          | Letter | [Letter] - To: Orrin G. Hatch - From: Dee Minazzoli                                | 1     | 04/30/2002 | P6/b6;         |

### COLLECTION TITLE:

Counsel's Office, White House

### SERIES:

Kavanaugh, Brett - Subject Files

### FOLDER TITLE:

[Estrada, Miguel - Nomination U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit] [1]

### FRC ID:

9701

### RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

#### Deed of Gift Restrictions

- A. Closed by Executive Order 13526 governing access to national security information.
- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

#### Records Not Subject to FOIA

Court Sealed - The document is withheld under a court seal and is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

JAN. 23. 2003 1:41PM

SCHUMER-JUDICIARY

NO. 596

P. 2

CHARLES E. SCHUMER  
NEW YORK

COMMITTEES

BANKING

JUDICIARY

RULES

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 23, 2003

The Honorable John Ashcroft  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear General Ashcroft:

I write to respond to the claims you make in your Department's letter of October 8, 2002, in which you argue that both historical precedent and policy considerations support not disclosing documents written by Mr. Miguel Estrada, a nominee to a lifetime seat on the D.C. Circuit, when he was Assistant to the Solicitor General. I write also to ask that you reconsider your decision not to disclose Mr. Estrada's memoranda.

Your argument on historical precedent boils down to a claim that the Department has never turned over such documents written by individuals who held the position Mr. Estrada held at the Department. You list several nominees who were also Assistants to the Solicitor General (or who held similar positions) and point out that the Department did not disclose these types of writings with regard to their nominations. While your assertion is true, no Senator ever requested any such materials for these nominees, so this is hardly precedent for refusing to provide them now that Congress has actually asked for them.

If the factual record ended there, you would have a persuasive case. But it does not. There is ample historical precedent for the request we have made, policy considerations argue in favor of disclosing the materials we have asked for, and this Bush Administration has already disclosed similar memoranda in connection with a Senate-confirmed nominee. Your concerns about keeping secret some once-sensitive information from long-settled cases is unpersuasive, as is your contention that current employees of the Department will somehow be chilled by the disclosure you seek.

The historical record I refer to includes the disclosure of previously confidential, internal documents relating to the nominations of:

- Robert H. Bork, to become an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court;
- William Bradford Reynolds, the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, to become Associate Attorney General;
- Benjamin Civiletti to become Attorney General;
- Stephen Trott to become a judge on the Ninth Circuit; and
- Justice William H. Rehnquist to become Chief Justice.



JAN. 23. 2003 1:41PM

SCHUMER-JUDICIARY

NO. 596

P. 3

Documents provided in the course of Judge Bork's nomination are particularly illustrative. I understand that at the Committee's request, the Department disclosed to the Senate memoranda written to then-Solicitor General Bork by lower level attorneys (in the same capacity as Mr. Estrada) making recommendations about appeals. For example, the Justice Department apparently provided the Senate Judiciary Committee with memoranda related to its legal analysis of school integration cases, memoranda from Seventh Circuit Judge Frank Easterbrook when he was an Assistant Solicitor General, internal memoranda and non-public material related to Bork's analysis of President Nixon's refusal to release his Watergate-related tapes, and other memoranda regarding the pocket veto, executive privilege, and the firing of Archibald Cox.

Just as the historical precedent supports the disclosure of the requested documents, the policy considerations at stake here weigh heavily in favor of production of these materials to Congress. Perhaps the most important policy consideration is that the Senate's "consent" power, granted by the Constitution, not be thwarted. It should be exercised -- pro or con -- only after the Senate obtains adequate information about a nominee. No Senator could relish the prospect of voting on nominees who refuse to answer questions and whose views of the law are a near-total mystery.

You suggest that the Senate can sufficiently evaluate Mr. Estrada's qualifications for the federal bench by reviewing his already public written work. But that is simply not good enough. Mr. Estrada's work on behalf of clients in private practice and as directed by superiors at the Department of Justice does not tell us what we need to know.

Mr. Estrada's abject refusal to discuss even the most innocuous Supreme Court cases leaves Senators with distressingly little to go on in evaluating whether or not he has extreme views that may make him an unacceptable choice for a seat on the very important D.C. Circuit. When Mr. Estrada testified before the Judiciary Committee, he declined to answer all questions about his approach to the law. I asked him to name any case from recent Supreme Court jurisprudence of which he was critical. I asked him to comment on a case of which I have been critical. He declined both requests.

Given the red flags that have been raised about Mr. Estrada, it is imperative that we understand how he would approach legal questions were he confirmed. That he is nominated to the D.C. Circuit, the second-highest court in the land, and would be the swing vote on that court, makes it especially important that we know more about Mr. Estrada's views. We simply cannot rely on the scant amount of information already public to do that.

Not only do historical precedent and policy argue in favor of disclosure, but the current practice of this Administration belies your refusals. This President has already taken a position contrary to that which you advance here. Just last year, the Administration disclosed legal memoranda written by an attorney from the White House Counsel's office in connection with the nomination of Jeffrey Holmstead to be Assistant Administrator at the Environmental Protection Agency, a term appointment of far less import than this powerful lifetime appellate post. Nonetheless, in Mr. Estrada's case, the



Administration has refused to provide any of the documents sought. Such refusal raises questions about the reasons underlying the Administration's unwillingness to disclose Mr. Estrada's writings. Those questions only sound more alarm bells regarding this nomination.

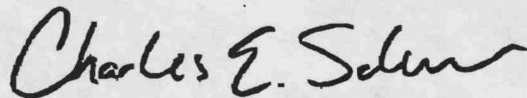
Finally, I would like to address two seemingly reasonable concerns that you expressed in your letter and explain why they are just ephemeral justifications for keeping Mr. Estrada's work secret longer.

You note the Department's interest in keeping the writings of members of the Office of the Solicitor General private. I can appreciate the sensitivity of these memoranda, but we are requesting documents relating to cases that likely were resolved years ago. (Should any case remain active, we would be glad to discuss appropriate precautions to ensure no damage is done to the government's interests.) I see no prejudice to the Department's interests on this score.

The other point you argue is that current employees will feel a chilling effect if they know that one day their writings may be made public. Given the public nature of the work they are tasked with, I fail to see why Assistant Solicitors General would be worried that their analyses of cases might be given to Congress. Any time one of these memoranda is written, the employee must assume that his/her advice will be accepted by a superior and the views articulated in the memo will become the official position of the United States - a step that necessarily would make the substance within the memo a matter of public record. It is hard to see how a risk of future publicization creates a chilling effect under these circumstances.

We cannot properly exercise our Constitutional responsibilities on lifetime judicial appointments without adequate information. The information we need to consider Mr. Estrada's nomination is the hands of the Department of Justice. I sincerely hope that both the Bush Administration and Mr. Estrada will reconsider the efforts to block the Senate's access to this important information before we are forced into an untimely vote on his confirmation.

Sincerely



Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator



**MIGUEL A. ESTRADA**  
**ATTORNEYS WHO MAY BE CONTACTED BY THE PRESS**

Robert S. Litt, Esq.  
Arnold & Porter  
555 Twelfth Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004-1206  
Telephone: (202) 942-6380  
(D-Former DAAG Criminal Division)

Laura Ariane Miller, Esq.  
Nixon Peabody LLP  
401 9th Street, N.W.  
Suite 900  
Washington, D.C. 20004  
Telephone: (202) 585-8313  
(I-Former BRW Clerk)

Otto G. Obermaier, Esq.  
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP  
767 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10153-0119  
Telephone: (212) 310-8843  
(R-Former U.S. Attorney SDNY)

David S. Blatt, Esq.  
Williams & Connolly  
725 Twelfth Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone: (202) 434-5135  
(D-White Collar Lawyer)

Ronald Klain, Esq.  
O'Melveny & Myers LLP  
555 Thirteenth Street, N.W.  
Suite 500 West  
Washington, D.C. 20004-1109  
Telephone: (202) 383-5317



**MIGUEL A. ESTRADA**  
**SUPREME COURT ARGUMENTS**

1. *Deal v. United States*, 508 U.S. 129 (1993) (W).
2. *Austin v. United States*, 509 U.S. 602 (1993) (L).
3. *National Organization for Women, Inc. v. Scheidler*, 510 U.S. 249 (1994) (W).
4. *Powell v. Nevada*, 511 U.S. 79 (1994) (Draw – Court did not reach the issue we briefed).
5. *United States v. Alvarez-Sanchez*, 511 U.S. 350 (1994) (W).
6. *United States v. Mezzanatto*, 513 U.S. 196 (1995) (W).
7. *United States v. Robertson*, 514 U.S. 669 (1995) (W).
8. *Reno v. Koray*, 515 U.S. 50 (1995) (W).
9. *Citizens Bank of Maryland v. Strumpf*, 516 U.S. 16 (1995) (W).
10. *Degen v. United States*, 517 U.S. 820 (1996) (L).
11. *Montana v. Egelhoff*, 518 U.S. 37 (1996) (W).
12. *Old Chief v. United States*, 519 U.S. 172 (1997) (L).
13. *United States v. Gonzales*, 520 U.S. 1 (1997) (W).
14. *Richards v. Wisconsin*, 520 U.S. 385 (1997) (W).
15. *Strickler v. Greene*, 527 U.S. 263 (1999) (L).



July 17, 2001

Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard S. Amador".

Richard S. Amador  
President & CEO



**eHEBC****Hispanic Engineers Business Corporation**

July 20, 2001

**Chairman of the Board**

Rodrigo T. Garcia, PE  
President & CEO  
Century Diversified, Inc.  
Monterey Pk., California

**Board of Directors**

M. Frank Avila, PE, PLS  
E Business Planner  
Avila Computer Services, Inc.  
Chicago, Illinois

Fernando Erismann  
President  
Wavelength Optics, Inc.  
Sacramento, California

David H. Segura  
President & CEO  
Vision Information  
Technologies, Inc.  
Detroit, Michigan

**Web Site**

[EHEBC.org](http://EHEBC.org)

**Headquarters**

M. Frank Avila, PE, PLS  
Executive Director

Frank B. Avila ,esg  
General Counsel

6201 W. Touhy  
Chicago, IL 60646

Phone: 773-763-6570  
Fax: 773-763-9102

**e-mail**

[mfrankavilagroup@aol.com](mailto:mfrankavilagroup@aol.com)

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

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

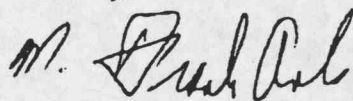
On behalf of Miguel A. Estrada, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



M. Frank Avila  
Executive Director



**HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF GREATER KANSAS CITY**  
**1125 GRAND BLVD. SUITE 1803, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64108**  
**816-472-6767 FAX: 816-472-1252**

July 12, 2001

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, United States Senator  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Senator Hatch:

On behalf of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Barrera  
Chairman  
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce





SHERIFF-CORONER DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF ORANGE  
CALIFORNIA

MICHAEL S. CARONA  
SHERIFF-CORONER

OFFICE OF SHERIFF-CORONER

550 N. FLOWER STREET  
P.O. BOX 449  
SANTA ANA, CA 92702-0449  
(714) 647-7000

ASSISTANT SHERIFFS  
JOHN FULLER  
DON HAIDL  
JOHN HEWITT  
GEORGE H. JARAMILLO  
TIM SIMON  
DOUG STORM

July 12, 2001

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, United States Senator  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals  
Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Senator Hatch,

I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Miguel Estrada as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

Mr. Estrada emigrated from Honduras while in his teens and went on to achieve stellar academic standing at Columbia University and the Harvard School of Law. His legal experience includes service in the private sector and with the Department of Justice, where he has demonstrated his superior talents and abilities.

I am confident that as the first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit, he will continue to distinguish himself and render thoughtful and equitable decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Carona  
Sheriff-Coroner

MC:cav

PROUDLY SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF ORANGE COUNTY AND THE FOLLOWING CITIES AND AGENCIES:

DANA POINT • LAGUNA HILLS • LAGUNA NIGUEL • LAGUNA WOODS • LAKE FOREST • MISSION VIEJO  
RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA • SAN CLEMENTE • SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO • STANTON • VILLA PARK  
HARBORS, BEACHES & PARKS • JOHN WAYNE AIRPORT • OCTA • SUPERIOR COURT

DRUG USE  
IS  
LIFE ABUSE





## League of United Latin American Citizens

NATIONAL PRESIDENT  
Rick Dovalina

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Brent A. Wilkes

NATIONAL OFFICERS  
Belen Robles  
Immediate Past President  
Hector Flores  
Treasurer  
Victoria Neave  
Youth President  
Damaris Sifuentes  
VP for Elderly  
Rosa Rosales  
VP for Women  
Juan Carlos Lizardi  
VP for Youth  
Maria Pizaña  
VP for Young Adults  
Richard Fimbres  
VP for Farwest  
Augustin Sánchez  
VP for Midwest  
Regla González  
VP for Northeast  
Carlos López Nieves  
VP for Southeast  
Frank Ortiz  
VP for Southwest

STATE DIRECTORS  
Mary Fimbres  
Arizona  
Robert Treviño  
Arkansas  
Mickie Luna  
California  
Marlene Roys  
Colorado  
Panchita Bello  
District of Columbia  
Armando Pomar  
Florida  
Stratton Frank  
Georgia  
Blanca Vargas  
Illinois  
Alicia Rios  
Indiana  
Henry Vargas  
Iowa  
Rodrigo Bonilla  
Kansas  
Emilio Salinas  
Louisiana  
Sara Barrientos  
Massachusetts  
Ramiro González  
Michigan  
John Castro  
Nevada  
Peggy Anastos  
New Jersey  
Connie Martinez  
New Mexico  
Lew Muñoz  
Pennsylvania  
Elsie Valdes  
Puerto Rico  
Dilka Román  
Tennessee  
Ramon Palomares  
Texas  
Walter Tejada  
Virginia  
Gregorio Montoro  
Wisconsin

July 3, 2001

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
224 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dr. Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the nation's oldest and largest Hispanic civil rights organization, I write to express our strong support for the confirmation of Mr. Miguel A. Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

As one of the leading Hispanic attorneys in the United States, Mr. Estrada is extremely well qualified for this position. His experience with appellate and constitutional law will prove invaluable to the District of Columbia Circuit as will his experience in arguing 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. His experience as Assistant to the U.S. Solicitor General and Assistant U.S. Attorney gives him a strong background with jury trials and appeals. Finally, his work as a partner with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP and earlier as an attorney with Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz gives a solid understanding of private practice.

Few Hispanic attorneys have as strong educational credentials as Mr. Estrada who graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Columbia and magna cum laude from Harvard Law School, where he was editor of the Harvard Law Review. He also served as a law clerk to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy in the U.S. Supreme Court making him one of a handful of Hispanic attorneys to have had this opportunity. He is truly one of the rising stars in the Hispanic community and a role model for our youth.

Mr. Estrada's distinguished experience in law and his strong educational credentials make him an outstanding candidate for this position. His confirmation would also help to address the chronic underrepresentation of Hispanic judges in US circuits including the extremely important District of Columbia Circuit—an issue that you have supported LULAC on in the past.

We are confident that Mr. Estrada will fulfill the duties of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit with fairness, intelligence and commitment to the ideals of the United States. We urge you to support Mr. Estrada's confirmation and to ensure your committee acts quickly on his nomination.

I thank you for your attention to this important matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Rick Dovalina  
LULAC National President



May 23, 2001

Letters to the Editor  
The Washington Post  
1150 15th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20071

Re: "Appeals Court Nominees Share Conservative Roots"  
(May 23, 2001, page A31)

To the Editor:

Bill Miller's article quotes Paul Bender, who "supervised" Miguel Estrada in the Solicitor General's Office, as saying that he think Mr. Estrada "lacks the judgment" and is "too much of an ideologue to be an appeals court judge." I served in the Solicitor General's office with both Mr. Estrada and Mr. Bender, and the quoted statements could use some context.

First, the SG has four deputies, of whom three are career lawyers. Mr. Bender filled the fourth slot -- generally known as the "political deputy," because he or she is a political appointee. There was nothing wrong with his bringing his own "ideological viewpoint" to that job, but your readers should understand that Mr. Bender is not some neutral academic commentator. He is an unabashedly liberal lawyer who filled an important legal policy position in the last Administration.

Second, it is a little funny to see Mr. Bender quoted as criticizing another lawyer for being too "ideological." I quite like Mr. Bender personally, but I venture to say that without much digging Mr. Miller could find plenty of Justice Department lawyers who questioned some of Mr. Bender's judgments on the same ground.

Finally, non-lawyers among your readers (if any such there be) should be cautious in interpreting pronouncements about legal "judgment." It is one thing to believe, as Mr. Bender obviously does, that Mr. Estrada has conservative ideas about legal policy or philosophy. It's quite another to accuse him of lacking "judgment." I have known and worked with Mr. Estrada for a long time, and nothing in his personal views interferes with his exceptional ability to construct or dissect legal arguments; to recall and apply judicial precedent; and to interpret a statute, or the Constitution, fairly in accordance with its terms and the intentions of its drafters. As taxpayers, we were all lucky to have Mr. Estrada representing us when he worked at Justice. We should grab the chance have him back as a judge.

Sincerely,

Edward C. DuMont  
(202) 514-3385 (work)  
(b)(6) (home)



(b)(6)

May 23, 2001

BY FAX TO 202-833-8069

Mr. Charles Green, Editor  
National Journal  
1501 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: "Tilting the Bench," by Elisabeth Frater (5/19)

To the Editor [For Publication]:

In her May 19 column describing recent judicial nominees, Elisabeth Frater quotes Paul Bender as saying that when he was Deputy Solicitor General, he "didn't trust" Miguel Estrada's "judgment," which he characterizes as "unbalanced" by strong "ideological viewpoints." As quoted, those statements are either just unfair or actually rather funny, depending on how much one knows about the context. In any event they should not go unanswered, because they could be very misleading to readers who do not have some background.

I had the privilege of serving in the Solicitor General's office with both Mr. Estrada and Mr. Bender. First, your readers should understand that Mr. Bender was not just any "deputy Solicitor General." The SG has four deputies, of whom three are career lawyers. Mr. Bender filled the fourth slot -- generally known as the "political deputy," because he or she is a political appointee. Of course, it is perfectly appropriate for the Solicitor General and the political deputy to bring a certain "ideological viewpoint," if you will, with them to office. That is why Presidents get to make political appointments. But your readers should understand that Mr. Bender is not some neutral academic Solon with a purely dispassionate interest in The Law. He is a liberal lawyer who filled an important legal policy position under the ancien regime.

Second, it is funny for someone who served under Mr. Bender in the Justice Department to see him quoted as criticizing another lawyer for having "ideological" or "unbalanced" judgment. I quite like Mr. Bender personally, but his tenure at DOJ was not marked by a total absence of ideology; and I venture to say that without much digging Ms. Frater could find plenty of lawyers who questioned some of his judgments. There's no need to take sides -- presumably Mr. Bender, like most of us, was sometimes right



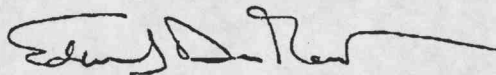
Editor, National Journal  
May 23, 2001  
Page two

and sometimes wrong. My only point is that, to paraphrase the proverb, those who judge with glass gavels should be careful how hard they bang them.

Finally, the non-lawyers among your readers should be cautious when interpreting pronouncements about legal "judgment." Lawyers reading the words attributed to Mr. Bender will discount them, because in context -- a Democratic political appointee talking about high-profile cases "involving the rights of women, homosexuals, or criminal defendants" -- they appear to mean little more than that when Mr. Bender wanted the briefing in a case to reflect his or the former Administration's views of proper legal policy on a controversial issue, he found it more pleasant to work with lawyers other than Mr. Estrada. Fair enough, if that's the way he felt. To a non-lawyer reader, however, the quoted comments might suggest that by some objective standard of legal competence, Mr. Estrada lacks sound professional legal judgment. That would be a serious and unwarranted accusation.

Mr. Estrada may have some strong personal views (most smart people do), and he and I do not always agree on matters of policy (most lawyers don't always agree on anything). Nothing in those views, however, interferes with Mr. Estrada's exceptional ability to construct or dissect legal arguments; to recall and apply judicial precedent; and to interpret a statute, or the Constitution, fairly in accordance with its terms and the intentions of its drafters. If (heaven forbid) I needed a lawyer myself, I would count myself very lucky to get one with his professional skills and judgment -- whatever the issue in the case. As a country, we were lucky to have him representing us when he worked for the Department of Justice. We should grab the chance have him back as a judge.

Sincerely,



Edward C. DuMont  
(202) 514-3385 (work)  
(b)(6) (home)



# Phoenix Construction Services

CA State License # 688023



July 19, 2001

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, United States Senator  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Senator Hatch:

On behalf of Phoenix Construction, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada's is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Rosario Girard  
President/CEO



# CASA DEL SINALOENSE

CENTRO DE INFORMACION A HISPANOS  
2513 MOUNTAIN VIEW RD EL MONTE CA 91733  
TEL (626) 443-8354 FAX (626) 443-5840

July 19, 2001

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

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

On behalf of CASA DEL SINALOENSE, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

  
MANUEL J. GUTIERREZ  
President



AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Standing Committee on  
Federal Judiciary

11th Floor  
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-1022  
(202) 662-1765

CHAIR

Patricia M. Hynes  
48th Floor  
One Pennsylvania Plaza  
New York, NY 10119

FIRST CIRCUIT

Roscoe Trimmier, Jr.  
42nd Floor  
One International Place  
Boston, MA 02110-2624

SECOND CIRCUIT

George S. Frazza  
Suite 2200  
1133 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10036-6710

THIRD CIRCUIT

George J. Kenny  
85 Livingston Avenue  
Roseland, NJ 07068-1765

FOURTH CIRCUIT

William C. Hubbard  
3rd Floor  
1330 Lady Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

FIFTH CIRCUIT

Harry S. Hardin, III  
201 St. Charles Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70170-5100

SIXTH CIRCUIT

David C. Weiner  
3300 BP Tower  
200 Public Square  
Cleveland, OH 44114

SEVENTH CIRCUIT

Laurel G. Bellows  
Suite 800  
79 West Monroe Street  
Chicago, IL 60603-4906

EIGHTH CIRCUIT

H. William Allen  
950 Centre Place  
212 Center Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201

NINTH CIRCUIT

Jane Barrett  
Suite 2100  
725 S. Figueroa Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5421

RUDY A. ENGLUND

Suite 4100  
1420 Fifth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101

TENTH CIRCUIT

Judy H. Morse  
1800 Mid-America Tower  
20 N. Broadway Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102-8273

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

Harold T. Daniel  
Suite 2000  
1201 W. Peachtree Street, NW  
Atlanta, GA 30309-3400

D.C. CIRCUIT

Fred F. Fielding  
Suite 900  
1776 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

FEDERAL CIRCUIT

Pauline A. Schneider  
Suite 1200  
1900 K Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1109

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

LIAISON

James B. Lee  
Suite 1800  
201 South Main Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0898

STAFF LIAISON

Robert D. Evans  
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-1022  
(202) 662-1765

July 9, 2001

VIA FACSIMILE AND MAIL

Hon. Orrin G. Hatch  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-6275

Re: **Miguel Angel Estrada**  
**United States Court of Appeals**  
**District of Columbia Circuit**

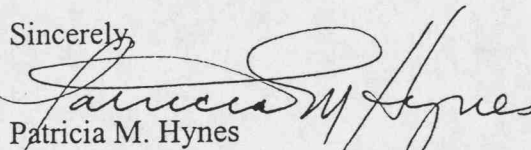
Dear Senator Hatch:

We are transmitting to you for your consideration this Committee's evaluation pertaining to the nomination of Miguel Angel Estrada as Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

I am pleased to report that as a result of our investigation the Committee is of the unanimous opinion that Miguel Angel Estrada is Well Qualified for appointment as Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

A copy of this letter has been sent to Mr. Estrada for his information.

Sincerely,

  
Patricia M. Hynes  
Chair

cc: Miguel Angel Estrada, Esq.  
Hon. Alberto R. Gonzales  
Viet Dinh, Esq.  
ABA Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary  
Robert D. Evans, Esq.



# HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**2001-2002  
Officers and  
Board of Directors**

**President**

Jessica Herrera

**President-Elect**  
Louis Lopez

**Vice President  
Internal Affairs**  
Jennifer Martinez

**Vice President  
External Affairs**  
Linda Estrada

**Vice President  
Membership**  
Brigida Benitez

**Treasurer**  
Peter Mucchetti

**Secretary**  
Dominic Vorr

**Board of Directors**  
Anthony Archeval  
Richard Crespo  
Ignacia Moreno  
Jeff Prieto  
Robert Raben  
Christina Sarchio  
Pablo Silva  
Adriana Viaso

October 12, 2001.

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
SD-224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy:

I am writing on behalf of the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (HBA-DC) to endorse Miguel Estrada for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The Endorsements Committee of the HBA-DC has conducted a thorough review of Mr. Estrada and his qualifications, including interviews of a number of his former opposing counsel, co-counsel, and colleagues. In addition, members of the HBA-DC Endorsements Committee met with Mr. Estrada to discuss his nomination. Based on our review, we recommend that the Committee vote in favor of Mr. Estrada's nomination.

Mr. Estrada has substantial and impressive qualifications that make him aptly suited to serve on the D.C. Circuit. He is a partner with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he has an appellate practice. He has argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Estrada, who received his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School, served as a law clerk to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy in the U.S. Supreme Court and to the Honorable Amalya L. Kearse in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Mr. Estrada has devoted much of his career to public service. He served as Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States from 1992 to 1997, and previously served as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. While in private practice, he has spent considerable time on *pro bono* matters, including his representation of a death row inmate in a challenge to his conviction and sentence, and an incarcerated defendant who was seeking *habeas* relief from his state conviction.

P.O. Box 1011 - Washington, D.C. 20013-1011 - (202) 388-4990

[hba@hbadc.org](mailto:hba@hbadc.org)

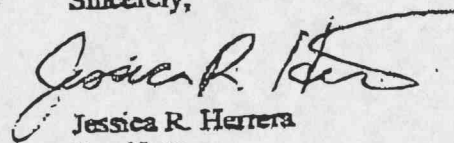


Everyone we interviewed, including Mr. Estrada's former opponents, spoke very highly of him. One former opposing counsel stated that when Mr. Estrada was in the Solicitor General's Office, he "carried the mantle of a government lawyer in the best tradition." Others described him as "one of the smartest people I've ever met" and "one of the most amazing lawyers I've ever seen." One former co-counsel said that Mr. Estrada is "extremely easy to get along with, friendly, open, ethical, and knowledgeable about the law." Others echoed this point, stating that "he has a love for the law that few individuals have."

Mr. Estrada also has received bipartisan support, including support from several of his former colleagues at the Department of Justice who served under President Clinton. A prominent example is Randolph Moss, who worked with Mr. Estrada in the Department when Mr. Moss was Deputy Assistant Attorney General (he later became Assistant Attorney General) in the Office of Legal Counsel. As you know, Mr. Moss wrote to your Committee strongly supporting Mr. Estrada's nomination and noting that Mr. Estrada "is widely, and deservedly, regarded as an extraordinary legal talent" with an "abiding respect for the law," who will "quickly earn a reputation as one of the finest appellate judges in the Nation." Similarly, Robert Litt, who served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Criminal Division, has said that Mr. Estrada is "an absolutely brilliant lawyer" and a "talented and responsible advocate."

Mr. Estrada, who came to the U.S. from his native Honduras at age 17, would be the first Hispanic to sit on the D.C. Circuit. President Bush's groundbreaking nomination highlights the often overlooked pool of talented Hispanics in the legal profession. Mr. Estrada's appointment will be a historic moment for the D.C. Circuit and an important development for the Hispanic legal community. For all the reasons stated herein, we endorse Mr. Estrada's nomination.

Sincerely,



Jessica R. Herrera  
President,  
Hispanic Bar Association of  
the District of Columbia

cc: The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch  
The Honorable Alberto R. Gonzales  
Hispanic Bar Association Endorsements Committee



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 9, 2001

**CONTACT: ROBERTO DEPOSADA**  
202-546-1284

## **Hispanic Business Leaders Challenge the U.S. Senate to Put Aside Partisan Politics and Confirm Hispanic Judge**

*— Estrada would be first Hispanic Judge in U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit —*

**Washington, DC** — The Hispanic Business Roundtable (HBR) today praised President George W. Bush for nominating the first Hispanic Judge to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and urged the U.S. Senate to put aside partisan bickering and give Latinos what has long been overdue: representation in this prestigious Circuit Court.

"Miguel A. Estrada brings to the court a distinguished legal record based on his many years of work in the public and private sector," said HBR President Mario Rodriguez, CEO of Jonathan Grey & Associates Inc. in San Clemente, California. "Mr. Estrada also brings a unique perspective and human experience understood only by those who have migrated to a foreign land as a teenager not knowing the language. It is for this cultural depth and his unique legal qualifications that HBR urges the Senate Judiciary Committee and all members of the U.S. Senate to put partisan politics aside so that Hispanics are no longer denied representation in one of the most prestigious courts in the land."

Mr. Estrada, born in Honduras, graduated *magna cum laude* from Columbia College and *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School. He served as a member of the editorial board of the Harvard Law Review and is currently a member of the National Board of Directors of the Center for the Community Interest.

"We are delighted to finally see a President appoint a Hispanic to this Court. It's been long overdue," said HBR Vice President Jaime Ramon, partner in the law firm of Locke Liddell & Sapp in Dallas, Texas. "No one can seriously question the integrity and the qualifications of Miguel Estrada. He served as a successful prosecutor in the Southern District of New York, as Assistant Solicitor General in the Clinton Administration, and as a distinguished private attorney in Washington, DC. There is no reason why partisan bickering should keep Estrada from serving on this court."

"To deny Latinos, the nations largest minority, one of our own to serve on this court in our nation's capital, is unforgivable," said HBR Executive Director Robert Deposada. "The 35 million Hispanics in this country can no longer be ignored."

The Hispanic Business Roundtable is a non-profit, non-partisan organization based in Washington, D.C. HBR was established in 1995 to address policy issues that directly affect the well-being of Hispanics in the U.S. For more information on HBR, please visit our website at [www.hbrt.org](http://www.hbrt.org).

###





#### OFFICERS

Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow  
Chair

Hector V. Barreto  
Vice Chairman

George Herrera  
President & CEO

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

##### Region I

Liliana Lujan-Hickey\*  
Las Vegas, NV  
Hector V. Barreto  
Los Angeles, CA  
Sheila Guarderas  
Fresno, CA  
Joe Perez  
Honolulu, HI

##### Region II

Scott Flores\*  
Denver, CO  
Ray Arvizu  
Phoenix, AZ  
Carmen Bermudez  
Tucson, AZ  
Tina Cordova  
Albuquerque, NM

##### Region III

Daniel Perez\*  
Kansas City, MO  
Marco A. Arredondo, P.E.  
Portland, TX  
J.R. Gonzales  
Austin, TX  
Maria Guadalupe Taxman  
St. Louis, MO

##### Region IV

Nestor Fernandez\*  
Miamisburg, OH  
Juventino Cano  
Aurora, IL  
George Franco  
Milwaukee, WI  
Leticia Herrera  
Chicago, IL

##### Region V

Henry M. Calderon\*  
New York, NY  
Edgar Cintron  
Holyoke, MA  
Esperanza Porras Field  
Morristown, NJ  
Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow  
Washington, DC

##### Region VI

Alex Chavez\*  
Sarasota, FL  
Jose Ignacio Gonzalez  
Atlanta, GA  
Raiza Tamayo  
Orlando, FL  
Emilio Torres  
San Juan, PR

\*Denotes Regional Chair

July 17, 2001

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

#### **RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

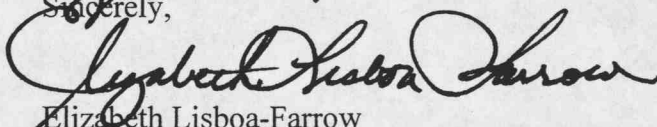
On behalf of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

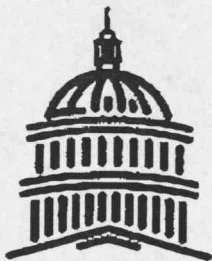
As the former Chair of the DC Chamber of Commerce, and the first Latina to hold that position, this appointment is important. It would have a positive impact on the emerging Hispanic population and would set the tone that there are qualified Hispanics willing to assume roles and responsibility to contribute to the well-being of the District. I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

  
Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow  
Chair





# LAMA

## LATIN AMERICAN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

June 26, 2001

The Honorable George W. Bush  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It is our pleasure to support the nomination of Mr. Miguel A. Estrada to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia. Mr. Estrada is an outstanding candidate for this position, and we are delighted that you are considering him.

Mr. Estrada has outstanding educational credentials, having received his J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1986. He has a breadth of experience, including having served as clerk to the Hon. Anthony M. Kennedy at the U.S. Supreme Court.

He served with distinction as Assistant U.S. Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office in the Southern District of New York. In addition, he has outstanding experience at the federal level, having served as Assistant to the Solicitor General at the U.S. Department of Justice for six years. Mr. Estrada presently serves as Partner in the distinguished Washington-based law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP.

It is evident that Mr. Estrada is an exceedingly well-qualified candidate, and we are pleased to support his nomination. If he is confirmed, Mr. Estrada will be the first Hispanic to reach the Appeals Court in the District of Columbia, an achievement for which the Hispanic community will be very grateful.

Yours truly,

Arthur M Lopez  
Chairman

Massey Villarreal  
President

Stephen Denlinger  
CEO



**BUFETE LUGO IRIZARRY  
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
LCDO. ANIBAL LUGO**



June 25, 2001

Vermont's U. S. Senator  
Patrick J. Leahy

Senator Orrin G. Hatch

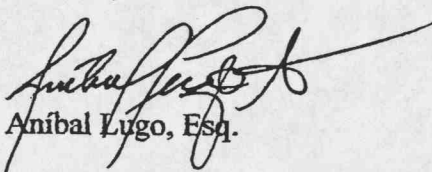
Dear Senators:

It is a pleasure to be able to write in support of, Miguel Estrada, Esq. Mr. Estrada has personal and academic qualities, which would be enhance his potential for success as a United State Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

He has displayed qualities which one expects form a serious, mature goal oriented professional, intelligence-ability level and responsibility. Also, Mr. Estrada has shown during these years his leadership and his great capacity for hard work.

I am happy to be able to provide a high level recommendation for his candidacy.

Sincerely,



Anibal Lugo, Esq.

**BOX 467, SAN GERMAN, PUERTO RICO 00683, TEL.: 267-5422/267-5421  
CALLE MATTEI LLUVERAS #32 ALTOS, YAUCO, PUERTO RICO**



PlastiComm Industries, Inc.  
1500 W. 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Denver, CO 80211  
(303) 433-2333  
(303) 433-7133 Fax

July 16, 2001

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

Re: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
For the District of Columbia Circuit

Dear Chairman Leahy:

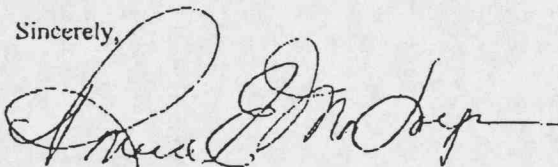
On behalf of the Hispanic Business Community, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Ronald E. Montoya  
President/CEO and  
Chairman Emeritus of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber

May 18, 2001

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
SD-224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6275

Dear Chairman Hatch:

I write to express my strong support for the nomination of Miguel Estrada to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. I have known Miguel for many years, dating back to the 1980s, when we served together as law clerks at the U.S. Supreme Court. We also worked together in the Justice Department during the Clinton Administration, where Miguel served as an assistant to the Solicitor General and I served as a Deputy Assistant Attorney General (and, after Miguel left the Department, as the Assistant Attorney General) in the Office of Legal Counsel. Although I am a Democrat and Miguel and I do not see eye-to-eye on every issue, I hold Miguel in the highest regard, and I urge the Committee to give favorable consideration to his nomination.

Miguel is widely, and deservedly, regarded as an extraordinary legal talent. He has a near-encyclopedic knowledge of the law, a powerful intellect, and an ability to bring coherence to even the most complicated legal doctrine. In the tradition of our greatest judges, Miguel wrestles with legal questions and is never satisfied until he has examined a question from every possible angle and made sense, wherever possible, of competing strands of the law. Even more importantly, he brings to this task an abiding respect for the law. As a matter of fundamental integrity, Miguel will follow a legal argument where it takes him and will not succumb to leaps of faith or lapses of logic to reach a desired result. Based on this same sense of integrity, moreover, I believe that Miguel will decide cases independently. I have never known Miguel to bend to pressure from others. He says and does what he believes is right, and in doing so is always honest and forthright.

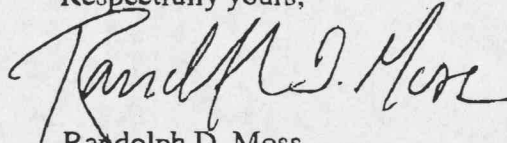
RECEIVED MAY 2 2001



The Hon. Orrin G. Hatch  
May 18, 2001  
Page 2 of 2

In short, Miguel is a brilliant, dedicated, and principled lawyer. I firmly believe that Miguel will quickly earn a reputation as one of the finest appellate judges in the Nation. I strongly support his nomination.

Respectfully yours,



Handwritten signature of Randolph D. Moss in cursive script.

Randolph D. Moss

cc: The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Ranking Member

OTTO G. OBERMAIER

767 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10153

July 11, 2001

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
433 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Miguel Estrada

Dear Senator Leahy:

I write in support of the President's nomination of Miguel Estrada to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, currently pending before the Judiciary Committee.

I know Mr. Estrada. While I was the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, I recommended his appointment to the Attorney General as an Assistant United States Attorney. My judgment was that he was intellectually given, his background gave him the judgment to perform the duties of an Assistant and he had an interest in public service. Attorney General Thornburgh accepted my recommendation and Mr. Estrada served as an Assistant United States Attorney until I received a request from then Solicitor General Starr asking for my permission to allow Mr. Estrada to join the Solicitor General's Office. I consented.

The United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York is, in my view, the most prestigious prosecutor's office in the country. I and all of my modern predecessors ran the office on a non-partisan basis. At the time I recommended Mr. Estrada as an Assistant, I did not know (and frankly did not care) what Mr. Estrada's political affiliations were. His service as an Assistant United States Attorney confirmed my original judgment and was not in any way impacted by his personal political beliefs (whatever they might be). I understand the same was true in his service as an Assistant to the Solicitor General.

The Southern District of New York has a tradition of public service which I believe Mr. Estrada shares. Mr. Estrada served under two Chiefs of the Criminal Division whom I appointed. Both are now judges of



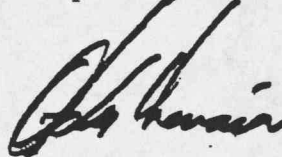
The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
July 11, 2001  
Page 2

the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. Both were appointed to that Court by President Clinton. I was an appointee of President George H. W. Bush.

It is in this tradition of the non-partisanship of the Southern District of New York that I without reservation urge you and your colleagues on the Judiciary Committee to speedily confirm Miguel Estrada as a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

I hold myself available to provide the Committee's staff with any additional information I am able to provide.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Otto G. Obermaier", written in a cursive style.

Otto G. Obermaier

OGO/ek

cc: Senator Orrin G. Hatch  
Senator Charles E. Schumer

RECEIVED JUL 13 2001



*League of United Latin American Citizens*  
Office of the Florida State Director

Armando V. Pomar  
State Director

Pablo Acosta  
Deputy State Director

Anita Cordova  
Deputy State Director  
Of Women's Activities

Jose A. de la Lama  
Deputy State Director  
For Youth

Amado L. Valdez  
Deputy State Director  
For Young Adults

Cary Diaz  
State Treasurer

Paul Merker  
State Secretary

William Sanchez Esq.  
State Legal Advisor

Sergio Zeledon  
State Parliamentarian

Rev. Guillermo Revuelta  
State Chaplain

Randolph L. Espinet  
State Director of Publicity

ADVISORY BOARD  
Chair Committees

Mayra Trinchet Esq.  
Legal Advisor / Immigration

Andres J. Tamayo M.D.  
Health & Human Services

Mario J. Sacasa  
Economic Development

Juan Vilaboy  
Finance & Banking

Rolando Espinosa  
Education

Clinton E. Brown  
Scholarship

Col. Terry L. Rice  
Engineering

Francisco Vargas  
Community Relations

Leo Madrigal  
Athletics / Sports

Joette Lorton  
Environmental

Ibel Aguilera  
Political Action  
Committee

Martha C. Pomar  
Young Adults

June 25, 2001

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC

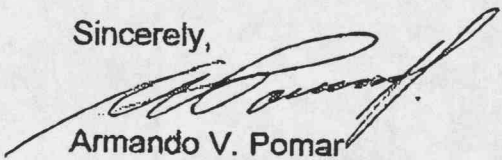
Dear Senator Leahy:

On behalf of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) State of Florida, I am writing to convey our strong support for Miguel A. Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

I have followed the career of Mr. Estrada since he clerked for the Hon. Anthony M. Kennedy, Supreme Court of the United States in the late 1980's through his appointment to the United States Department of Justice, Solicitor General's Office as Assistant to the Solicitor General as well as Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York and have always considered him to be one of the brightest stars in a growing field of talented young Hispanic attorneys today.

I am confident that Mr. Estrada will fulfill the duties of Circuit Judge with intelligence, even-handedness and a strong commitment and respect for the laws of this great nation. Without a doubt he is an excellent representative of the Hispanic Community. As such, we strongly urge your favorable consideration of his nomination.

Sincerely,

  
Armando V. Pomar  
LULAC Florida State Director

AVP:map



**ATL, Inc.**CONSTRUCTION QUALITY ASSURANCE  
GEOTECHNICAL / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS**PHOENIX - CORPORATE OFFICE**  
2912 W. Clarendon Ave • Phoenix, AZ 85017-4609  
(602) 241-1097 • Fax (602) 277-1306

July 19, 2001

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

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

On behalf of Hispanic Small Businesses, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Frank C. Rivera  
President/CEO

# HBR

HISPANIC  
BUSINESS  
ROUNDTABLE

---

## Executive Committee:

### President

Mario Rodriguez  
CEO, Jonathan Grey & Assoc.  
San Clemente, CA

### Vice President

Jaime Ramon, Esq.  
Partner, Leckie Liddell & Sapp  
Dallas, TX

### Treasurer

Patricia de L. Marvil  
CEO, Securiguard, Inc.  
McLean, VA

### Secretary

Miguel Uria  
CEO, ORO Financial  
New Orleans, LA

### Members At-Large

David Archuleta, Esq.  
Archuleta Law Offices  
Albuquerque, NM

Ruben Cardona, C.P.A.  
Managing Partner, Bleich Glass & Cardona  
New Brunswick, NJ

Remedios Diaz Oliver  
CEO, All American Containers, Inc.  
Miami, FL

Cari Dominguez  
CEO, Dominguez & Associates, Inc.  
Rockville, MD

Grace Flores-Hughes  
Partner, USTAR  
Washington, DC

Eva I. Guardarramas, Esq.  
Guardarramas Law Offices  
New York, NY

### Executive Director

Roberto Garcia de Posada

### Washington:

611 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E.  
M.B. 196  
Washington, DC 20003  
202-546-1284

### California:

920 Calle Negocio, Suite B  
San Clemente, CA 92673  
949-498-2830

website: [www.hbrt.org](http://www.hbrt.org)

July 17, 2001

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

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United  
States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia  
Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

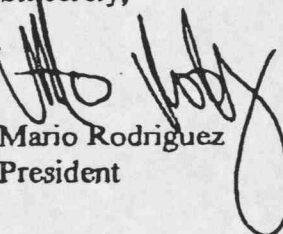
On behalf of The Hispanic Business Roundtable, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

  
Mario Rodriguez  
President





# Hispanic Contractors of America, Inc.

July 12, 2001

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Paul Rodriguez, Chairman  
Rodriguez Mechanical Contractors, Inc.  
Kansas City, KS

Jan Perez, Vice-Chairman  
Southwest Underground, Inc.  
Kansas City, MO

Joe Lopez, Secretary  
New ERA Builders  
Cleveland, Ohio

Luis C. Aguero, Treasurer  
Technical Associates, Inc.  
Union, N.J.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phil Covarrubias  
Hispanic Contractors of Colorado  
Denver, Colorado

Mr. Frank Fuentes  
Hispanic Contractors Association de Tejas  
Austin, TX

Mr. Charles Garcia  
G.M. Construction, Inc.  
Indianapolis, IN

Olga Martinez  
Allright Diversified Services, Inc.  
Fresno, CA

Frank C. Rivera  
ATL, Inc.  
Phoenix, AZ

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jerry B. Adriano

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

RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court  
of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit

Dear Chairman Leahy:

On behalf of the Hispanic Contractors of America, Inc., I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,  
Hispanic Contractors of America, Inc.

Paul Rodriguez  
Chairman

PR/jb

Seeks to Promote the Advancement of Hispanic Contractors and Building Professionals

1224 East 9th St. ■ Kansas City, MO 64106  
(816) 421-3626 ■ (816) 421-1025 FAX



July 13, 2001

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, United States Senator  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Senator Hatch:

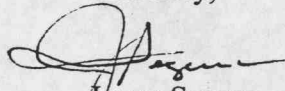
On behalf of Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

  
Jenny Segura  
Executive Director

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*The Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces, through its diverse membership,  
seeks to promote and enhance economic growth, community service, and cultural awareness.*





**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chairman  
MORRIE NOTRICA  
Owner 32<sup>nd</sup> Street Markets

Secretary  
JOE LOPEZ  
Owner Roman's Market

Chief Financial Officer  
MANUEL "Ca" SOTO  
Soto & Sanchez Investments

JOE SANCHEZ  
Soto & Sanchez Investments

UKA SOLANKI  
Owner Big Saver Food Markets

ROQUE OLIVOS  
Owner El Pilon Market

STEVEN A. SOTO  
President & Chief Executive Officer

**STAFF**

JOE C. HERNANDEZ, JR.  
Vice President Sales & Marketing

JACQUELINE V. SOLIS  
Assistant to the President & CEO

MANUEL L. CONS  
Special Projects Director

JAMES POWRIE  
Special Projects Manager

JEROME WILSON LLOYD  
Editor/Art Director  
MAGazine

MARK GERAGOS  
Geragos & Geragos  
Legal Counsel

ASHLEY HALLSMAN  
Hallsman Accounting  
Certified Public Accountant

RAUL ESCAJEDA  
Accounting

July 18, 2001

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

RE: Miguel Estrada, Presidential Nominee  
United States Court of Appeals Judge  
For the District of Columbia Circuit

Dear Chairman Leahy,

On behalf of the 8,000 members of the Mexican American Grocers Association, I wish to convey our strong support for the Senate's rapid confirmation of President Bush's nomination of Miguel Estrada to serve as the first Hispanic on the prestigious DC Circuit.

Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who is very familiar with the Federal Judiciary, having clerked for Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy and Second Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Amalya L. Kearse.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras, who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member will make an outstanding addition to the DC Circuit and will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Soto  
President & CEO

SAS:jvs





# Republican National Hispanic Assembly

June 25, 2001

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Miguel A. Estrada, Esq.**

Dear Senator Hatch:

On behalf of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly, it is with great pleasure that we endorse Mr. Miguel A. Estrada's nomination as Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals. Please know that Mr. Estrada comes highly recommended.

The Republican National Hispanic Assembly (RNHA) is one of the nation's largest Hispanic membership organizations and represents the interests of over 7 million Hispanics nationwide. RNHA also plays a leading role in educating and developing leaders in Hispanic Communities across the country.

Our endorsement of Mr. Estrada comes from his hard work as a leading member of the Hispanic Community. Mr. Estrada is hailed as a role model among Hispanic youth across the country. Although he came to the United States at the age of 15 knowing little English, Mr. Estrada was able to overcome his disadvantaged background and succeed. Mr. Estrada's story is truly an American Dream; a dream that many Hispanic young people have not taken part in. As a Judge in the DC Circuit Court, Mr. Estrada will be in a position to positively impact the Hispanic Community, an impact that is greatly needed as the high school attrition rate among Hispanic youth steadily increases.

Moreover, Mr. Estrada's credentials are impeccable; a Harvard Law degree, a clerkship in the Federal Appellate Court, two years in the US Attorney's Office, and a clerkship in the US Supreme Court. Mr. Estrada will be an asset to the Circuit Court.

On behalf of the over 7 million Hispanics represented by RNHA, we strongly urge you to confirm Mr. Miguel A. Estrada's nomination expeditiously.

Sincerely,

Massey Villarreal  
National Chairman



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SMALL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES

July 12, 2001

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

RE: Support of Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the  
District of Columbia Circuit

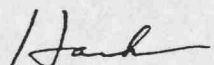
Dear Senator Leahy:

The National Association of Small Disadvantaged Businesses (NASDB), is a trade association of approximately 300 minority-owned firms located throughout the United States. Our primary purpose is to enhance the ability of minority-owned firms to secure their fair share of the Federal procurement dollar. We do this primarily by educating these firms as to the things they're entitled to, by law, and informing them as to how to get what they're entitled to. At the same time, we attempt to make the Government agencies and major primes, who serve them, more aware of their responsibilities under these same laws.

The NASDB would like to add our support to those, much more distinguished than are we, in expressing our support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

While we do not dwell on symbolism, we feel that Mr. Estrada's appointment as the first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit, will be of benefit to us in further illustrating the wide range of talent in the minority communities, just waiting to be effectively and fully used. We urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Henry T. Wilfong Jr., MBA, CPA  
President, NASDB

Current or Former Positions:  
Pasadena, CA City Councilman  
Associate Administrator MSB/COD, SBA  
Member, National Council on Policy Review  
Member, NASA Advisory Council  
Chair, NASA Minority Business Resource Advisory Committee  
Member, Presidential Task Force on International Private Enterprise  
Member, Bush-Cheney Transition Team-SBA Advisory Group

P.O. Box 13603, Silver Spring, MD 20911 - Tel. # 301.588.9312 - email: hwilfongjr@aol.com

### Democrats' Fishing Expedition for Confidential Materials

- The Department of Justice has never disclosed confidential, deliberative documents from career lawyers in the Solicitor General's office in connection with a Circuit Court nomination. The Senate has never even asked the Department to do so. **Democrats are creating a new double standard that applies only to the nomination of Miguel Estrada.**
- **Every living former Solicitor General has denounced the Democrats' demands.** The letter was signed by Democrats Seth Waxman, Walter Dellinger, and Drew Days, and by Republicans Ken Starr, Charles Fried, Robert Bork and Archibald Cox.
  - ✓ The Solicitors General explain that the frank exchange of ideas on which their office depends "simply cannot take place if attorneys have reason to fear that their private recommendations are not private at all, but vulnerable to public disclosure."
  - ✓ The letter concludes that "any attempt to intrude into the Office's highly privileged deliberations would come at a cost of the Solicitor General's ability to defend vigorously the United States' litigation interests—a cost that also would be borne by Congress itself."
- **Longstanding historical practice confirms that deliberative memoranda are off-limits during confirmation hearings.** Since the Carter Administration, the Senate has confirmed former Justice Department employees—even those with no prior judicial experience—without demanding to see their confidential memoranda. It should not adopt a new double standard for Estrada's nomination.
  - ✓ Since 1977, the Senate has approved 67 appellate nominees who previously worked at the Justice Department (including 38 with no prior judicial experience). The Department did not disclose deliberative memoranda in any of these nominations. In fact, the Senate **did not even request** such documents.
  - ✓ Seven of the 67 were in the same position as Estrada: they had worked for the Solicitor General and had not been judges previously. These seven nominees were nominated by Presidents of both parties and confirmed by Senates controlled by both parties. Again, the Justice Department did not disclose deliberative memoranda in any of these nominations. The Senate **did not even request** such documents.
- None of the so-called "disclosures" cited by the Democrats are precedent for the sweeping demands they are making regarding Estrada. In fact, **only two** of their purported "precedents" involve **lawyers who worked in the Solicitor General's office,** and **in no instance** did the Justice Department turn over **amicus, certiorari, or appeal recommendations.**



## FRANK EASTERBROOK

- The Democrats' mere possession of a single memorandum—a two-page amicus recommendation that Easterbrook wrote as an Assistant to the Solicitor General—does not suggest that the Justice Department waived any privileges or authorized it to be disclosed.
- The official record of the Easterbrook confirmation hearing contains no references to this document. After comprehensively reviewing its files, the Justice Department concluded that it never authorized the document's release.
- Last fall, Senator Hatch sent a letter to Senator Schumer specifically asking for information about how the Democrats obtained this memorandum. To this day, the Democrats still have never answered Senator Hatch's letter.
- This single document provides no precedent for the Democrats' sweeping request for every document Estrada ever prepared.

## ROBERT BORK

- The Bork documents are fundamentally different from the ones Democrats want to see regarding Estrada. Those materials include Bork's observations on political questions, such as the pocket veto, President Nixon's assertions of executive privilege, and the work of the Office of Special Prosecutor.
- None of the materials in the public record contained internal deliberations regarding appeal, certiorari, or amicus recommendations in pending cases.
- Bork was a political appointee (Solicitor General) at the time the materials were prepared. He was not a career line attorney like Estrada.

## WILLIAM REHNQUIST

- During his hearings to be Associate Justice, Rehnquist refused to reveal the private advice he had given to other Justice Department officials while Assistant AG for Legal Counsel. He stated: "insofar as I may have been asked for advice in the process of making administration policy decisions upon which the administration has not taken a public position, there, I think, the lawyer-client privilege very definitely obtains."
- On November 5, 1971, the Attorney General specifically refused to waive the attorney-client privilege after a Senator asked him to do so:  
  
"I can well appreciate your personal, intense interest in probing into all aspects of Mr. Rehnquist's work while at the Department of Justice. I am sure you appreciate, however, that it is essential to the fulfillment of my duties and



obligations that I have the candid advice and opinions of all members of the Department. Further, I am sure you realize that if I should consent to your request or other requests to inquire into the basis and background of advice and opinions that I receive from the members of my staff, it would be difficult to obtain the necessary free exchange of ideas and thoughts so essential to the proper and judicious discharge of my duties."

- The 1971 Rehnquist example is irrelevant for the additional reason that none of the information sought related to amicus, certiorari, and appeal recommendations. Indeed, Rehnquist never served in the Solicitor General's office.
- In 1986, the Department turned over a small number of documents Rehnquist authored while serving as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel from 1967-71. These OLC memos (not SG memos) were provided to the Committee on a confidential basis after a bi-partisan group of SJC Senators (including Senator Specter) threatened to subpoena them, and their contents later were leaked to the press in an effort to embarrass Rehnquist and scuttle his nomination. Rehnquist later was confirmed.
- Rehnquist was a political appointee (Assistant AG for the Office of Legal Counsel) at the time these materials were prepared. He was not a career line attorney like Estrada.

#### **BENJAMIN CIVILETTI**

- During his 1979 confirmation hearings to be Attorney General, the Senate did not request materials that he had prepared previously as a Justice Department official. Rather, it simply sought assurances that the Civiletti would cooperate with the Senate's oversight of the Justice Department in the future. Civiletti never specified which documents he would be willing to turn over or which documents would be privileged.
- During his 1978 hearings to be Deputy Attorney General, the Senate obtained documents related allegations that Civiletti had interfered with an investigation of an alleged kickback scheme involving members of Congress. The documents related to specific charges of misconduct. Unlike during Civiletti's confirmation, there have been no allegations that Estrada engaged in any improper behavior or otherwise failed to discharge his duties.
- None of the Civiletti materials were amicus, certiorari, or appeal recommendations. Indeed, Civiletti never served in the Solicitor General's office.
- Civiletti was a political appointee (Deputy AG and Assistant AG for Criminal) at the time the documents were prepared. He was not a career line attorney like Estrada.

#### **BRAD REYNOLDS**

- The Senate sought and received materials in the course of pursuing specific allegations that Reynolds, while Assistant AG for Civil Rights, failed to enforce the Voting Rights



Act and Civil Rights Act. The Department's disclosure was limited to specific cases of alleged misconduct. There have been no allegations that Estrada engaged in any improper behavior or failed to discharge his duties.

- Significantly, although Reynolds previously had served as an Assistant to the Solicitor General, the Senate never suggested that his appeal, certiorari, or amicus recommendations should be divulged.
- Reynolds was a political appointee (Assistant AG for Civil Rights) at the time the documents were prepared. He was not a career line attorney like Estrada.

### JEFFREY HOLMSTEAD

- In 2001 the Senate requested 41 files Holmstead created during his service as Associate Counsel to the first President Bush. The White House declined. After Holmstead's hearing the Senate, based on its particularized concerns about one specific subject, requested documents related only to that matter.
- Because of the specificity of the Senate's concerns, the White House accommodated the Committee by permitting review of documents related to that one subject matter while expressly preserving all privileges.
- Holmstead is no precedent for the current Senate's sweeping request for every appeal, certiorari, or amicus Estrada prepared during his five years in the Solicitor General's office.

### STEPHEN TROTT

- The documents disclosed to the Judiciary Committee during its consideration of the Trott nomination has nothing whatsoever to do with Trott.
- The Committee requested internal Department documents about a DoJ investigation of a former Ambassador to Switzerland who had been accused of misusing embassy funds. The Senate sought these documents after allegations that lawyers in the Department's Public Integrity Section had recommended the appointment of an independent counsel in the matter, but were overruled by Attorney General Meese.
- Senator Biden had requested these documents for over a year, and Committee Democrats placed a hold on the Trott nomination in order to get them. While Trott at the time served as Associate Attorney General, he had no personal involvement in the matter.
- Press accounts at the time corroborate that the Democrats' request was unrelated to Trott. See Ruth Marcus, "Impasse Over Justice Documents Ends, Papers Turned Over, Senate Confirms Trott to Court of Appeals", *Washington Post*, March 25, 1988 at A23.

ORRIN G. HATCH, UTAH, CHAIRMAN

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, IOWA  
ARLEN SPECTER, PENNSYLVANIA  
JON KYL, ARIZONA  
MIKE DEWINE, OHIO  
JEFF SESSIONS, ALABAMA  
LINDSEY O. GRAHAM, SOUTH CAROLINA  
LARRY CRAIG, IDAHO  
SAXBY CHAMBLISS, GEORGIA  
JOHN CORNYN, TEXAS

PATRICK J. LEAHY, VERMONT  
EDWARD M. KENNEDY, MASSACHUSETTS  
JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR., DELAWARE  
HERBERT KOHL, WISCONSIN  
DIANNE FEINSTEIN, CALIFORNIA  
RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD, WISCONSIN  
CHARLES E. SCHUMER, NEW YORK  
RICHARD J. DURBIN, ILLINOIS  
JOHN EDWARDS, NORTH CAROLINA

MAKAN DELRAHIM, CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR  
BRUCE A. COHEN, DEMOCRATIC CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

EXEC. OFC. PRESIDENT  
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

United States Senate PM 6:14

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

February 26, 2003

The Honorable Alberto R. Gonzales  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

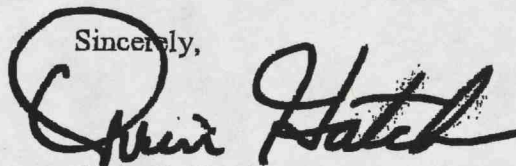
Dear Judge Gonzales:

As I announced on February 5, 2003, the Senate Judiciary Committee will use the same questionnaire for judicial nominees that was employed during my previous Chairmanship of the Committee, from 1995 to 2000.

As you know, that questionnaire proved to be thorough and fair during the Clinton Administrations, and was modified after Democrats took control of the Senate in 2001. My decision to use the pre-2001 questionnaire reflects my view that judicial nominations should be treated the same regardless of which political party controls the White House and/or the Senate.

If we have any changes to simplify the questionnaire in the future, we will inform you promptly.

Sincerely,



Orrin G. Hatch  
Chairman

cc: Attorney General Ashcroft



**Orrin G. Hatch**  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
Dirksen 224  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Tel # (202) 224-5225  
Fax # 224-9102



---

**Facsimile Cover Sheet**

---

TO: The Honorable Alberto Gonzales / White House Counsel's Office

FAX NUMBER: 456-6279

PHONE NUMBER: 456-2632

FROM: Senator Orrin Hatch / Senate Judiciary Committee

SUBJECT:

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES SENT (including cover sheet): 2

If you do not receive all pages, please call: 224-0418

COMMENTS:

This and any accompanying pages contain information from the office of United States Senator Orrin G. Hatch which is confidential or privileged. The information is intended to be for the use of the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosures, copying, distribution or use of the contents of this information is prohibited. If you have received this facsimile in error, please notify our offices by telephone immediately so that we can arrange for removal of the original document at no cost to you.

FEB. 25. 2003 7:15PM

DEMOCRATICWHIPN

NO. 098 P. 2/2

HARRY REID  
NEVADAASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC  
LEADER

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7012

February 25, 2003

Mr. Alberto Gonzales  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C.

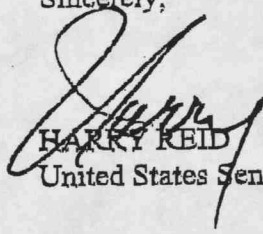
Dear Mr. Gonzales:

Thank you for your recent letter offering to arrange a private meeting between me and Mr. Estrada. As you know, the Senate Judiciary Committee evaluates the record of each judicial nominee recommended by the President and examines each nominee in an open hearing.

Mr. Estrada received a public hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee on September 26, 2002. Unfortunately, Mr. Estrada failed to answer the Committee's questions in a forthright manner. Similarly, the nominee failed to provide memoranda he prepared while an attorney in the Solicitor General's office. As you know, such memoranda have been provided in the past.

The Judiciary Committee's role in the nomination process is critical to assuring the informed, open and orderly consideration of individual nominees. I would be happy to meet with Mr. Estrada privately once he responds publicly to the Judiciary Committee's existing requests for information.

Sincerely,

  
HARRY REID  
United States Senator





**MAGA**  
Mexican American  
Grocers Association

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Chairman**  
**MORRIE NOTRICA**  
Owner 32<sup>nd</sup> Street Markets

**Secretary**  
**JOE LOPEZ**  
Owner Roman's Market

**Chief Financial Officer**  
**MANUEL "Cal" SOTO**  
Soto & Sanchez Investments

**JOE SANCHEZ**  
Soto & Sanchez Investments

**UKA SOLANKI**  
Owner Big Saver Food Markets

**ROQUE OLIVOS**  
Owner El Pilon Market

**STEVEN A. SOTO**  
President & Chief Executive Officer

**STAFF**

**JOE C. HERNANDEZ, JR.**  
Vice President Sales & Marketing

**WHELINE V. SOLIS**  
Asst. to the President & CEO

**MANUEL L. CONS**  
Special Projects Director

**JAMES POWRIE**  
Special Projects Manager

**JEROME WILSON LLOYD**  
Editorial Director  
MAGAZINE

**MARK GERAGOS**  
Geragos & Geragos  
Legal Counsel

**ASHLEY HALLEMAN**  
Hallsman Accounting  
Certified Public Accountant

**RAUL ESCAJEDA**  
Accounting

July 18, 2001

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

RE: Miguel Estrada, Presidential Nominee  
United States Court of Appeals Judge  
For the District of Columbia Circuit

Dear Chairman Leahy,

On behalf of the 8,000 members of the Mexican American Grocers Association, I wish to convey our strong support for the Senate's rapid confirmation of President Bush's nomination of Miguel Estrada to serve as the first Hispanic on the prestigious DC Circuit.

Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who is very familiar with the Federal Judiciary, having clerked for Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy and Second Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Amalya L. Kearse.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras, who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member will make an outstanding addition to the DC Circuit and will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Soto  
President & CEO

SAS:jvs





**Hispanic Contractors  
of America, Inc.**

July 12, 2001

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Paul Rodriguez, Chairman  
Rodriguez Mechanical Contractors, Inc.  
Kansas City, KS

Dan Perez, Vice-Chairman  
Southwest Underground, Inc.  
Kansas City, MO

Joe Lopez, Secretary  
New ERA Builders  
Cleveland, Ohio

Luis C. Agüero, Treasurer  
Technical Associates, Inc.  
Union, N.J.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Phil Covarrubias  
Hispanic Contractors of Colorado  
Denver, Colorado

Frank Fuentes  
Hispanic Contractors Association de Tama  
Austin, TX

Mr. Charles Garcia  
G.M. Construction, Inc.  
Indianapolis, IN

Olga Martinez  
Allright Diversified Services, Inc.  
Fresno, CA

Frank C. Rivera  
ATL, Inc.  
Phoenix, AZ

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Jerry B. Adriano

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

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court  
of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit**

**Dear Chairman Leahy:**

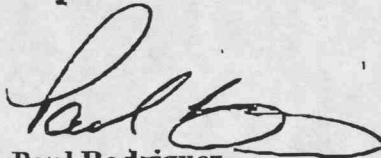
On behalf of the Hispanic Contractors of America, Inc., I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,  
Hispanic Contractors of America, Inc.



Paul Rodriguez  
Chairman

PR/jb

*Seeks to Promote the Advancement of Hispanic Contractors and Building Professionals*

1224 East 9th St. ☐ Kansas City, MO 64106  
(816) 421-3626 ☐ (816) 421-1025 FAX





**HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF GREATER KANSAS CITY**  
**1125 GRAND BLVD. SUITE 1803, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64108**  
**816-472-6767 FAX: 816-472-1252**

July 12, 2001

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

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

On behalf of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

  
Michael L. Barrera  
Chairman  
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

PlastiComm Industries, Inc.  
1500 W. 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Denver, CO 80211  
(303) 433-2333  
(303) 433-7133 Fax

July 16, 2001

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

Re: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
For the District of Columbia Circuit

Dear Chairman Leahy:

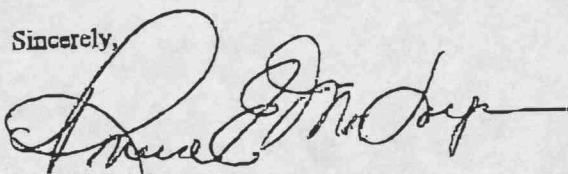
On behalf of the Hispanic Business Community, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Ronald E. Montoya  
President/CEO and  
Chairman Emeritus of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber





July 17, 2001

Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

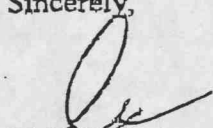
I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Richard S. Amador  
President & CEO

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SMALL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES

July 12, 2001

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

RE: Support of Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the  
District of Columbia Circuit

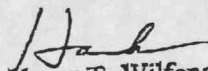
Dear Senator Leahy:

The National Association of Small Disadvantaged Businesses (NASDB), is a trade association of approximately 300 minority-owned firms located throughout the United States. Our primary purpose is to enhance the ability of minority-owned firms to secure their fair share of the Federal procurement dollar. We do this primarily by educating these firms as to the things they're entitled to, by law, and informing them as to how to get what they're entitled to. At the same time, we attempt to make the Government agencies and major primes, who serve them, more aware of their responsibilities under these same laws.

The NASDB would like to add our support to those, much more distinguished than are we, in expressing our support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

While we do not dwell on symbolism, we feel that Mr. Estrada's appointment as the first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit, will be of benefit to us in further illustrating the wide range of talent in the minority communities, just waiting to be effectively and fully used. We urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Henry T. Wilfong Jr., MBA, CPA  
President, NASDB

Current or Former Positions:  
Pasadena, CA City Councilman  
Associate Administrator MSB/COD, SBA  
Member, National Council on Policy Review  
Member, NASA Advisory Council  
Chair, NASA Minority Business Resource Advisory Committee  
Member, Presidential Task Force on International Private Enterprise  
Member, Bush-Cheney Transition Team-SBA Advisory Group

P.O. Box 13603, Silver Spring, MD 20911 - Tel. # 301.588.9312 - email: hwilfongjr@aol.com





550 N. FLOWER STREET  
P.O. BOX 449  
SANTA ANA, CA 92702-0449  
(714) 647-7000

**SHERIFF-CORONER DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF ORANGE  
CALIFORNIA**

**MICHAEL S. CARONA  
SHERIFF-CORONER**

**OFFICE OF SHERIFF-CORONER**

**ASSISTANT SHERIFFS  
JOHN FULLER  
DON HAIDL  
JOHN HEWITT  
GEORGE H. JARAMILLO  
TIM SIMON  
DOUG STORM**

July 12, 2001

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

**Re: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals  
Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit**

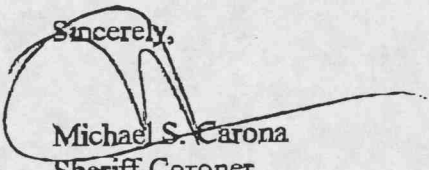
Dear Chairman Leahy,

I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Miguel Estrada as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

Mr. Estrada emigrated from Honduras while in his teens and went on to achieve stellar academic standing at Columbia University and the Harvard School of Law. His legal experience includes service in the private sector and with the Department of Justice, where he has demonstrated his superior talents and abilities.

I am confident that as the first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit, he will continue to distinguish himself and render thoughtful and equitable decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Sincerely,

  
Michael S. Carona  
Sheriff-Coroner

MC:cav

**PROUDLY SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF ORANGE COUNTY AND THE FOLLOWING CITIES AND AGENCIES:**

DANA POINT • LAGUNA HILLS • LAGUNA NIGUEL • LAGUNA WOODS • LAKE FOREST • MISSION VIEJO  
RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA • SAN CLEMENTE • SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO • STANTON • VILLA PARK  
HARBORS, BEACHES & PARKS • JOHN WAYNE AIRPORT • OCTA • SUPERIOR COURT

**DRUG USE  
IS  
LIFE ABUSE**

Frank Fuentes

U.S. HISPANIC CONTRACTORS  
ASSOCIATION

## U.S. HISPANIC CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 17322 • Austin, Texas 78780 • Tel. 512.445.7430 • Fax 512.280.8097 • Email: unitedstateshca@yahoo.com

June 25, 2002

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
433 Senate Russell Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The U.S. Hispanic Contractors Association strongly supports Mr. Miguel Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia. We urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to schedule a hearing that will afford this worthy and highly respected member of our community his due process.

It can be best said that Mr. Estrada is the epitome of the American Dream. From his humble journey from Honduras at the tender age of seventeen to graduating Magna Cum Laude from Harvard Law School, Mr. Estrada is a testament of discipline, intelligence, and hard work. His accomplishments are America's accomplishments.

The time has come in our history to place such a distinguished and highly respected leader as Mr. Miguel Estrada in the position of U.S. Circuit Judge. Mr. Estrada has proven himself and his expertise in the matters of law by successfully serving as Law clerk to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy of the U. S. Supreme Court from 1988-1989, and to the Honorable Amalya L. Kearse of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1986-1987.

Our association believes wholeheartedly, after much research and numerous interviews, that Mr. Miguel Estrada would perform his duties according to the letter of the law. We feel confident that Mr. Estrada would never deviate from the "word of the Law" to serve any personal or political agenda.

It is with great pride and honor that the U.S. Hispanic Contractors Association supports Mr. Miguel Estrada for a position on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Respectfully,

Frank Fuentes,  
HCA, Chairman



June 26, 2002

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
433 Senate Russell Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to convey my support for Miguel A. Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia.

Mr. Estrada, who came to the United States from his native Honduras at age 17, has an impressive background. He is currently a partner with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he is a member of the firm's Appellate Constitutional Law Practice Group and its Business Crimes and Investigations Practice Group and has argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

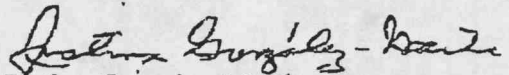
Mr. Estrada has spent most of his professional career in public service. He served as Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States and as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section in the U.S. Attorney Office for the Southern District of New York.

Mr. Estrada served as a law clerk for the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy, Supreme Court of the United States. He attended Harvard Law School, where he was editor of the Harvard Law Review and received a J.D. degree magna cum laude in 1986 and graduated from Columbia College in New York with an A.B. magna cum laude.

If confirmed, Mr. Estrada would be the first Hispanic to sit on the D.C. Circuit Court. The confirmation of this historic appointment will help open doors for more Hispanic judges.

I strongly urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to schedule a hearing and support the nomination of this outstanding Hispanic to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,

  
Cristina Gonzalez-Marti

(b)(6)



# Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Cincinnati

creating opportunities . . . and partnerships

July 1, 2002

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
433 Senate Russell Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to convey my support for Miguel A. Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia.

Mr. Estrada, who came to the United States from his native Honduras at age 17, has an impressive background. He is currently a partner with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he is a member of the firm's Appellate Constitutional Law Practice Group and its Business Crimes and Investigations Practice Group and has argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Estrada has spent most of his professional career in public service. He served as Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States and as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section in the U.S. Attorney Office for the Southern District of New York.

Mr. Estrada served as a law clerk for the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy, Supreme Court of the United States. He attended Harvard Law School, where he was editor of the Harvard Law Review and received a J.D. degree magna cum laude in 1986 and graduated from Columbia College in New York with an A.B. magna cum laude.

If confirmed, Mr. Estrada would be the first Hispanic to sit on the D.C. Circuit Court. The confirmation of this historic appointment will help open doors for more Hispanic judges. I strongly urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to schedule a hearing and support the nomination of this outstanding Hispanic to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Very Truly Yours,

Edgar E. Loyd  
Board of Directors, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Cincinnati



09/09/02 MON 11:53 FAX 2022285797

JUDICIARY

P.O. BOX 75816,  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-5816

# YHRA

Young Hispanic Republican Association

Mauricio Vivero, Esq.  
President

Alan Henao  
President Elect

Vice-Presidents:

Concha E. Medina  
Policy

Community Outreach

María Pia Tamburri  
Membership

John Nandé  
Leadership Development

Marío H. Lopez  
Communications

Miguel Arguello  
Event Planning

Members:

Benaro J. Pedroarias  
Treasurer

Juan Daniel Morales  
Assistant Treasurer

Dan Ramos  
Associate General Council

Meave  
Assistant Secretary

Benjamin Escarcega  
Secretary

July 19, 2002

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
433 Senate Russell Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

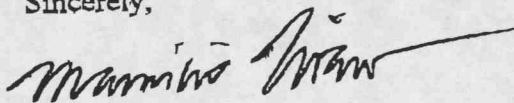
Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the Young Hispanic Republican Association, I write today to express our support for the confirmation of Miguel A. Estrada for the United States Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit. As Hispanic Americans, we believe Mr. Estrada has the experience and knowledge necessary to serve his country with great distinction.

In addition to arguing 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, Mr. Estrada has a distinguished record of public service. He has served as Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States, Assistant U.S. Attorney, and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section in the U.S. Attorney Office for the Southern District of New York. Mr. Estrada's public service experience and his highly regarded work in the private sector make him an excellent choice for the federal bench.

We thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,



Mauricio Vivero  
President

The National Voice of the Young Hispanic Republican Community.



**Republican National Hispanic Assembly  
Texas Chapter**

15102 Spring Bluff San Antonio Texas 78247  
210/ 653-2442 Fax 210/ 653-3556 E-mail: rvcasanova@aol.com

**RNHA Texas**

**Fernando Cantu**  
*Chairman*  
Webb County

**Angel Albitoa**  
*1st Vice-Chairman*  
Williamson County

**Dan Rivas**  
*2nd Vice-Chairman*  
Harris County

**Mary Marisa Rummell**  
*3rd Vice-Chairman*  
Montgomery County

**Anacelia Perez-Davis**  
*Secretary*  
Bexar County

**Jose Hernandez**  
*Treasurer*  
Harris County

**Joe Pena**  
*National Committeeman*  
El Paso County

**Ry Kelly Moore**  
*National Committeewoman*  
El Paso County

**Roy V. Casanova, Jr.**  
*Legislative Director*  
Bexar County

June 29, 2002

**The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy**  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
433 Senate Russell Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to convey my support for Miguel A. Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia.

Mr. Estrada, who came to the United States from his native Honduras at age 17, has an impressive background. He is currently a partner with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he is a member of the firm's Appellate Constitutional Law Practice Group and its Business Crimes and Investigations Practice Group and has argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Estrada has spent most of his professional career in public service. He served as Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States and as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section in the U.S. Attorney Office for the Southern District of New York.

Mr. Estrada served as a law clerk for the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy, Supreme Court of the United States. He attended Harvard Law School, where he was editor of the Harvard Law Review and received a J.D. degree magna cum laude in 1986 and graduated from Columbia College in New York with an A.B. magna cum laude.

If confirmed, Mr. Estrada would be the first Hispanic to sit on the D.C. Circuit Court. The confirmation of this historic appointment will help open doors for more Hispanic judges.

I strongly urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to schedule a hearing and support the nomination of this outstanding Hispanic to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,

*Roy V. Casanova, Jr.*





## Phoenix Construction Services

CA State License # 688023



July 19, 2001

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

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

On behalf of Phoenix Construction, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada's is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his conformation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Rosario Girard  
President/CEO

2305 Chicago Avenue, Riverside, CA 92507  
909-781-4949 Fax 909-781-4449  
[www.phoenix-const.com](http://www.phoenix-const.com)



**OFFICERS**

**Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow**  
Chair

**Hector V. Barreto**  
Vice Chairman

**George Herrera**  
President & CEO

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS****Region I**

**Lilliam Lujan-Hickey\***  
Las Vegas, NV  
**Hector V. Barreto**  
Los Angeles, CA  
**Sheila Guarderas**  
Fresno, CA  
**Joe Peraz**  
Honolulu, HI

**Region II**

**Scott Flores\***  
Denver, CO  
**Ray Arvizu**  
Phoenix, AZ  
**Carmen Bermudez**  
Tucson, AZ  
**Tina Cordova**  
Albuquerque, NM

**Region III**

**Daniel Perez\***  
Kansas City, MO  
**Marco A. Arredondo, P.E.**  
Portland, TX  
**J.R. Gonzales**  
Austin, TX  
**Marla Guadalupe Taxman**  
St. Louis, MO

**Region IV**

**Nestor Fernandez\***  
Miamisburg, OH  
**Juventino Cano**  
Aurora, IL  
**George Franco**  
Milwaukee, WI  
**Leticia Herrera**  
Chicago, IL

**Region V**

**Henry M. Calderon\***  
New York, NY  
**Edgar Cintron**  
Holyoke, MA  
**Esperanza Porras Field**  
Morristown, NJ  
**Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow**  
Washington, DC

**Region VI**

**Alex Chavez\***  
Sarasota, FL  
**Ignacio Gonzalez**  
Santa, GA  
**Tamayo**  
Orlando, FL  
**Emilio Torres**  
San Juan, PR

\*Denotes Regional Chair

July 17, 2001

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, United States Senator  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Senator Hatch:

On behalf of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

As the former Chair of the DC Chamber of Commerce, and the first Latina in that position, this appointment would have a positive impact on the emerging Hispanic population. It would signify that the Congress is confident that there are qualified Hispanics willing to assume leadership roles and responsibilities in order to contribute to the well-being of the District. I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow  
Chair



PlastiComm Industries, Inc.  
1500 W. 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Denver, CO 80211  
(303) 433-2333  
(303) 433-7133 Fax

July 16, 2001

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, United States Senator  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC-20510

Re: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
For the District of Columbia Circuit

Dear Senator Hatch:

On behalf of the Hispanic Business Community, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Ronald E. Montoya  
President/CEO and  
Chairman Emeritus of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber

# LIBR

## HISPANIC BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

### Executive Committee:

#### President

Mario Rodriguez  
CEO, Jonathan Grey & Assoc.  
San Clemente, CA

#### Vice President

Jaime Ramon, Esq.  
Partner, Locke Liddell & Sapp  
Dallas, TX

#### Treasurer

Patricia de L. Marvil  
CEO, Securiguard, Inc.  
McLean, VA

#### Secretary

Miguel Uria  
CEO, ORO Financial  
New Orleans, LA

#### Members At-Large

David Archuleta, Esq.  
Attorney at Law Offices  
Albuquerque, NM

R. Cardona, C.P.A.  
Managing Partner, Bleich Glass & Cardona  
New Brunswick, NJ

#### Remedios Diaz Oliver

CEO, All American Containers, Inc.  
Miami, FL

#### Cari Dominguez

CEO, Dominguez & Associates, Inc.  
Rockville, MD

#### Grace Flores-Hughes

Partner, USTAR  
Washington, DC

#### Eva I. Guardarramas, Esq.

Guardarramas Law Offices  
New York, NY

#### Executive Director

Roberto Garcia de Posada

#### Washington:

511 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E.  
A.B. 196  
Washington, DC 20003  
202-546-1284

#### California:

120 Calle Negocio, Suite B  
San Clemente, CA 92673  
949-2830

website: [www.libr.org](http://www.libr.org)

July 17, 2001

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, United States Senator  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

### RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit

Dear Senator Hatch:

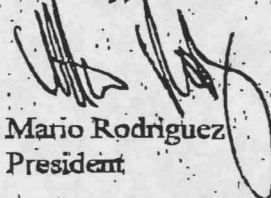
On behalf of The Hispanic Business Roundtable, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

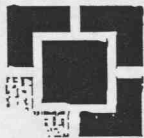
Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Mario Rodriguez  
President





**Hispanic Contractors  
of America, Inc.**

July 12, 2001

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Paul Rodriguez, Chairman  
Rodriguez Mechanical Contractors, Inc.  
Kansas City, KS

Dan Perez, Vice-Chairman  
Southwest Underground, Inc.  
Kansas City, MO

Joe Lopez, Secretary  
New ERA Builders  
Cleveland, Ohio

Luis C. Agüero, Treasurer  
Technical Associates, Inc.  
Union, NJ

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Phil Covarrubias  
Hispanic Contractors of Colorado  
Denver, Colorado

Frank Fuentes  
Hispanic Contractors Association de Texas  
Houston, TX

Mr. Charles Garcia  
G.M. Construction, Inc.  
Indianapolis, IN

Olga Martinez  
Allright Diversified Services, Inc.  
Fresno, CA

Frank C. Rivera  
ATI, Inc.  
Phoenix, AZ

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Jerry B. Adriano

**The Honorable Orrin Hatch, United States Senator  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510**

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court  
of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit**

**Dear Senator Hatch:**

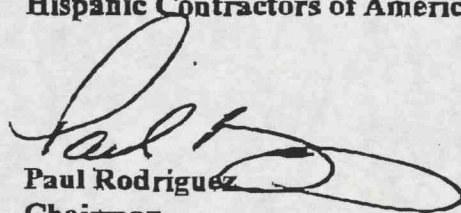
**On behalf of the Hispanic Contractors of America, Inc., I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.**

**From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.**

**I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.**

**Thank you for your attention.**

**Sincerely,  
Hispanic Contractors of America, Inc.**



**Paul Rodriguez  
Chairman**

PR/jb

*Seeks to Promote the Advancement of Hispanic Contractors and Building Professionals*

1224 East 91st St. ■ Kansas City, MO 64106  
(816) 421-3626 ■ (816) 421-1025 FAX



July 13, 2001

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

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

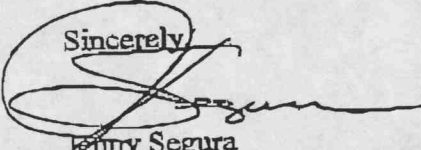
On behalf of the Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

  
Jenny Segura  
Executive Director

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces, through its diverse membership,  
seeks to promote and enhance economic growth, community service, and cultural awareness.

(505) 523-2681 • (505) 523-4639 Fax • 301 W. Amador • P.O. Box 1964 • Las Cruces, New Mexico 88004





**HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF GREATER KANSAS CITY**  
**1125 GRAND BLVD. SUITE 1803, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64108**  
**816-472-6767 FAX: 816-472-1252**

July 12, 2001

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, United States Senator  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Senator Hatch:

On behalf of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Barrera  
Chairman  
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce



# Republican National Hispanic Assembly

June 25, 2001

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Miguel A. Estrada, Esq.**

Dear Senator Leahy:

On behalf of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly, it is with great pleasure that we endorse Mr. Miguel A. Estrada's nomination as Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals. Please know that Mr. Estrada comes highly recommended.

The Republican National Hispanic Assembly (RNHA) is one of the nation's largest Hispanic membership organizations and represents the interests of over 7 million Hispanics nationwide. RNHA also plays a leading role in educating and developing leaders in Hispanic Communities across the country.

Our endorsement of Mr. Estrada comes from his hard work as a leading member of the Hispanic Community. Mr. Estrada is hailed as a role model among Hispanic youth across the country. Although he came to the United States at the age of 15 knowing little English, Mr. Estrada was able to overcome his disadvantaged background and succeed. Mr. Estrada's story is truly an American Dream; a dream that many Hispanic young people have not taken part in. As a Judge in the DC Circuit Court, Mr. Estrada will be in a position to positively impact the Hispanic Community, an impact that is greatly needed as the high school attrition rate among Hispanic youth steadily increases.

Moreover, Mr. Estrada's credentials are impeccable; a Harvard Law degree, a clerkship in the Federal Appellate Court, two years in the US Attorney's Office, and a clerkship in the US Supreme Court. Mr. Estrada will be an asset to the Circuit Court.

On behalf of the over 7 million Hispanics represented by RNHA, we strongly urge you to confirm Mr. Miguel A. Estrada's nomination expeditiously.

Sincerely,

Massey Villarreal  
National Chairman



11-28-2001 05:14pm From: THE JOINT CENTER

202 789 6390

T-533 P.002/003 F-806



November 28, 2001

Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

On May 9, 2001, President Bush announced his first 11 nominations to the United States Courts of Appeals at a ceremony in the White House's East Room. One of those nominees was Miguel Estrada, a judicial nominee for the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ("D.C. Circuit").

Because the D.C. Circuit Court handles so many critical constitutional and administrative issues involving the federal government, it is often referred to as the second most history important federal court in the Nation, after the Supreme Court. Indeed, as a sign of the court's importance, three former judges from the D.C. Circuit are now on the Supreme Court: Justices Scalia, Thomas, and Ginsburg.

No Hispanic has ever served as a judge on the D.C. Circuit Court. Accepting the common description of the D.C. Circuit Court as the Nation's second most important federal court, Miguel Estrada will, if confirmed, unofficially become the highest ranking Hispanic federal judge in American history. Estrada's nomination is therefore an historic event and represents one more important step in the breaking down of barriers that in the past made it difficult if not impossible for Hispanic lawyers to become judges.

Despite the historic significance of Estrada's nomination, over five months have now passed since the nomination, and the Senate Judiciary Committee has inexplicably failed to afford Estrada a hearing. (As of October 15, 2001, only 3 of the President's first 11 judicial nominees have received a hearing.)

Estrada's qualifications are impeccable. He received a unanimous "well qualified" rating from the American Bar Association, which is the ABA's highest possible rating. Estrada's background and experience demonstrate why he received that "well qualified" rating — and why he will be a superb judge and a credit to the Hispanic community.

Estrada was born in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in 1961 and came to the United States as a teenager speaking virtually no English. In 1979, Estrada enrolled at Columbia College where he later graduated *magna cum laude*. Estrada then entered Harvard Law School where he served as an officer on the editorial board of the *Harvard Law Review* and in 1986 graduated *magna cum laude*.



A Program under the auspices of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies  
1090 Vermont Ave., NW • Suite 1100 • Washington, DC 20005-4928  
Tel. 202-789-3500 • Fax 202-789-6390 • [www.jointcenter.org](http://www.jointcenter.org)  
A Nonprofit, Tax-exempt Institution

NOV 28 '01 17:25

2027896390

PAGE.02



11-28-2001 05:14pm From:THE JOINT CENTER

202 789 5380

T-593 P.003/003 F-808

After graduation from Harvard, Estrada earned a position as a law clerk for Judge Amalya L. Kearse, an influential and well-known judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in New York. Then in 1988, Estrada was selected to serve as a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy. A Supreme Court clerkship is one of the most prestigious positions a young lawyer can obtain. Estrada is one of only a handful of Hispanics ever to serve as a Supreme Court law clerk.

After clerking for Justice Kennedy, Estrada joined the U.S. Attorney's Office in Manhattan as an Assistant United States Attorney. He soon became Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section of the U.S. Attorney's Office. While at the U.S. Attorney's Office, Estrada tried approximately 10 cases in federal district court and argued 7 appeals on behalf of the United States before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

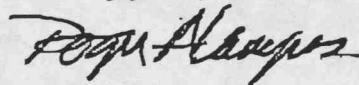
In 1992, Estrada returned to Washington where he served as Assistant to the Solicitor General at the U.S. Justice Department. The Office of Solicitor General represents the United States before the Supreme Court. Estrada served in that office from 1992 to 1997, in both the Bush and the Clinton Administrations. Estrada has now argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, which is believed to be the most ever by an Hispanic lawyer. Justices of all ideologies on the Supreme Court have praised Estrada for his extraordinary intellect and the exquisite quality of his briefs and oral arguments.

In 1997, Estrada left the federal government and joined the Washington, D.C. law firm of Gibson Dunn & Crutcher. He currently is a partner at that firm. In private practice, Estrada has represented a variety of the firm's institutional clients in complex civil and criminal litigation, at the pre-trial, trial, and appellate stages. Estrada also has performed significant pro bono work. For example, Estrada represented pro bono an indigent death row defendant in a difficult capital murder case before the Supreme Court.

As noted above, Estrada received a unanimous "well-qualified" rating from the American Bar Association. That is a particularly extraordinary rating given Estrada's age (now 40), but it accurately reflects his legal accomplishments and skill.

I support the nomination of Miguel Estrada and respectfully request the Senate Judiciary Committee to hold a hearing on his qualifications. I am sure that the Committee will agree that as judge, Miguel Estrada will be a credit to the federal judiciary, the President, the Hispanic community, and all Americans.

Sincerely yours,



Roger A. Campos, Esq.  
Executive Director

c.c. Senator Orrin G. Hatch, Ranking Member

NOV 28 '01 17:25

2027896390

PAGE.03



May 18, 2001

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
SD-224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6275

Dear Chairman Hatch:

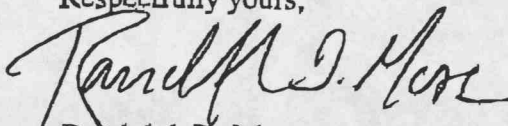
I write to express my strong support for the nomination of Miguel Estrada to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. I have known Miguel for many years, dating back to the 1980s, when we served together as law clerks at the U.S. Supreme Court. We also worked together in the Justice Department during the Clinton Administration, where Miguel served as an assistant to the Solicitor General and I served as a Deputy Assistant Attorney General (and, after Miguel left the Department, as the Assistant Attorney General) in the Office of Legal Counsel. Although I am a Democrat and Miguel and I do not see eye-to-eye on every issue, I hold Miguel in the highest regard, and I urge the Committee to give favorable consideration to his nomination.

Miguel is widely, and deservedly, regarded as an extraordinary legal talent. He has a near-encyclopedic knowledge of the law, a powerful intellect, and an ability to bring coherence to even the most complicated legal doctrine. In the tradition of our greatest judges, Miguel wrestles with legal questions and is never satisfied until he has examined a question from every possible angle and made sense, wherever possible, of competing strands of the law. Even more importantly, he brings to this task an abiding respect for the law. As a matter of fundamental integrity, Miguel will follow a legal argument where it takes him and will not succumb to leaps of faith or lapses of logic to reach a desired result. Based on this same sense of integrity, moreover, I believe that Miguel will decide cases independently. I have never known Miguel to bend to pressure from others. He says and does what he believes is right, and in doing so is always honest and forthright.

The Hon. Orrin G. Hatch  
May 18, 2001  
Page 2 of 2

In short, Miguel is a brilliant, dedicated, and principled lawyer. I firmly believe that Miguel will quickly earn a reputation as one of the finest appellate judges in the Nation. I strongly support his nomination.

Respectfully yours,



Handwritten signature of Randolph D. Moss in cursive script.

Randolph D. Moss

cc: The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Ranking Member



ROBERT S. LITT  
555 TWELFTH STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20004-1206

August 28, 2002

Hon. Patrick Leahy  
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Orrin Hatch  
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Miguel Estrada

Dear Chairman Leahy and Senator Hatch:

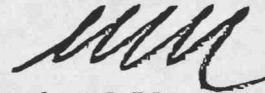
I understand that questions have been raised concerning Miguel Estrada's nomination to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and in particular whether the legal views he expressed while serving in the Solicitor General's office were politically motivated.

I had the opportunity to work with Mr. Estrada on a number of matters during my service as Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division and Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General in the last Administration. I came away from these encounters with the highest respect for Mr. Estrada's legal abilities. He is an outstanding, indeed brilliant scholar and writer, and one of the best oral advocates I have ever observed. As sometimes happens among attorneys charged with formulating the government's position with respect to important and novel legal issues, I disagreed with Mr. Estrada on a number of the issues that we faced, but I have no doubt that his positions were sincerely held and honestly advocated. Perhaps more importantly in light of the charges that I understand have been made, I never felt that the arguments he made were in any way outside the scope of legitimate legal analysis.

Hon. Patrick Leahy  
Hon. Orrin Hatch  
August 28, 2002  
Page 2

While I may disagree with some aspects of Mr. Estrada's legal philosophy, I believe that he is eminently qualified to serve on the Court of Appeals, and I hope that he will be confirmed.

Very truly yours,



Robert S. Litt





June 4, 2001

SCHOOL OF LAW

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
433 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nominations of John G. Roberts and Miguel A. Estrada

Dear Senator Leahy:

I support the nominations of John Roberts and Miguel Estrada to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. I am a lifelong Democrat and have liberal views on most issues. Nonetheless, from working with these gentlemen in the Department of Justice, I am convinced that they would be superb and objective federal judges.

From 1990-1996, I was an Assistant to Solicitors General Kenneth Starr, Drew Days, and (briefly) Acting Solicitor General Walter Dellinger. As a result, I worked in the Solicitor General's Office during most of Messrs. Roberts' and Estrada's tenure there. Indeed, I worked directly under John Roberts on many cases in the office, and I came to know Mr. Estrada well, too. I believe that I am in an excellent position to assess their talents and temperament.

I am sure that you will get plenty of evidence of these men's legal talent, and so I will focus on their temperament. I do so, by the way, as someone who strongly supports women's constitutional right to choose to have an abortion; favors stringent separation of church and state; and recognizes the existence of, and need for, abundant federal power to enforce civil rights. Mr. Roberts and Mr. Estrada will judge each case on its merits. They will approach each case without preconceptions. They will respect the doctrine of stare decisis. They will appreciate the need for the law to be interpreted and applied with compassion and an understanding of the U.S. Constitution as a living document. They will strive with their fellow judges to maintain the integrity of the federal bench. In a word, they will be impeccably judicious.

If I sat down with these men in a room, I suspect that we could find many *political* issues about which they and I disagreed. Still, I will consider it a disgrace if these nominees fail to be confirmed.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Seamon, Assistant Professor of Law

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA BICENTENNIAL 1801-2001

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA • COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29208 • 803/777-4155

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION / EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION

Anthony P. DeLio  
121 Whitney Avenue  
New Haven, CT 06510  
(203) 787-0595

July 10, 2001

Senator Patrick Leahy  
433 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Appointment of Miguel Estrada

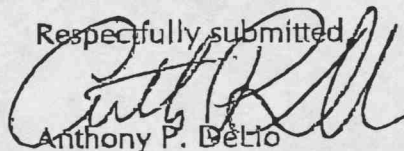
Dear Senator Leahy:

I think that it is time that you acted in good faith with the appointments that are being sent to the Senate for confirmation by the President. This is especially true involving Mr. Estrada's nomination. I am a Democrat but I feel that the Democrats in Congress are much too political and do not engage in fair play. You should have the gumption to vote, openly and honestly, against Mr. Estrada's appointment. While that might anger some of the people in the Hispanic community, you owe it to the Nation to bring nominations before the committee and to the floor of the Senate promptly.

A book was written called "1984" and in it, we were warned about Big Brother which was supposed to be the Executive Branch of the Government. It seems, to this citizen, that the Big Brother is the Congress of the United States aided and abetted by a activist Supreme Court. Lawyers and judges are killing the incentives for individuals to succeed in this country.

Unless Congressmen and Senators are ready to look to good government and not merely to re-election, we are going to end up with a government much worse than we have ever had. We need a return to the no-nonsense approach to government that was fostered by President Truman.

Respectfully submitted



Anthony P. DeLio

cc: Senators Lieberman and Dodd  
Leahytrjuly9.doc (1)



OTTO G. OBERMAIER  
767 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10153

July 11, 2001

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
433 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Miguel Estrada

Dear Senator Leahy:

I write in support of the President's nomination of Miguel Estrada to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, currently pending before the Judiciary Committee.

I know Mr. Estrada. While I was the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, I recommended his appointment to the Attorney General as an Assistant United States Attorney. My judgment was that he was intellectually given, his background gave him the judgment to perform the duties of an Assistant and he had an interest in public service. Attorney General Thornburgh accepted my recommendation and Mr. Estrada served as an Assistant United States Attorney until I received a request from then Solicitor General Starr asking for my permission to allow Mr. Estrada to join the Solicitor General's Office. I consented.

The United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York is, in my view, the most prestigious prosecutor's office in the country. I and all of my modern predecessors ran the office on a non-partisan basis. At the time I recommended Mr. Estrada as an Assistant, I did not know (and frankly did not care) what Mr. Estrada's political affiliations were. His service as an Assistant United States Attorney confirmed my original judgment and was not in any way impacted by his personal political beliefs (whatever they might be). I understand the same was true in his service as an Assistant to the Solicitor General.

The Southern District of New York has a tradition of public service which I believe Mr. Estrada shares. Mr. Estrada served under two Chiefs of the Criminal Division whom I appointed. Both are now judges of

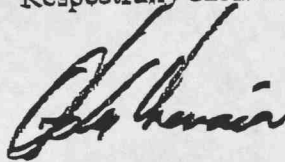
The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
July 11, 2001  
Page 2

the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. Both were appointed to that Court by President Clinton. I was an appointee of President George H. W. Bush.

It is in this tradition of the non-partisanship of the Southern District of New York that I without reservation urge you and your colleagues on the Judiciary Committee to speedily confirm Miguel Estrada as a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

I hold myself available to provide the Committee's staff with any additional information I am able to provide.

Respectfully submitted,



Otto G. Obermaier

OGO/ek

cc: Senator Orrin G. Hatch  
Senator Charles E. Schumer



**McKenna & Cuneo, LLP.**

Attorneys at Law

Washington, D.C.

Los Angeles

San Francisco

Suite 3300, Symphony Towers ■ 750 B Street ■ San Diego, CA 92101-8105  
619-595-5400 ■ Fax: 619-595-5450  
[www.mckennacuneo.com](http://www.mckennacuneo.com)

Denver

Dallas

Brussels

July 6, 2001

Charles G. La Bella

619-595-8080

[charles\\_labella@mckennacuneo.com](mailto:charles_labella@mckennacuneo.com)

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahey  
United States Senator  
Chairman Senate Judiciary Committee  
SR-433 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4502

Dear Senator Leahey:

I understand that my former colleague, Miguel Estrada, is being considered for a position on the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. I worked with Miguel as a prosecutor in the Southern District of New York for several years. In my judgment he would be a fine addition to the bench.

I cannot comment on Miguel's political views because frankly his views never played any part in the discharge of his duties as a prosecutor. However, I can tell you that in all of my dealings with Miguel, he demonstrated the integrity, professionalism and moral compass the public has a right to expect from its public servants. As a trial lawyer Miguel exercised judgment and balance in his prosecutions. As a member of the office's appellate section, he willingly shared his judgment and skills with the other lawyers in the office. His legal skills and command of the law were of the highest caliber.

I understand that there have been some negative comments concerning Miguel's nomination. I can tell you that as a former prosecutor and now as a defense attorney, Miguel has the qualities that you expect in a Federal Judge. I trust that after your committee finishes its review, it will conclude that Miguel will be a superb addition to the appellate bench.

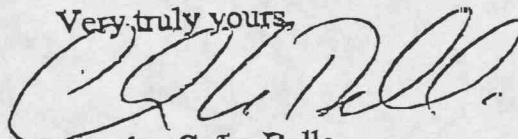
**McKenna & Cuneo, L.L.P.**

Attorneys at Law

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
July 6, 2001  
Page 2

If you have any questions or I can be of any further assistance, please do not  
hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Charles G. La Bella

CGL/rtr

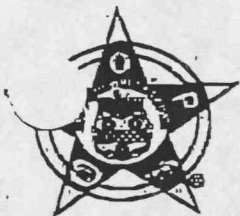
22077109.1



NOV 29 2001 18:48 FR

TO 2243479

P.02/02

STEVE YOUNG  
PRESIDENT**GRAND LODGE  
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®**309 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.  
Washington, DC 20002  
Phone 202-547-8188 • Fax 202-547-8190JAMES O. PASCO, JR.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

29 November 2001

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

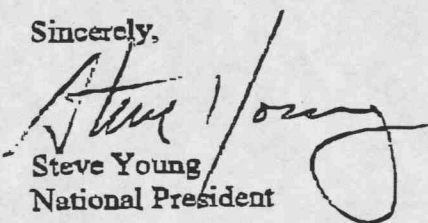
I am writing on behalf of the membership of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our support for the nomination of Miguel A. Estrada to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

A necessary qualification for any candidate for a position within the Federal Judiciary should be a proven record of success as a practicing attorney. I believe that it is also necessary for a candidate to be familiar with the inner-workings of the Court, and to have the respect of the law enforcement community of which they are an important part. Mr. Estrada meets both of these important criteria, as evidenced by his unanimous "well qualified" rating from the American Bar Association, the ABA's highest rating.

Born in Honduras, and coming to the United States as a teenager, Mr. Estrada graduated *magna cum laude* from both Columbia College and Harvard Law School. In 1988, he was selected to serve in the prestigious position of law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy. After his clerkship, Mr. Estrada joined the U.S. Attorney's Office in New York, and soon rose to the rank of Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section. From 1992 to 1997, he served as Assistant to the Solicitor General at the Department of Justice, and has now argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court—believed to be the most ever by an Hispanic-American lawyer.

Mr. Estrada has demonstrated that he will be an outstanding addition to the Federal bench, and on behalf of the more than 299,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I again offer our strong support for his nomination. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Executive Director Jim Pasco, if we may be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Steve Young  
National President



# JUDICIAL SELECTION MONITORING PROJECT

*A project of the Free Congress Foundation's Center for Legal Policy*

SECOND STREET, N.E. • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002 • PHONE 202-546-3000 • FAX 202-543-5605 • [www.judicialselection.org](http://www.judicialselection.org)



## PROJECT SUPPORTERS: (Partial Listing)

60 Plus Association  
Alabama Family Alliance  
American Assoc. of Christian Schools  
American Center for Law and Justice  
American Conservative Union  
American Constitutional Law Foundation  
American Family Association  
Americans for Tax Reform  
Arizona Family Research Institute  
Arkansas Family Council  
Assoc. of Christian Schools Int'l.  
Catholic Alliance  
Center for Individual Rights  
Center for New Black Leadership  
Christian Action Network  
Christian Coalition  
Christians Against Violent Crime  
for Law and Order  
United  
in for America  
Concerned Citizens of Florida  
Concerned Women for America  
Coral Ridge Ministries  
Defenders of Property Rights  
Delaware Family Foundation  
Eagle Forum  
The Family Foundation (VA)  
Family Research Council  
Family Taxpayer's Network (IL)  
Focus on the Family  
Freedom Alliance  
Gun Owners of America  
Home School Legal Defense Assoc.  
Independent Women's Forum  
Individual Rights Foundation  
Judicial Watch  
Kansas Conservative Union  
Landmark Legal Foundation  
Law Enforcement Alliance of America  
Lincoln Legal Foundation  
Memory of Victims Everywhere  
Michigan Family Forum  
Minnesota Family Council  
National Association of Evangelicals  
National Coalition for Restoration  
of the Black Family  
National Family Legal Foundation  
National Law Center for Children  
and Families  
National Legal Foundation  
National Legal and Policy Center  
National Parents' Commission  
National Rifle Association/ILA  
National Tax Limitation Committee  
New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms  
Home Family Policy Council  
United Victims of Violent Crime  
sylvania Landowners Association  
Pro-Life Action League  
Southeastern Legal Foundation  
Students for America  
Texas Public Policy Foundation  
Traditional Values Coalition  
United Seniors Association  
U.S. Business and Industrial Council

May 8, 2002

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

We represent more than a million Americans deeply concerned about the vacancy crisis in the federal judiciary. As the first anniversary of President Bush's initial nominations to the federal judiciary approaches, we urge you to end the delays, and allow a hearing and a vote for the eight nominees who have been waiting nearly a year for you to act.

Miguel Estrada, John Roberts, Terry Boyle, Priscilla Owen, Jeffrey Sutton, Deborah Cook, Michael McConnell, and Dennis Shedd were each nominated on May 9, 2001. Your months of delay since then have been disappointing given your public commitment to treat judicial nominees fairly.

On the day President Bush announced their nominations, you praised his choices saying: "Had I not been encouraged, I would not have been here today. I will continue to work with the President." Yet now, one year later, you have allowed the Senate to act on only three from that original group, leaving these eight men and women waiting. We urge you to work with the President as you said you would and allow these nominees a hearing and a vote.

Several times during 2000, you supported then-Gov. Bush's call for the Senate to act quickly on nominations. In October, you said: "I have said on the floor, although we are different parties, I have agreed with Gov. George Bush, who has said that in the Senate a nominee ought to get a vote, up or down, within 60 days." These eight long-standing nominees have been waiting 364 days for you to give them a hearing and an up or down vote.



When there were 50 vacancies on the federal bench, you spoke of "a judicial vacancy crisis" that was "plaguing so many federal courts." There are nearly 90 empty judgeships today, and while the vacancy rate has remained at 100 or higher during seven of your 11 months in charge of the Judiciary Committee, you have not acted to fill these eight vacancies, half of which have been designated judicial emergencies.

In a letter to President Bush on March 16 of last year, you and Senator Charles Schumer referred to the American Bar Association's evaluation of nominees as "the gold standard by which judicial candidates are judged." Under that standard, all of these nominees have been deemed either qualified or well-qualified for judgeships on the U.S. Court of Appeals, yet your committee has not held a single hearing to review their qualifications, temperament, commitment to upholding the law.

In fact, these are well-respected attorneys and sitting judges with stellar credentials who will make excellent additions to the federal judiciary. They deserve a hearing before your committee, and they deserve an up or down vote before the Senate.

Senator Leahy, you have spoken of a need to end the vacancy crisis. You have said that nominees should receive a vote within 60 days. You have recognized the ABA rating as "the gold standard." Any you announced that you were "encouraged" by these nominations while committing yourself to work with the President.

In all these things, Senator, you have set forth a standard for fairness - but after nearly a year of delays, it is not fair to keep these eight nominees waiting any longer. We therefore urge you to apply your own fairness standard to the May 9 nominees, lift the blockade, and allow these men and women the opportunity to be confirmed.

Sincerely,

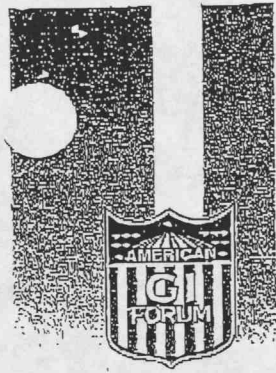
Adirondack Solidarity Alliance  
Alabama Policy Institute  
American Association of Christian Schools  
American Center for Law & Justice  
American Conservative Union  
American Council on Economic Security  
American Council for Immigration Reform  
American Decency Association  
American Family Association of Arkansas  
American Family Association of New York  
American Family Defense Coalition

American Freedom Crusade  
American Policy Center  
American Pro-Constitutional Association  
American Renewal  
American Reformation Project  
American Values  
Association of New Jersey Rifle and Pistol Clubs  
California Public Policy Foundation  
Campaign for Working Families  
Capitol Hill Prayer Alert  
Catholic Citizens of Illinois  
CatholicVote.org  
Center for Reclaiming America  
Christian Coalition of America  
Christian Coalition of California  
Christian Coalition of Georgia  
Christian Coalition of Maine  
Citizens for Excellence in Education  
Coalitions for America  
Coalition on Urban Renewal & Education  
Concerned Women for America  
Concerned Women for America of Virginia  
Connecticut Association of Christian Schools  
Conservative Victory Committee  
Coral Ridge Ministries  
Council for America  
Eagle Forum  
Eagle Forum of Alabama  
Eagle Forum of Arkansas  
Eagle Forum of Indiana  
Eagle Forum of Massachusetts  
Eagle Forum of Rhode Island  
Evergreen Freedom Foundation  
Family Policy Network  
Family Research Council  
Florida Eagle Forum  
Free Congress Foundation  
Freedom Alliance  
Frontiers of Freedom  
Georgia Sport Shooting Association  
Government is Not God - PAC  
Gun Owners' Action League  
Gun Owners of America  
Human Life Alliance  
Illinois Citizens for Life  
Illinois Right to Life Committee  
Iowa Right to Life  
Independent Women's Forum



Judicial Watch  
Kansas Taxpayers Network  
Life Issues Institute  
Ludwig von Mises Institute  
Maine Right to Life Committee  
Maryland Taxpayers Association  
Massachusetts Family Institute  
Mississippi Policy Institute  
National Abstinence Clearinghouse  
National Federation of American Hungarians  
National Legal Foundation  
National Taxpayers Limitation Committee  
New Jersey Christian Coalition  
New Jersey Policy Council  
New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms  
New York Eagle Forum  
Oklahomans for Children and Families  
Oklahoma Family Policy Council  
Ohio Conservative Alliance  
Old Dominion Association of Christian Schools  
Organized Victims of Violent Crime  
Parents for Control  
People Advancing Christian Education  
Project 21  
Republicans United for Tax Relief  
Republican Women of Whatcom County  
Restore America  
60 Plus Association  
Smith Center - California State University  
Teen-Aid  
Tennessee Christian Coalition  
Tennessee Eagle Forum  
Texas Justice Foundation  
The Center for Arizona Policy  
The Christian Alert Network  
The Family Foundation of Kentucky  
The National Center for Home Education  
The National Center for Public Policy Research  
The Southeastern Legal Foundation  
Tradition, Family, Property  
Traditional Values Coalition  
United Seniors Association  
U.S. Business and Industry Council  
Utah Eagle Forum  
Watchdogs Against Government Abuse





# AMERICAN GI FORUM OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER

A CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED VETERANS FAMILY ORGANIZATION

109 NORTH 122 ND STREET ♦ SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98133 ♦ (206) 364-5948 ♦ Fax (206) 361-1341 ♦ E-Mail agifnc@aol.com

June 3, 2002

Francisco F. Ivatta ♦ National Commander

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
224 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

## Membership

Hispanic Association  
on Corporate Responsibility  
(HACR)

Hispanic Education  
Foundation  
(HEF)

League of United  
Latin American Citizens  
(LULAC)

Mexican and American  
Solidarity Foundation  
(MASF)

National Council  
Of La Raza  
(NCLR)

National Hispanic  
Leadership Agenda  
(NHLE)

National Veterans  
Outreach Program  
(NVOP)

SER Jobs for Progress, Inc.  
(SER)

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the American GI Forum of the United States, I am writing to call on the Senate Judiciary to have a hearing for Miguel A. Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia. He deserves a hearing and an up or down vote.

Mr. Estrada, who came to the United States from his native Honduras at age 17, has an impressive background. He is currently a partner with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he is a member of the firm's Appellate Constitutional Law Practice Group and its Business Crimes and Investigations Practice Group and has argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

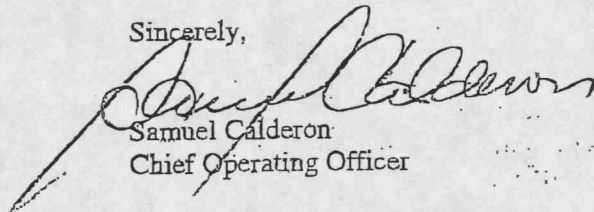
Mr. Estrada has spent most of his professional career in public service. He served as Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States and as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section in the U.S. Attorney Office for the Southern District of New York.

Mr. Estrada served as a law clerk for the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy, Supreme Court of the United States. He attended Harvard Law School, where he was editor of the Harvard Law Review and received a J.D. degree magna cum laude in 1986 and graduated from Columbia College in New York with an A.B. magna cum laude.

If confirmed, Mr. Estrada would be the first Hispanic to sit on the D.C. Circuit Court. The confirmation of this historic appointment will help open doors for more Hispanic judges.

The American GI Forum of the United States, urges the Senate Judiciary Committee to schedule a hearing and vote for Mr. Miguel A. Estrada for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,

  
Samuel Calderon  
Chief Operating Officer



**RICH AND HENDERSON, P.C.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

844 West Street  
P.O. Box 589  
Annapolis, Maryland 21404-0589

TEL: (410) 267-5900  
BALT: (410) 269-6866

FAX: (410) 267-5901  
E-MAIL: [richhend@richlaw.com](mailto:richhend@richlaw.com)

April 10, 2002

Margarita H. Tapia  
Press Secretary  
Senator Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senate  
152 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

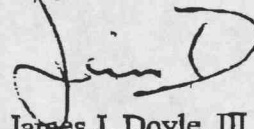
**Re: Miguel Estrada Nomination**

Dear Ms. Tapia:

It was a pleasure meeting you at the press conference in support of Miguel Estrada to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit. As you know, the National Troopers Coalition, composed of approximately 40,000 state law enforcement officers, supports this nomination. He is truly an outstanding nominee.

The NTC has testified before the Judiciary Committee in the past on nominees that the NTC supports. If there is anything that we can do to help you further with this nomination, please do not hesitate to let me know.

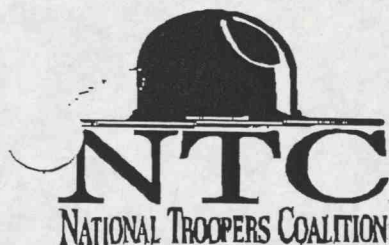
Very truly yours,



James J. Doyle, III

JJD:jl

Enclosure



## NATIONAL TROOPERS COALITION

For Immediate Release

April 5, 2002

For Information Contact: Michael F. Canning  
410-269-4237

Scott Reinacher, *Chairman*  
PO Box 415  
Howell, MI 48844  
Home: 810-227-2322  
Office/Fax: 810-227-1689  
Cell: 517-719-5578  
ntcchair@lsmi.net

Michael F. Canning, *Director*  
Government Relations Office  
12 Francis Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
Phone: 410-269-4237  
Fax: 410-269-7523  
ntc@maniscanning.com

### The NTC Calls for the Prompt Confirmation of Miguel Estrada for the D.C. Court of Appeals

The National Troopers Coalition (NTC) is calling on the Senate to promptly provide a hearing for Miguel Estrada, and to confirm Estrada to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is exceptionally qualified to serve as a Judge on that Court and should be confirmed without further delay.

The NTC is composed of approximately 40,000 state troopers and highway patrol officers from 40 states throughout this country. The NTC and its members are particularly interested in a nominee's record on law enforcement issues, and support a nominee whose record shows respect for the rule of law, a clear understanding of the complexities of criminal law, an appreciation of the challenges faced by law enforcement officers, and respect for the rights of all who appear before our Nation's courts.

Miguel Estrada's record in these areas is truly impressive. While serving as Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States from 1992 through 1997, Estrada argued numerous criminal law cases before the U.S. Supreme Court; cases, for example, involving search and seizure, RICO, admissions by suspects to law enforcement officers, and sentencing of criminal defendants. Previously serving as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, Estrada argued many cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals for that circuit on a variety of criminal law issues. These included cases dealing with sentencing of defendants, post-conviction relief, firearms violations, mail and wire fraud, Miranda rights, and drug conspiracy. Based on the nominee's record, the NTC believes that Estrada has outstanding qualifications on law enforcement issues, and that his demonstrated respect for the rights of society, as well as those of individual defendants, makes it likely that he will be an outstanding appellate judge.

In addition to his experience with the U.S. Department of Justice, Mr. Estrada formerly served as Law Clerk to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy of the U.S. Supreme Court, and had graduated magna cum laude from Harvard Law School.

The NTC is proud to endorse the nomination of Miguel Estrada to the U. S. Court of Appeals and hopes that the U.S. Senate will promptly confirm him.

####



**BRENDAN A. MAHER**

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
P.O. Box 219  
ROCKFORD, IL 61105-0219  
(815) 987-8900

May 28, 2002

Senator Patrick Leahy  
433 Russell Senate Office Bldg  
(at Constitution and Delaware)  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

I am enclosing for your consideration a recent article that appeared in the on-line edition of the Wall Street Journal. I was surprised and disappointed to learn that you are cooperating with the interest groups that are apparently looking for ways to smear the reputation of Miguel Estrada, a man who by all accounts is eminently qualified to serve as a federal appellate judge.

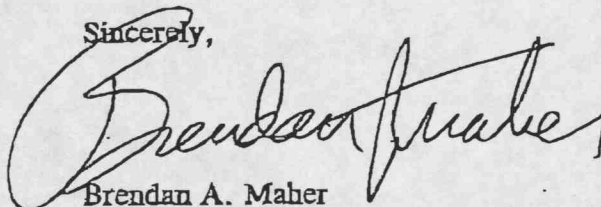
I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of your own words, spoken before you became chairman of the Judiciary Committee:

"I have said on the floor, although we are different parties; I have agreed with Gov. George Bush, who has said that in the Senate a nominee ought to get a vote, up or down, within 60 days." -- Sen. Leahy on October 11, 2000.

According to the Judiciary Committee's web site, Mr. Estrada was nominated on May 9, 2001, the FBI completed its background check on May 14, 2001, Mr. Estrada completed his questionnaire by May 17, 2001, and, perhaps most importantly, the American Bar Association rated Mr. Estrada as "well qualified" (the highest possible rating from an organization that you consider to be the "gold standard" for judicial evaluations) on July 8, 2001. Thus, you have now kept Mr. Estrada waiting more than 384 days since being nominated and more than nine months since being judged as "well qualified" by the ABA.

Mr. Estrada has waited long enough. Please give him a hearing and a vote as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Brendan A. Maher

**PENN UNITED TECHNOLOGY, INC.**

P.O. Box 399 - Saxonburg, PA 16056 - Phone (724) 352-1507 (724) 352-4970

January 16, 2002

The Honorable Orin Hatch  
United States Senate  
104 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-4402

Dear Senator Hatch,

The actions of the Senate Judiciary Committee concern me. With over 100 hundred federal court vacancies, why is the confirmation process of nominees deemed well qualified by the American Bar Association, such as Miquel Estrada, so slow or completely stalled.

This bottleneck suggests that the Judiciary Committee is deliberately blocking President Bush's nominees through lack of action. On June 16, 1997, Senate Patrick Leahy said, "A President should be given a great deal of latitude on who he nominates to the federal court. If we disagree with a nomination, then we can vote against it. But frankly not only does it damage the integrity and the independence of the federal judiciary by just holding judicial nominations hostage where nobody ever even votes on them, but I think it damages the integrity of the U.S. Senate." This statement is certainly true because the actions of the Senate Judiciary Committee are damaging the integrity of the committee and the entire Senate.

The search for qualified, fair judges who will follow the law has become a process of picking whose "acceptable" political beliefs will allow them into an institution where personal beliefs and politics are supposed to be set aside. Federal judges are needed and well-qualified nominations are being overlooked for political reasons. As a member of the Judiciary Committee, please use your influence to insist on hearings for all nominations in a timely manner. Do not let obvious political maneuvering "damage the integrity and the independence of the federal judiciary".

Please respond to my concerns.

Sincerely,

Carl E. Jones  
President  
Penn United Technology, Inc.

CEJ/dlm



**April 30, 2002**

**The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510**

**Regarding: MIGUEL ESTRADA'S NOMINATION**

**Dear Senator Hatch:**

**The following "hit piece" against Mr. Estrada's nomination appeared today in the Los Angeles Daily News. I thought you, and your staff, might find it helpful in preparing for Mr. Estrada's hearing (if Senator Leahy EVER schedules it.)**

**I truly appreciate your efforts in trying to get President Bush's judicial nominees confirmed.**

**Thank you for your service to our country.**

**Sincerely yours,**

**Dee Minazzoli**

(b)(6)

**Fax 805 499-9646**

**PAGE 1 OF 2**



# PASADENA YOUTH Christian CENTER

1730 NORTH RAYMOND AVENUE, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91103  
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 92944, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91109-2944  
(626) 794-9996 (213) 581-7527 FAX (626) 794-9979

April 30, 2002

Senator Orrin Hatch  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

Please ask President Bush to nominate Charles House to the position of U.S. Marshal in the Central District of California. His qualifying experience is twenty-seven (27) years with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and four (4) years on a Parole Board as an appointee of Governor Pate Wilson.

Earlier this year, Charles interviewed for this position but the results were skewed against him. He was jet lagged and sleep deprived due to numerous flight cancellations caused by inclement weather in Dallas, Texas where he was scheduled to make a connecting flight to Washington, D.C. Charles was finally driven to LAX where he took a midnight flight and arrived in Washington, D.C. for the interview and upset over the entire day delay process. In response to the question put to him one of the interviewers, "how was your flight?" Charles began to explain about the flight cancellations and was told, "don't make excuses."

I am a retired Court Counselor with the Pasadena Judicial District. I served in this position for twenty-three (23) years, retiring in 1996. I am presently Director of the Pasadena Youth Christian Center. I founded this outreach to youth in the Pasadena and surrounding areas thirty-eight (38) years ago. I have also served the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Probation Department as a Chaplain. I know what law enforcement's greatest need is! Qualified caring individuals with the background and zeal Charles House has. His experience and background is unquestionable. It is my hope and desire that you will agree and endorse his attempt at becoming a U.S. Marshal to the Central District.

Sincerely,

*Ed Bryant*  
Ed Bryant



05/30/2002 22:28 2025302444

CANF



**THE  
CUBAN  
AMERICAN  
NATIONAL  
FOUNDATION**

Senator Patrick J. Leahy  
433 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C.  
Via Fax: (202) 244-3479

May 31, 2002

Dear Senator Leahy:

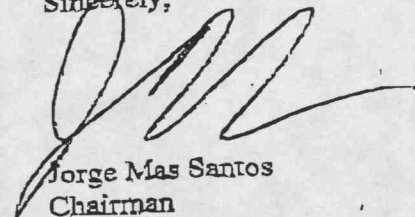
I write in support of the nomination of Miguel Estrada to serve on the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

The life story of Mr. Estrada is both inspiring and illuminating. Coming to this country in search of opportunity and freedom, he found both. In a few short years, Mr. Estrada went from being an immigrant with no knowledge of our culture or language to a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard, a respected and accomplished civil servant and now the nominee for one of our most important judicial assignments.

Mr. Senator, as the Chairman of one of the largest Hispanic organizations in the country, I know of many such success stories in the Hispanic community. Mr. Estrada is a fine example of how this great nation nurtures and advances individuals based on their skills and determination, not their national origin or the language of their birth. Mr. Estrada is a man of proven integrity, vision, and balance. He is a man who has shown he values the opinions of others and can work with people from across the political spectrum. As potentially the first Hispanic judge on the DC Court of Appeals, he will also be a highly visible role model for children of all backgrounds.

Mr. Senator, the American dream is not supposed to languish in committee. I strongly urge the Committee on the Judiciary to fulfill its advice and consent role by taking up Mr. Estrada's nomination at the earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,



Jorge Mas Santos  
Chairman



## HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

### 2001-2002 Officers and Board of Directors

**President**  
Jessica Herrera

**President-Elect**  
Louis Lopez

**Vice President-  
Internal Affairs**  
Jennifer Martinez

**Vice President-  
External Affairs**  
Linda Estrada

**Vice President-  
Membership**  
Brigida Benitez

**Treasurer**  
Peter Mucchetti

**Secretary**  
Dominic Voro

**Board of Directors**  
Anthony Archeval  
Richard Crespo  
Ignacia Moreno  
Jeff Prieto  
Robert Raben  
Christina Sarchio  
Fabio Silva  
Adriana Vieco

October 12, 2001

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
SD-224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy:

I am writing on behalf of the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (HBA-DC) to endorse Miguel Estrada for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The Endorsements Committee of the HBA-DC has conducted a thorough review of Mr. Estrada and his qualifications, including interviews of a number of his former opposing counsel, co-counsel, and colleagues. In addition, members of the HBA-DC Endorsements Committee met with Mr. Estrada to discuss his nomination. Based on our review, we recommend that the Committee vote in favor of Mr. Estrada's nomination.

Mr. Estrada has substantial and impressive qualifications that make him aptly suited to serve on the D.C. Circuit. He is a partner with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he has an appellate practice. He has argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Estrada, who received his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School, served as a law clerk to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy in the U.S. Supreme Court and to the Honorable Amalya L. Kearse in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Mr. Estrada has devoted much of his career to public service. He served as Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States from 1992 to 1997, and previously served as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. While in private practice, he has spent considerable time on *pro bono* matters, including his representation of a death row inmate in a challenge to his conviction and sentence, and an incarcerated defendant who was seeking *habeas* relief from his state conviction.



Everyone we interviewed, including Mr. Estrada's former opponents, spoke very highly of him. One former opposing counsel stated that when Mr. Estrada was in the Solicitor General's Office, he "carried the mantle of a government lawyer in the best tradition." Others described him as "one of the smartest people I've ever met" and "one of the most amazing lawyers I've ever seen." One former co-counsel said that Mr. Estrada is "extremely easy to get along with, friendly, open, ethical, and knowledgeable about the law." Others echoed this point, stating that "he has a love for the law that few individuals have."

Mr. Estrada also has received bipartisan support, including support from several of his former colleagues at the Department of Justice who served under President Clinton. A prominent example is Randolph Moss, who worked with Mr. Estrada in the Department when Mr. Moss was Deputy Assistant Attorney General (he later became Assistant Attorney General) in the Office of Legal Counsel. As you know, Mr. Moss wrote to your Committee strongly supporting Mr. Estrada's nomination and noting that Mr. Estrada "is widely, and deservedly, regarded as an extraordinary legal talent" with an "abiding respect for the law," who will "quickly earn a reputation as one of the finest appellate judges in the Nation." Similarly, Robert Litt, who served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Criminal Division, has said that Mr. Estrada is "an absolutely brilliant lawyer" and a "talented and responsible advocate."

Mr. Estrada, who came to the U.S. from his native Honduras at age 17, would be the first Hispanic to sit on the D.C. Circuit. President Bush's groundbreaking nomination highlights the often overlooked pool of talented Hispanics in the legal profession. Mr. Estrada's appointment will be a historic moment for the D.C. Circuit and an important development for the Hispanic legal community. For all the reasons stated herein, we endorse Mr. Estrada's nomination.

Sincerely,



Jessica R. Herrera  
President,  
Hispanic Bar Association of  
the District of Columbia

cc: The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch  
The Honorable Alberto R. Gonzales  
Hispanic Bar Association Endorsements Committee



# HBR

## HISPANIC BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

### Executive Committee:

#### President

Mario Rodriguez  
CEO, Jonathan Grey & Assoc.  
San Clemente, CA

#### Vice President

Jalme Ramon, Esq.  
Partner, Locke Liddell & Sapp  
Dallas, TX

#### Treasurer

Patricia de L. Marvil  
CEO, Securiguard, Inc.  
McLean, VA

#### Secretary

Miguel Uria  
CEO, ORO Financial  
New Orleans, LA

#### Members At-Large

David Archuleta, Esq.  
Archuleta Law Offices  
Albuquerque, NM

Ruben Cardona, C.P.A.  
Managing Partner, Bleich Glass & Cardona  
New Brunswick, NJ

Remedios Diaz Oliver  
CEO, All American Containers, Inc.  
Miami, FL

Cari Dominguez  
CEO, Dominguez & Associates, Inc.  
Rockville, MD

Grace Flores-Hughes  
Partner, USTAR  
Washington, DC

Eva I. Guardarramas, Esq.  
Guardarramas Law Offices  
New York, NY

#### Executive Director

Roberto Garcia de Posada

#### Washington:

611 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E.  
M.B. 196  
Washington, DC 20003  
202-546-1284

#### California:

920 Calle Negocio, Suite B  
San Clemente, CA 92673  
949-498-2830

website: [www.hbrt.org](http://www.hbrt.org)

July 17, 2001

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

### RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit

Dear Chairman Leahy:

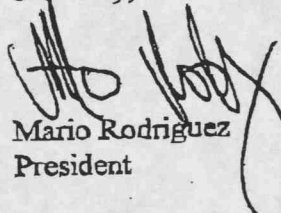
On behalf of The Hispanic Business Roundtable, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Mario Rodriguez  
President





## OFFICERS

Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow  
Chair

Hector V. Barreto  
Vice Chairman

George Herrera  
President & CEO

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Region I

Lillian Lujan-Hickey\*  
Las Vegas, NV  
Hector V. Barreto  
Los Angeles, CA  
Sheila Guarderas  
Fresno, CA  
Joe Perez  
Honolulu, HI

## Region II

Scott Flores\*  
Denver, CO  
Ray Arvizu  
Phoenix, AZ  
Carmen Bermudez  
Tucson, AZ  
Lorenzo  
Albuquerque, NM

## Region III

Daniel Perez\*  
Kansas City, MO  
Marco A. Arredondo, P.E.  
Portland, TX  
J.R. Gonzalez  
Austin, TX  
Maria Guadalupe Texman  
St. Louis, MO

## Region IV

Nestor Fernandez\*  
Miamisburg, OH  
Juventino Cano  
Aurora, IL  
George Franco  
Milwaukee, WI  
Leticia Herrera  
Chicago, IL

## Region V

Henry M. Calderon\*  
New York, NY  
Edgar Cintron  
Holyoke, MA  
Esperanza Porras Field  
Morristown, NJ  
Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow  
Washington, DC

## Region VI

Alex Chavez\*  
Sarasota, FL  
Ignacio Gonzalez  
Atlanta, GA  
Raiza Tamayo  
Orlando, FL  
Emilio Torres  
San Juan, PR

\*Denotes Regional Chair

July 17, 2001

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

**RE: Support for Miguel Estrada's Nomination as United States  
Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit**

Dear Chairman Leahy:

On behalf of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express my support for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit.

From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments.

As the former Chair of the DC Chamber of Commerce, and the first Latina to hold that position, this appointment is important. It would have a positive impact on the emerging Hispanic population and would set the tone that there are qualified Hispanics willing to assume roles and responsibility to contribute to the well-being of the District. I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions. I urge you to expeditiously attend to his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

  
Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow  
Chair



**OFFICERS**

**Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow**  
Chair

**Hector V. Barreto**  
Vice Chairman

**George Herrera**  
President & CEO

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS****Region I**

**Liliana Lujan-Hickey**  
Las Vegas, NV  
**Hector V. Barreto**  
Los Angeles, CA  
**Shella Guarderas**  
Fresno, CA  
**Joe Perez**  
Honolulu, HI

**Region II**

**Scott Flores**  
Denver, CO  
**Ray Arvizu**  
Phoenix, AZ  
**Carmen Bermudez**  
Tucson, AZ  
**Tina Cordova**  
Albuquerque, NM

**Region III**

**Daniel Perez**  
Kansas City, MO  
**Marco A. Arredondo, P.E.**  
Portland, TX  
**J.R. Gonzales**  
Austin, TX  
**Maria Guadalupe Taxman**  
St. Louis, MO

**Region IV**

**Nestor Fernandez**  
Miamisburg, OH  
**Juventino Cano**  
Aurora, IL  
**George Franco**  
Milwaukee, WI  
**Leticia Herrera**  
Chicago, IL

**Region V**

**Edgar Cimron**  
Holyoke, MA  
**Esperanza Porras Field**  
Morristown, NJ  
**Charles Gonzalez**  
New York, NY  
**Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow**  
Washington, DC

**Region VI**

**Alex Chavez**  
Sarasota, FL  
**José Ignacio Gonzalez**  
Atlanta, GA  
**Liza Tamayo**  
Orlando, FL  
**Emilio Torres**  
San Juan, PR

\*Denotes Regional Chair

2175 K Street NW • Suite 100 • Washington, DC 20037 • Telephone (202) 842-1212 • Fax (202) 842-3221

http://www.uschc.org

October 23, 2001

Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Business Rights and Competition  
Subcommittee on Constitution, Federalism and Property Rights  
433 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

On May 9, 2001, President Bush announced his first 11 nominations to the United States Courts of Appeals at a ceremony in the White House's East Room. One of those nominees was Miguel Estrada, a judicial nominee for the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (D.C. Circuit Court).

Because the D.C. Circuit Court handles so many critical constitutional and administrative issues involving the federal government, it is often referred to as the second most historically important federal court in the Nation, after the Supreme Court. Indeed, as a sign of the Court's importance, three former Judges from the D.C. Circuit are now on the Supreme Court: Justices Scalia, Thomas, and Ginsburg.

No Hispanic has ever served as a judge on the D.C. Circuit Court. Accepting the common description of the D.C. Circuit Court as the Nation's second most important federal court, Miguel Estrada will, if confirmed, unofficially become the highest-ranking Hispanic federal judge in American history. Estrada's nomination is therefore a historic event and represents one more important step in the breaking down of barriers that in the past made it difficult, if not impossible, for Hispanic lawyers to become judges.

Despite the historic significance of Estrada's nomination, over five months have now passed since the nomination, and the Senate Judiciary Committee has inexplicably failed to afford Estrada a hearing.



As a twenty-year District-based Hispanic business owner and the first Latina Chair of the DC Chamber of Commerce and the former Chair of the Greater Washington Ibero-American Chamber of Commerce, I strongly support Estrada's confirmation.

Estrada's qualifications are impeccable. He received a unanimous "well qualified" rating from the American Bar Association, which is the ABA's highest possible rating. Estrada's background and experience demonstrate why he received that "well qualified" rating -- and why he will be a superb judge and a credit to the Hispanic community.

Estrada was born in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in 1961 and came to the United States as a teenager speaking virtually no English. In 1979, Estrada enrolled at Columbia College where he later graduated *magna cum laude*. Estrada then entered Harvard Law School where he served as an officer on the editorial board of the *Harvard Law Review* and in 1986 graduated *magna cum laude*.

After graduation from Harvard, Estrada earned a position as a law clerk for Judge Amalya L. Kearse, an influential and well-known judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in New York. Then in 1988, Estrada was selected to serve as a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy. A Supreme Court clerkship is one of the most prestigious positions a young lawyer can obtain. Estrada is one of only a handful of Hispanics ever to serve as a Supreme Court law clerk.

After clerking for Justice Kennedy, Estrada joined the U.S. Attorney's Office in Manhattan as an Assistant United States Attorney. He soon became Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section of the U.S. Attorney's Office. While at the U.S. Attorney's Office, Estrada tried approximately 10 cases in federal district court and argued 7 appeals on behalf of the United States before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

In 1992, Estrada returned to Washington where he served as Assistant to the Solicitor General at the U.S. Justice Department. The Office of Solicitor General represents the United States before the Supreme Court. Estrada served in that office from 1992 to 1997, in both the Bush and the Clinton Administrations. Estrada has now argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, which is believed to be the most ever by a Hispanic lawyer. Justices of all ideologies on the Supreme Court have praised Estrada for his extraordinary intellect and the exquisite quality of his briefs and oral arguments.

In 1997, Estrada left the federal government and joined the Washington, D.C. law firm of Gibson Dunn & Crutcher. He is currently a partner at that firm. In private practice, Estrada has represented a variety of the firm's institutional clients in complex civil and criminal litigation, at the pre-trial, trial, and appellate stages. Estrada also has performed significant pro bono work. For example, Estrada represented pro bono an indigent death row defendant in a difficult capital murder case before the Supreme Court.



09/09/02 MON 11:41 FAX 2022285797

JUDICIARY

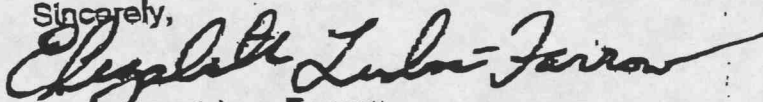
TOTAL P.04

Given Estrada's superb qualifications and experience, it comes as no surprise that his nomination is supported by many prominent Democrat lawyers, including: Ron Klain, who was counsel to Vice President Gore; Bob Litt, who was head of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division under President Clinton; and Randy Moss, who was Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel under President Clinton.

As noted above, Estrada received a unanimous "well-qualified" rating from the American Bar Association. That is a particularly extraordinary rating given Estrada's forty years of age, but it accurately reflects his legal accomplishments and skill.

We unanimously endorse this nominee and strongly urge you to move on the confirmation of Miguel Estrada. As a judge, he will be a credit to the federal judiciary, the President, Hispanics, and all Americans.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow  
Chair, Board of Directors, USHCC

cc: Able Guerra  
Associate Director,  
Office of the Public Liaison

2027376826 P.04/04

LISBOA ASSOC.

OCT-31-2001 11:58





August 30, 2002

U.S. Senator Russ Feingold:  
Transmittal by fax: 202-224-2725

Dear Senator Feingold:

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin (HCCW) along with a vast number of your Wisconsin constituents strongly recommend and encourage the confirmation of Miquel A. Estrada, a candidate for United States Circuit Judge, District of Columbia.

Mr. Estrada who immigrated to the United States from his native Honduras at age 17 has an illustrious history in public service that I am sure you are quite familiar with. His strong and outstanding credentials, well-rounded professional background makes him the superb candidate.

Our changing demographics makes it vitally important to fill Judicial vacancies with qualified individuals who possess not only expertise and capabilities but who also possess a keen sense of understanding and sensitivity to current issues, needs and concerns of a diverse population.

If confirmed, Mr. Estrada would become the first Hispanic to sit on the D.C. Circuit Court. The confirmation of this historic appointment would most assuredly pave the way for others. A path paved by a highly qualified, competent and principled Hispanic.

Ethnicity aside, the HCCW has every confidence that Miquel A. Estrada would carry out the responsibilities of an U.S. Circuit Judge with effectiveness and distinction. Mr. Estrada is a sterling candidate and as such merits your strong consideration. At the same time, I respectfully request that you use your significant influence to convince others involved in the confirmation process as to the exceptional merits of his appointment.

The opportunity to comment is appreciated. On a personal note, my fondest regards

Sincerely,

Maria Monreal-Cameron  
President & CEO

CC: U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy, Judiciary Committee Chairman - 202-224-3479  
→ U.S. Senator Orrin G. Hatch, Ranking Republican - 202-228-1698

Funded in part by  
Community Development Block Grant

CDBG

Recipients: Hispanic Chamber of The Year 1988  
Hispanic Chamber of the Year - Region IV 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001

Member United States Hispanic  
Chamber of Commerce

816 W. National Avenue • Milwaukee, WI 53204 • Tel (414)643-6963 • Fax (414)643-6994 • [www.hccw.org](http://www.hccw.org)



Rev. 12-6-01

**Support for Miguel Estrada - Hispanic Organizations****League of United Latin American Citizens, Rick Dovalina, National President**

"On behalf of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the nation's oldest and largest Hispanic civil rights organization, I write to express our strong support for the confirmation of Mr. Miguel A. Estrada ... Few Hispanic attorneys have as strong educational credentials as Mr. Estrada who graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Columbia and magna cum laude from Harvard Law School, where he was editor of the Harvard Law Review. He also served as a law clerk to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy in the U.S. Supreme Court making him one of a handful of Hispanic attorneys to have had this opportunity. He is truly one of the rising stars in the Hispanic community and a role model for our youth." *(Excerpt from Letter to Senator Leahy, July 3, 2001.)*

**National Association of Small Disadvantaged Businesses, Henry T. Wilfong, Jr., President**

"The NASDB would like to add our support. . . for Miguel Estrada's nomination as United States Court of Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Estrada is a brilliantly talented and accomplished attorney who will make an outstanding addition to the prestigious DC Circuit ... While we do not dwell on symbolism, we feel that Mr. Estrada's appointment as the first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will be of benefit to us in further illustrating the wide range of talent in the minority communities, just waiting to be effectively and fully used." *(Excerpt from Letter to Senator Leahy, July 12, 2001.)*

**Hispanic National Bar Association, Rafael A. Santiago, National President**

"The Hispanic National Bar Association, national voice of over 25,000 Hispanic lawyers in the United States, issues its endorsement ... 'Mr. Estrada's confirmation will break new ground for Hispanics in the judiciary. The time has come to move on Mr. Estrada's nomination. I urge the Senate Committee on the Judiciary to schedule a hearing on Mr. Estrada's nomination and the U.S. Senate to bring this highly qualified nominee to a vote,' said Rafael A. Santiago, of Hartford, Connecticut, National President of the Hispanic National Bar Association." *(Excerpt from HBNA Press Release, October 12, 2001.)*

**Mexican American Grocers Association, Steven A. Soto, President**

"On behalf of the 8,000 members of the Mexican American Grocers Association, I wish to convey our strong support for the Senate's rapid confirmation of President Bush's nomination of Miguel Estrada to serve as the first Hispanic on the prestigious DC Circuit. *(Excerpt from Letter to Senator Leahy, July 18, 2001.)*



**Hispanic Business Roundtable, Mario Rodriguez, President**

"From his humble beginnings as an immigrant from Honduras who achieved a stellar academic career at Columbia University and Harvard Law School, to his varied and impressive achievements in the Justice Department and private firms, Mr. Estrada has shown himself to be of superior talents and accomplishments ... I am confident that this first Hispanic member of the DC Circuit will continue to lead a distinguished career with thoughtful and fair decisions." (*Excerpt from Letter to Senator Leahy, July 17, 2001.*)

**More Examples of Strong Support from the Hispanic Community**

- U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- ATL, Inc.
- PlastiComm Industries, Inc.
- Phoenix Construction Services
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City
- eHEBC Hispanic Engineers Business Corporation
- Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces
- Casa Del Sinaloense
- Hispanic Engineers Business Corporation
- Hispanic Contractors of America, Inc.
- Charo - Community Development Corporation

### Organizations Supporting Miguel Estrada

The following are Hispanic groups or Hispanic-owned businesses that have expressed their support for Miguel Estrada:

- League of United Latin American Citizens
- U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Hispanic National Bar Association
- Hispanic Business Roundtable
- National Association of Small Disadvantaged Businesses
- Mexican American Grocers Association
- ATL, Inc.
- PlastiComm Industries, Inc.
- Phoenix Construction Services
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City
- eHEBC Hispanic Engineers Business Corporation
- Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces
- Casa Del Sinaloense
- Republican National Hispanic Assembly
- Hispanic Engineers Business Corporation
- Hispanic Contractors of America, Inc.
- Charo - Community Development Corporation



**GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP**

A Registered Limited Liability Partnership  
Including Professional Corporations  
2029 Century Park East  
Suite 4000  
Los Angeles, California 90067

TELEPHONE: (310) 552-8500  
FACSIMILE: (310) 551-8741

**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION INFORMATION**

September 19, 2002

TO: Mr./Ms. Brett M. Kavanaugh, Esq.  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State: Washington, DC  
Facsimile No.: (202) 456-5104  
Main Telephone: (202) 456-7984

FROM: Thomas G. Hungar Room: DC-9134 Direct Dial: (202) 887-3648  
Our File Number: G 99999-00008

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER LETTER:

5

☛ If you do not receive all the pages transmitted, please contact the facsimile operator immediately at telephone number (310) 552-8500.

Fax Operator: \_\_\_\_\_

The written message is for the exclusive use of the addressee and contains confidential, privileged and non-disclosable information. If the recipient of this message is not the addressee, or a person responsible for delivering the message to the addressee, such recipient is prohibited from reading or using this message in any way. If you have received this message by mistake, please call us immediately and destroy the facsimile message.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/MESSAGE:**

05/30/02 16:38 FAX 202 338 8952

LEGAL SVCS CORP. EXC OFC

P.O. BOX 75816,  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-5816  
TEL (703) 671-6979

# YHRA

Young Hispanic Republican Association -

Mauricio Vivero, Esq.  
Interim President

Juan Hepao  
President Elect

Vice-Presidents:

Sonya E. Medina  
Policy

Catherine Sulzer  
Community Outreach

Maria Pia Tamburri  
Membership

John Nande  
Leadership Development

Mario H. Lopez  
Communications

Olga Argüello  
Event Planning

Board Members:

Genaro J. Pedraza  
Treasurer

Juan Daniel Morales  
Assistant Treasurer

Dan Ramos  
Associate General Council

Kristy Mcave  
Press Secretary

Paul Crespo  
Secretary

Catalina Cabral  
Assistant Secretary

## Young Hispanic Republicans Support Nomination of Miguel Estrada

Washington, April 10. The Young Hispanic Republican Association is calling on Senate leaders to give Miguel Estrada a hearing before the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Estrada has been rated "well-qualified" by the American Bar Association and deserves to have his nomination taken up by the Senate.

"President Bush has nominated a highly respected and qualified Hispanic to this important court. We ask the Senate to provide Mr. Estrada the opportunity to appear before them, and to move quickly to consider his nomination," said YHRA President Mauricio Vivero.

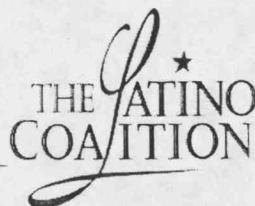
Mr. Estrada was Assistant to the Solicitor General (1992-97), Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York (1990-92), and Law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy (1988-89). He graduated *magna cum laude* from Columbia College and *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School.

YHRA is an organization of young professionals dedicated to educating Hispanics about Republican principles and supporting Republican candidates.

The National Voice of the Young Hispanic Republican Community.

Please visit our website  
at <http://www.yhrra.com>





**For Immediate Release**  
**April 10, 2002**

**Contact: Adriana Alarcón**  
**(202) 546-0008**

## **Hispanic Leaders Blow the Whistle on Judicial Obstruction**

*Miguel Estrada would be first Hispanic Judge in U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit*

**Washington, DC** - The Board of Directors of The Latino Coalition (TLC) and the Hispanic Business Roundtable (HBR), joined by the Hispanic National Bar Association, the League of United Latin American Citizens and the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and other national Hispanic groups, today called on the Senate leadership to put aside partisan bickering and give Latinos what has long been overdue: representation in this prestigious Court.

"We are here to blow the whistle on unnecessary partisan obstruction," said TLC President Robert Deposada. "No one questions the qualifications or the character of Mr. Estrada. Not a single Hispanic organization has opposed his nomination. However, the Senate leadership has refused to give this honorable man a hearing."

"Miguel A. Estrada would bring to the bench a distinguished legal record based on his many years of work in the public and private sector," said HBR President Mario Rodriguez, CEO of Jonathan Grey & Associates, Inc. in San Clemente, California. "Mr. Estrada also brings a unique perspective and human experience understood only by those who have migrated to a foreign land as a teenager not knowing the language. It is for this cultural depth and his excellent legal qualifications that TLC and HBR urge the Senate Judiciary Committee and all members of the U.S. Senate to put partisan politics aside so that Hispanics are no longer denied representation in one of the most prestigious courts in the land."

Mr. Estrada, born in Honduras, graduated *magna cum laude* from Columbia College and *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School. He served as a member of the editorial board of the Harvard Law Review and is currently a member of the National Board of Directors of the Center for the Community Interest.

"For Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick Leahy to call Miguel Estrada's nomination controversial is simply preposterous," said TLC President Robert Deposada. "The only controversy here is that Mr. Estrada is of Hispanic descent. We call on Senator Leahy to do what's fair, hold a hearing and allow an up or down vote on this extremely qualified judicial nominee. If his ethnic background has nothing to do with the hold up, then hold a hearing to publicly explain why you don't want him on the court."

**Page 2**

**TLC Press Release on Miguel Estrada**

**April 10, 2002**

"We are delighted to finally see a President appoint a Hispanic to this court. It's been long overdue," said HBR Vice President Jaime Ramón, a partner in the law firm of Locke Liddell & Sapp in Dallas, Texas. "No one can seriously question the integrity and the qualifications of Miguel Estrada. He has tried over a dozen cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, served as a successful prosecutor in the Southern District of New York, as Assistant Solicitor General in the Clinton Administration, and as a distinguished private attorney in Washington, DC. There is no reason why partisan bickering should keep Estrada from serving on this court."

"To deny Latinos, the nation's largest minority, the opportunity to have one of our own serve on this court in our nation's capital is unforgivable," Deposada said. The 35 million Hispanics in this country can no longer be ignored. History would not treat inaction kindly, and neither will Hispanic voters next year."

The Latino Coalition is a non-profit, non-partisan organization based in Washington, D.C. TLC was established in 1995 to address policy issues that directly affect the well being of Hispanics in the United States. For more information, please visit our website at [www.TheLatinoCoalition.com](http://www.TheLatinoCoalition.com).

###



# HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

2001-2002  
Officers and  
Board of Directors

**President**

Jessica Herrera

**President Elect**  
Louis Lopez

**Vice Presidents**  
**Internal Affairs**  
Jennifer Martinez

**Vice Presidents**  
**External Affairs**  
Linda Estrada

**Vice President**  
**Membership**  
Brigida Benitez

**Treasurer**  
Peter Mucchetti

**Secretary**  
Dominic Vorv

**Board of Directors**  
Anthony Archeval  
Richard Crespo  
Ignacia Moreno  
Jeff Prieto  
Robert Raben  
Christina Sarchio  
Fabio Silva  
Adriana Vieco

October 12, 2001

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
SD-224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy:

I am writing on behalf of the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (HBA-DC) to endorse Miguel Estrada for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The Endorsements Committee of the HBA-DC has conducted a thorough review of Mr. Estrada and his qualifications, including interviews of a number of his former opposing counsel, co-counsel, and colleagues. In addition, members of the HBA-DC Endorsements Committee met with Mr. Estrada to discuss his nomination. Based on our review, we recommend that the Committee vote in favor of Mr. Estrada's nomination.

Mr. Estrada has substantial and impressive qualifications that make him aptly suited to serve on the D.C. Circuit. He is a partner with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he has an appellate practice. He has argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Estrada, who received his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School, served as a law clerk to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy in the U.S. Supreme Court and to the Honorable Amalya L. Kearse in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

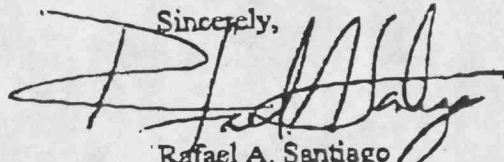
Mr. Estrada has devoted much of his career to public service. He served as Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States from 1992 to 1997, and previously served as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. While in private practice, he has spent considerable time on *pro bono* matters, including his representation of a death row inmate in a challenge to his conviction and sentence, and an incarcerated defendant who was seeking *habeas* relief from his state conviction.

Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Honorable Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
October 15, 2001  
Page - 2 -

It is encouraging that President Bush has started tapping into the substantial pool of Hispanic legal talent throughout the United States. Mr. Estrada would be the first Hispanic to sit on the D.C. Circuit Court. The confirmation of this historic appointment will help open doors for more Hispanic judges.

The Hispanic National Bar Association strongly supports Mr. Miguel A. Estrada and urges the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary to schedule a hearing and support the nomination of this outstanding Hispanic attorney to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,



Rafael A. Santiago  
National President

cc Members of Committee on the Judiciary



06/12/02 WED 12:25 FAX

002

FROM : SWFL-HISPANIC CHAMBER

PHONE NO. : 941 418 1475+

Jun. 12 2002 11:03AM P1

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA**  
**HISPANIC**  
**CHAMBER • OF • COMMERCE**

June 11, 2002

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

On Behalf of the Southwest Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to convey our strong support for Miguel A. Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Mr. Estrada is an honorable Hispanic immigrant leader who has a known and widely respected professional career. A leader that makes our fast-growing Hispanic community proud, Mr. Estrada has served our nation both in private practice and government service in a bipartisan manner. His distinguished and impressive career illustrates the promise and opportunity that America offers to all immigrants, especially Hispanic immigrants. Mr. Estrada's confirmation will break new ground for Hispanics in the judiciary.

I am confident that Mr. Estrada will fulfill the duties of Circuit Judge with intelligence and strong commitment and respect for the laws of this nation. The Hispanic community of Southwest Florida, which is over 120,000 residents and over 10,000 Hispanic-owned business leaders, will certainly welcome and appreciate a favorable consideration of Mr. Estrada's nomination.

Sincerely,



Leonardo Garcia  
SWFLHCC Executive Director



George Herrera  
President & CEO

September 9, 2002

The Honorable Senator Patrick J. Leahy, Chair  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
Fax # 202-224- 3479

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to convey our support for Miguel A. Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia.

Mr. Estrada, who came to the United States from his native Honduras at age 17, has an impressive background. He is currently a partner with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he is a member of the firm's Appellate Constitutional Law Practice Group and its Business Crimes and Investigations Practice Group and has argued 15 cases before the U. S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Estrada has spent most of his professional career in public service. He served as Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States and as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.

Mr. Estrada served as a law clerk for the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy, Supreme Court of the United States. He attended Harvard Law School, where he was editor of the Harvard Law Review and received a J.D. degree magna cum laude in 1986 and graduated from Columbia University in New York with an A.B. magna cum laude.

If confirmed, Mr. Estrada would be the first Hispanic to sit on the D.C. Circuit Court. The confirmation of this historic appointment will help open doors for more Hispanic judges.

The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce strongly supports Miguel A. Estrada and urges the Senate Judiciary Committee to schedule a hearing and support the nomination of this outstanding Hispanic to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Herrera", is written over a circular stamp that partially overlaps the "Sincerely," text.

George Herrera





U.S. HISPANIC CONTRACTORS  
ASSOCIATION

## U.S. HISPANIC CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 17322 • Austin, Texas 78760 • Tel. 512.445.7430 • Fax 512.260.8097 • Email: unitedstateshca@yahoo.com

June 25, 2002

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
433 Senate Russell Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The U.S. Hispanic Contractors Association strongly supports Mr. Miguel Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia. We urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to schedule a hearing that will afford this worthy and highly respected member of our community his due process.

It can be best said that Mr. Estrada is the epitome of the American Dream. From his humble journey from Honduras at the tender age of seventeen to graduating Magna Cum Laude from Harvard Law School, Mr. Estrada is a testament of discipline, intelligence, and hard work. His accomplishments are America's accomplishments.

The time has come in our history to place such a distinguished and highly respected leader as Mr. Miguel Estrada in the position of U.S. Circuit Judge. Mr. Estrada has proven himself and his expertise in the matters of law by successfully serving as Law clerk to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy of the U. S. Supreme Court from 1988-1989, and to the Honorable Amalya L. Kearse of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1986-1987.

Our association believes wholeheartedly, after much research and numerous interviews, that Mr. Miguel Estrada would perform his duties according to the letter of the law. We feel confident that Mr. Estrada would never deviate from the "word of the Law" to serve any personal or political agenda.

It is with great pride and honor that the U.S. Hispanic Contractors Association supports Mr. Miguel Estrada for a position on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Respectfully,

Frank Fuentes,  
HCA, Chairman



U.S. HISPANIC CONTRACTORS  
ASSOCIATION

## U.S. HISPANIC CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 17322 • Austin, Texas 78760 • Tel. 512.445.7430 • Fax 512.280.8097 • Email: unitedstateshca@yahoo.com

June 25, 2002

**The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy**  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
433 Senate Russell Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The U.S. Hispanic Contractors Association strongly supports **Mr. Miguel Estrada for the position of United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia**. We urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to schedule a hearing that will afford this worthy and highly respected member of our community his due process.

**It can be best said that Mr. Estrada is the epitome of the American Dream.** From his humble journey from Honduras at the tender age of seventeen to graduating Magna Cum Laude from Harvard Law School, Mr. Estrada is a testament of discipline, intelligence, and hard work. **His accomplishments are America's accomplishments.**

The time has come in our history to place such a distinguished and highly respected leader as Mr. Miguel Estrada in the position of U.S. Circuit Judge. Mr. Estrada has proven himself and his expertise in the matters of law by successfully serving as Law clerk to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy of the U. S. Supreme Court from 1988-1989, and to the Honorable Amalya L. Kearse of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1986-1987.

Our association believes wholeheartedly, after much research and numerous interviews, that Mr. Miguel Estrada would perform his duties according to the letter of the law. We feel confident that Mr. Estrada would never deviate from the "word of the Law" to serve any personal or political agenda.

It is with great pride and honor that the U.S. Hispanic Contractors Association supports Mr. Miguel Estrada for a position on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Respectfully,

**Frank Fuentes,**  
HCA, Chairman