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December 14, 2015

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL & FACSIMILE:

The Honorable Terry McAuliffe
Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL & EMAIL:

The Honorable Thomas K. Norment, Jr.
Co-Chair, Courts of Justice Committee
Senate
P.O. Box 6205
Williamsburg, Virginia 23188

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL & EMAIL:

The Honorable Mark D. Obenshain
Co-Chair, Courts of Justice Committee
Senate
P.O. Box 555
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22803

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL & EMAIL:

The Honorable David T. Albo
Chair, Courts of Justice
House of Delegates
6367 Rolling Mill Place, Suite 102
Springfield, Virginia 22152

**Re: Anticipated Vacancies on the Fairfax County General
District Court**

Dear Governor McAuliffe, Senator Norment, Senator Obenshain, and
Delegate Albo:

On behalf of the Virginia Women Attorneys Association
("VWAA"), a regional committee ("the Committee"), was impaneled
to evaluate candidates for two (2) anticipated vacancies on the
Fairfax County General District Court occasioned by the retirements
of the Honorable Ian M. O'Flaherty and the Honorable Thomas E.
Gallahue.

The VWAA requested that interested candidates complete the VWAA Judicial Questionnaire (the "Application"), submit a short biography, and participate in an oral interview with the Committee. Prior to the interviews, members of the Committee contacted the references listed on each candidate's Application as well as other members of the local bar and legal community to inquire as to each candidate's suitability for the vacancy. On November 10, 2015, the Committee interviewed eight (8) candidates.

It is worth noting that the VWAA ratings are based upon a review of each candidate's merits against published standards and guidelines, including the following: fairness, integrity, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, and *pro bono* service. Ratings are not a function of a general vote by the VWAA membership nor are they a comparison of candidates within the "pool" presented.

The following rating categories are used by the VWAA:

- (1) NOT QUALIFIED: Applied to any applicant who fails to meet the minimum requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, integrity and/or other basic criteria set forth in the ABA Guidelines.
- (2) QUALIFIED: Applied to any applicant who meets the minimum requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, integrity and/or other basic criteria set forth in the ABA Guidelines.
- (3) RECOMMENDED: Applied to applicants whose qualifications are sufficiently above the minimum requirements to warrant the Committee's affirmative recommendation.
- (4) HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: Reserved for any candidate who is especially well-qualified for the position and merits special recommendation.

The VWAA's procedures provide that ratings of "Qualified" and "Recommended" require a vote in support by at least a simple majority of the Committee. A rating of "Highly Recommended" requires a vote in support by at least a two-thirds majority of those voting. In order for the Committee to find that a candidate fails to meet the minimum qualifications and is "Not Qualified," at least two-thirds of those voting must so find.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the VWAA has approved, in accordance with its procedures, the following endorsements of the Committee for this judicial vacancy:

Dontae L. Bugg, Esquire is found *highly recommended*.
Daniel T. Crowe Lopez, Esquire is found *highly recommended*.
John A. Kassabian, Esquire is found *highly recommended*.
Susan J. Stanford Stoney, Esquire is found *highly recommended*.

Michael H. Cantrell, Esquire is found *recommended*.
Susan F. Earman, Esquire is found *recommended*.

Marc J. Birnbaum, Esquire is found *qualified*.
Luis A. Perez, Esquire is found *qualified*.

Executive summaries of the qualifications of each of the above candidates are attached to this letter.

For your further information, the Committee members participating in the interview process were as follows:

Maha-Rebekah Abejuela, Esquire: Ms. Abejuela is an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney with the Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office where she regularly prosecutes criminal, traffic, and juvenile matters. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2008.

Diana H. D'Alessandro, Esquire: Ms. D'Alessandro is an associate with the law firm of Pesner Kawamoto PLC. She focuses her practice on general civil litigation. Prior to joining Pesner Kawamoto, Ms. D'Alessandro served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable David S. Schell of the Fairfax Circuit Court for two years. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2010.

Anastasia T. Kranias, Esquire: Ms. Kranias is an associate with the law firm of Greenspun Shapiro PC. She focuses her practice in criminal defense litigation, including traffic offenses, criminal misdemeanors and felonies, and juvenile matters. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2011.

Jennifer Leffler, Esquire: Ms. Leffler is a partner at the law firm of LefflerPhillips, PLC. She focuses her practice in criminal defense litigation, including traffic offenses, criminal misdemeanors and felonies, juvenile matters, protective orders, domestic assault and battery, and probation violations. Ms. Leffler is a former Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for Fairfax County and a former judicial law clerk to the Honorable Jane M. Roush. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2009.

Lana M. Manitta, Esquire: Ms. Manitta is a partner with the law firm of Rich Rosenthal Brincefield Manitta Dzubin & Kroeger, LLP. She focuses her practice in the areas federal and state criminal defense, family law, and federal and state appeals. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 1998.

Kimberley Ann Murphy, Esquire: Ms. Murphy is a partner and principal attorney with the law firm of Hale Ball Carlson Baumgartner Murphy PLC. She focuses her practice in the areas of Administrative Law (professional license compliance), Estates and Trusts (administration and litigation) and Business/Civil Litigation. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2000.

All members of the Committee practice regularly in the Fairfax County General District Court.

We hope that this information will prove helpful to you during your selection process for these very important judicial positions. Please feel free to contact VWAA President Betsy Sue Scott should you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully yours,



Diana H. D'Alessandro
Judicial Chair, Northern Virginia Chapter
Virginia Women Attorneys Association

Enclosures: Executive Summary of Dontae L. Bugg, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Daniel T. Crowe Lopez, Esquire
 Executive Summary of John A. Kassabian, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Susan J. Stanford Stoney, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Michael H. Cantrell, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Susan F. Earman, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Marc J. Birnbaum, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Luis A. Perez, Esquire

CC (by email only): Dontae L. Bugg., Esquire
 Daniel T. Crowe Lopez, Esquire
 John A. Kassabian, Esquire
 Susan J. Stanford Stoney, Esquire
 Michael H. Cantrell, Esquire
 Susan F. Earman, Esquire
 Marc J. Birnbaum, Esquire
 Luis A. Perez, Esquire

CC (by email only): Senator Adam Ebbin
 Senator Barbara Favola
 Senator David Marsden
 Senator George L. Barker
 Senator J. Chapman Petersen
 Senator Janet D. Howell
 Senator Linda T. Puller
 Senator Jennifer T. Wexton
 Senator Richard L. Saslaw
 Delegate Alfonso Lopez
 Delegate Barbara Comstock
 Delegate David Albo
 Delegate David Bulova
 Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn
 Delegate James LeMunyon
 Delegate Charniele L. Herring
 Delegate Robert J. Krupicka, Jr.
 Delegate Kenneth R. Plum
 Delegate Patrick A. Hope
 Delegate L. Kaye Kory
 Delegate Mark D. Sickles
 Delegate Mark. L. Keam
 Delegate Marcus B. Simon
 Delegate Richard C. Sullivan, Jr.
 Delegate Timothy D. Hugo
 Delegate Scott A. Surovell
 Delegate Thomas Davis Rust
 Delegate Vivian E. Watts

CC (by email only): Maha-Rebekah Abejuela, Esquire
Anastasia T. Kranias, Esquire
Jennifer Leffler, Esquire
Lana M. Manitta, Esquire
Kimberley A. Murphy, Esquire

Betsy Sue Scott, Esquire, VWAA President
Chandra Lantz, Co-Chair of VWAA's Judiciary Committee
Camille Allan Crandall, VWAA, Northern Virginia Chapter, President

DONTAE L. BUGG

Experience and Legal Ability: Dontae L. Bugg earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Richmond, T.C. Williams School of Law in 2006. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2007.

Mr. Bugg is the founder of the Bugg Law Firm, PLLC. Prior to founding his own firm, Mr. Bugg gained substantial trial and litigation experience as an associate attorney for two Virginia law firms. He has consistently concentrated his practice in the areas of criminal defense, domestic relations, and serious traffic matters in Virginia and the District of Columbia. He practices regularly in federal and state courts. He presently serves as a Virginia Indigent Defense Commission Certified Counsel, a Qualified Guardian *ad litem* for children, and a Federal Criminal Justice Act Panel Attorney.

Mr. Bugg is active in the legal community and is a member of the George Mason American Inn of Court, Northern Virginia Black Attorney's Association, Northern Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce, the Fairfax Bar Association, the Arlington Bar Association, the National College of DUI Defense, and the Virginia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. He generously donates his time providing *pro bono* services for the Legal Services of Northern Virginia Attorney of the Day program and the DC Superior Attorney Negotiator program. He also remains active in the local community, where he is a frequent guest speaker at schools and for community groups throughout the Commonwealth. He has organized clothing, food, and toy drives to benefit the underprivileged. He has also served as a mock trial participant for the Color of Justice and Kamp Kappa programs.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview, and professional references, Mr. Bugg demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the General District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Bugg possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve on the General District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. Bugg is especially well-qualified for the position and merits special recommendation. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Highly Recommended**.

DANIEL T. CROWE LOPEZ

Experience and Legal Ability: Daniel Tomas Crowe Lopez earned his Juris Doctor from the George Washington University School of Law in 1996. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1996.

Mr. Lopez is a former Public Defender for Fairfax County, Virginia where he represented indigent defendants for five years. In 2002, he co-founded the law firm of Lopez, Meleen & Sprano, PLC, and in 2009, he joined the law firm of Briglia Hundley, PC, in Vienna, Virginia as a partner. His practice consists primarily of criminal defense in which he represents a significant number of Latino immigrants and second generation Latinos. He has been on the Fairfax County court appointed list for twelve years and is certified by the Indigent Defense Commission to handle felony defense cases. He is also qualified by the Indigent Defense Commission to represent defendants in capital murder cases. The remainder of his practice includes representing clients in deportation hearings before the Immigration Court.

In 2007, Mr. Lopez was appointed to serve as a substitute judge, and he has continued to serve in that capacity. He has served as a substitute judge in the General District and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts in Fairfax, Prince William, Arlington, and Loudoun. He greatly enjoys serving the citizens of the Commonwealth as a substitute judge. Mr. Lopez is a member of the Fairfax Bar Association, the Hispanic Bar Association and the Virginia Bar Association.

Mr. Lopez volunteers as a board member of the Arlington Soccer Association. He also serves as a South Arlington Soccer Manager and volunteers his time coaching youth soccer.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview, and professional references, Mr. Lopez has demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the General District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Lopez possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the General District Court.

Overall Evaluation: In a prior screening earlier this year, the empanelled Committee issued Mr. Lopez a rating of Recommended. A rating of Recommended requires a vote in support by a simple majority of those voting. A rating of Highly Recommended requires a vote in support by at least a two-thirds majority of those voting. On November 10, 2015, at least two-thirds of the majority of those voting found that Mr. Lopez is especially well-qualified for the position of General District Court judge and merits special recommendation. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Highly Recommended**.

JOHN A. KASSABIAN

Experience and Legal Ability: John A. Kassabian earned his Juris Doctor from the District of Columbia School of Law in 1993. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1995.

Mr. Kassabian is a partner at the family owned law firm of Kassabian & Kassabian, P.L.C., and has been with that firm since 2002. He is engaged in the general practice of law with an emphasis in criminal and traffic defense. Since May 2010, he has also been the Fairfax City Prosecutor employed as an independent contractor to the Fairfax City Attorney. Prior to May 2010, he served as the Assistant City Prosecutor since October 2002.

In March 2007, the Honorable Michael P. McWeeny, Chief Judge of the Fairfax County Circuit Court, appointed Mr. Kassabian as a substitute judge for the Fairfax County General District Court and the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. In February 2013, the Honorable Dennis J. Smith, Chief Judge of the Fairfax County Circuit Court, re-appointed Mr. Kassabian as a substitute judge. In this capacity, Mr. Kassabian has presided over hundreds of cases in the Fairfax County General District Court, the Prince William County General District Court, and the Loudoun County General District Court.

Within the legal community, Mr. Kassabian is an active member of the Virginia State Bar, the Fairfax Bar, and the Prince William Bar. He has been very involved with the Fairfax Bar Association's General District Court Committee since 2008, serving as Chairman from 2009 to 2013 and Co-Chairman from 2013 to 2014. Mr. Kassabian serves as a Master for the George Mason American Inn of Court and an Ombudsman of the Judicial Feedback Program for the Fairfax County General District Court. He is involved with mentorship within the Fairfax Bar and participates in a number of Fairfax County Model Judiciary Programs, and George Mason University Moot Court Competitions.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview and professional references, Mr. Kassabian demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the General District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Kassabian possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve on the General District Court.

Overall Evaluation: In a prior screening earlier this year, the empanelled Committee issued Mr. Kassabian a rating of Recommended. A rating of Recommended requires a vote in support by a simple majority of those voting. A rating of Highly Recommended requires a vote in support by at least a two-thirds majority of those voting. On November 10, 2015, at least two-thirds of the majority of those voting found that Mr. Kassabian is especially well-qualified for the position of General District Court judge and merits special recommendation. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Highly Recommended**.

SUSAN J. STANFORD STONEY

Experience and Legal Ability: Susan J. Stanford Stoney earned her Juris Doctor degree from William & Mary Law School in 1988. She was admitted to the practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1988.

Ms. Stoney currently serves as Deputy Director of Legal Services of Northern Virginia, a position she has held since January, 2010. In that capacity, Ms. Stoney handles civil legal cases for low-income residents of Northern Virginia who cannot afford counsel and who would otherwise go unrepresented. Ms. Stoney's practice has included consumer and housing law cases, bankruptcy and debt collection defense work, a variety of family law cases, and employment law cases.

Most of Ms. Stoney's legal career has been in the public interest sector where she has served low-income, elderly and disabled individuals in the Northern Virginia area. In addition to Legal Services of Northern Virginia, Ms. Stoney has worked for Central Virginia Legal Aid Society, Inc., Family Legal Assistance Project, and Potomac Legal Aid Society, Inc. From 1988-1990, Ms. Stoney clerked for the Honorable James W. Benton, Jr. (Ret.) on the Virginia Court of Appeals.

In July of 2015, Ms. Stoney was appointed to serve as a substitute judge for the Fairfax County General District Court and the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court. As a General District Court substitute judge, she has presided over traffic matters, criminal misdemeanor and felony preliminary hearings, animal control matters as well as civil matters, including unlawful detainer actions.

Ms. Stoney has served the legal community as a member of the Virginia State Bar Professionalism Faculty, as a trial advocacy faculty member for a Virginia Poverty Law Center CLE, and as a moderator for domestic violence and legal aid trainings. Ms. Stoney is a member of the Virginia State Bar Access to Justice Commission's Committee on Access for Self-Represented Litigants, the Virginia State Bar Access to Legal Services Committee, the Fairfax County Domestic Violence Policy, Planning and Coordinating Council, the Fairfax Bar Association, the Northern Virginia Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Northern Virginia Women Attorneys Association, and has been both a member and chair of the Virginia State Bar 5th District Division III Disciplinary Committee. Ms. Stoney is also a board member of the Fairfax County Safe Havens Supervised Visitation and Exchange Program and is currently the Chair of the Board of the Fairfax Area Community Emergency and Transitional Services (FACETS).

Fairness and Temperament: Through her submissions and interview Ms. Stoney demonstrated to the Committee that she possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the General District Court bench.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Ms. Stoney possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve in the General District Court.

Overall Evaluation: In a prior screening earlier this year, the empanelled Committee issued Ms. Stoney a rating of Recommended. A rating of Recommended requires a vote in support by a simple majority of those voting. A rating of Highly Recommended requires a vote in support by at least a two-thirds majority of those voting. On November 10, 2015, at least two-thirds of the majority of those voting found that Ms. Stoney is especially well-qualified for the position of General District Court judge and merits special recommendation. She warrants the Committee's rating of **Highly Recommended**.

MICHAEL H. CANTRELL

Experience and Legal Ability: Michael H. Cantrell earned his Juris Doctor from the George Mason University School of Law in 1988. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1988.

Mr. Cantrell has been a sole practitioner at the law firm of Michael H. Cantrell, P.C. since January of 1989. He concentrates his practice in the areas of criminal defense, traffic defense, and juvenile defense. He practices regularly in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, General District Court, and Circuit Court of Fairfax County and surrounding jurisdictions.

In September of 2013, Mr. Cantrell was appointed to serve as substitute judge for the Fairfax County General District Courts. In that capacity, Mr. Cantrell has presided over approximately 50 bench trials involving a variety of criminal and civil matters.

Mr. Cantrell is a member of the Board of Directors of Friends of the Fairfax Juvenile Court and a past advisor to Parents Support Group for the Juvenile Court. He is a member of the criminal section of the Fairfax County Bar Association.

In September of 2013, Mr. Cantrell was the recipient of the Golden Gavel Award and in June of 2005, Mr. Cantrell received the Arnold B. Kassabian Memorial Award. He has also been recognized by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County Police Department, and the Fairfax County Sheriff's Department for his charitable work to benefit needy children.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview, and professional references, Mr. Cantrell demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the General District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Cantrell possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the General District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. Cantrell's qualifications are sufficiently above the minimum requirements for the position of a General District Court judge and merit the Committee's affirmative recommendation. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Recommended**.

SUSAN F. EARMAN

Experience and Legal Ability: Susan F. Earman earned her Juris Doctor degree from George Mason University Law School in 1993. She was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1993.

Ms. Earman began her legal career with the family-owned law firm of Friedlander & Friedlander in 1993 located in Falls Church. In 2003, she became a partner with the firm of Friedlander, Friedlander & Earman, PC. Ms. Earman's practice focuses on residential and commercial real estate litigation, landlord tenant disputes, and land use and zoning issues. Ms. Earman also handles traffic and misdemeanor matters. She practices regularly in the Circuit and General District Court throughout Northern Virginia.

In November of 2012, Ms. Earman was appointed to serve as a substitute judge for the 17th Judicial District. In this role, she has presided over hundreds of civil and criminal matters, including traffic, DWI, possession of marijuana, and unlawful detainer cases. She has served as a substitute judge in the District Courts of Arlington County, Fairfax County, Loudoun County, and Stafford County.

Ms. Earman was a member of the Falls Church City Board of Zoning Appeals from 1999 through 2009 serving as its Vice Chairman (2004-2005) and then as Chairman (2006-2007). In addition, Ms. Earman was a member of the Falls Church Planning Commission from 1993 through 1998 and served as its Vice Chairman in 1998. She serves on the board of the McLean Bar Association and is a member of the Fairfax Bar Association, Arlington Bar Association, and George Mason American Inn of Court.

Ms. Earman generously donates time every month providing *pro bono* services to the Lee Graham Swim and Tennis Board of Directors. She also assists local PTAs and provides guidance to the Falls Church Board of Zoning Appeals. Further, Ms. Earman provides *pro bono* services on real estate and traffic matters to parties who lack the financial means to retain legal counsel.

Fairness and Temperament: Through her submissions, interview, and professional references, Ms. Earman demonstrated to the Committee that she possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the General District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Ms. Earman possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve on the General District Court.

Overall Evaluation: In a prior screening earlier this year, the empanelled Committee issued Ms. Earman a rating of Highly Recommended. A rating of Highly Recommended requires a vote in support by at least a two-thirds majority of those voting. On November 10, 2015, a majority of the Committee members found that while Ms. Earman's qualifications are sufficiently above the minimum requirements for the position of a General District Court judge and merit the Committee's affirmative recommendation, her experience, temperament, and responses to their questions did not merit special recommendation. She warrants the Committee's rating of **Recommended**.

MARC J. BIRNBAUM

Experience and Legal Ability: Mr. Birnbaum earned his Juris Doctor degree from Tulane University School of Law in 2002. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2002.

Mr. Birnbaum is a Virginia Assistant Attorney General, assigned to the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Division. He also serves as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, assigned to the Major Crimes and Narcotics Section. He specializes in investigating and prosecuting violent crimes, gang-related offenses, human trafficking, and narcotics distribution resulting in death. He also handles a small number of civil matters related to criminal cases, such as forfeitures, expungements, and motions to quash.

In addition to teaching a number of legal courses for law enforcement officials, Mr. Birnbaum served on the Policy Issues Panel for the Virginia Heroin and Prescription Drug Summit and the Governor's Summit on Human Trafficking. He has taught numerous C.L.E. courses, including the following: Gang Busters: Human Trafficking and its Nexus to Gang Investigations (2014); National White Collar Crime Center Illicit Cigarette Trafficking Seminar (2013); Arson Investigation and Prosecution for the National Fire Academy (2013). His publications include the following: Low-Power FM: The Federal Communication Commission's Conflicting Roles of Policing the Spectrum and Ensuring Community Access to the Airwaves, Tulane Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property, v. 4.

Mr. Birnbaum is a member of the Fairfax Bar Association and serves as President of the Clifton Grove Homeowners Association. His numerous awards include the 2014 Federal Bureau of Investigation Service Award, 2014 Fellow, International Fellowship Program, National Association of Attorneys General, 2013 National Award for Performance Above and Beyond the Call of Duty from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and 2012 Virginia Prosecutor of the Year from the Virginia Gang Investigators Association.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions and interview, Mr. Birnbaum has demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the General District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Birnbaum possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the General District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. Birnbaum meets the requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, integrity. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Qualified**.

LUIS A. PEREZ

Experience and Legal Ability: Luis A. Perez earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Puerto Rico Law School in 1981. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1990.

Mr. Perez is a sole practitioner with the law firm of Luis A Perez P.C., where he concentrates his practice in the areas of domestic relations, criminal and traffic defense, and immigration law. He practices regularly in courts throughout Northern Virginia. Sixty percent (60.00%) of his practice is at the General District Court and the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court levels.

Approximately six to ten times per year, Mr. Perez generously provides *pro bono* legal services to Legal Services of Northern Virginia and the Fairfax Bar Pro-bono Program. In recognition of his *pro bono* and community service activities, Mr. Perez was awarded the Chief Justice Harry L. Carrico Pro Bono Award by Legal Services of Northern Virginia in 2009 and The James Keith Public Service Award by the Fairfax Bar Association in 2007. In 2011, Mr. Perez earned the Virginia's Leaders in the Law award by Virginia Lawyer's Weekly.

Mr. Perez remains active in the legal community. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Virginia State Bar Diversity Conference, a member of the Virginia State Bar Council, 19th Judicial Circuit, and General Counsel to and a Board Member of the Fairfax Bar Association. He is also a past President of the Fairfax Bar Law Foundation (2012-2013) and a past Chairman of the Fairfax Bar Juvenile and Domestic Relations Committee (2007-2008).

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview, and professional references, Mr. Perez demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the General District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Perez possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve on the General District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. Perez meets the requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, and integrity. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Qualified**.