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August 21, 2007

## VIA HAND DELIVERY

Honorable Charlie Crist  
Office of the Governor  
The Capitol, PL05  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Re: Miguel M. de la O – Appointment to Circuit Court

Dear Governor Crist:

Please accept this letter as support for the nomination of Miguel de la O to be a circuit judge in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit.

I have known Miguel since law school (now over 17 years) and currently serve with Miguel on the Florida Board of Bar Examiners ("FBBE" or "Board"). The FBBE is a 15 member administrative arm of the Florida Supreme Court that administers the bar exam and conducts pre-admission character and fitness investigations on applicants to the Florida Bar. Members of the FBBE are appointed by the Florida Supreme Court after an evaluation of their academic and professional skills and character. Miguel is completing his fifth year on the Board and is currently serving as our Chair, which is a measure of the high esteem in which he is held by our group.

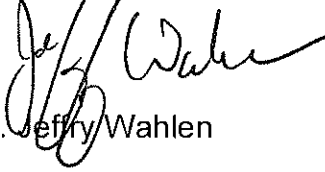
During my two years of service with Miguel on the Board, I have seen him interact with members of the public, applicants to the Bar, counsel to applicants, other board members and members of the FBBE staff. Without exception, Miguel has treated all applicants as individuals and has shown them great respect and courtesy. I have never seen him lose his temper, be sarcastic or otherwise act unprofessionally, even when the conduct of applicants might excuse it. By his actions, Miguel has shown his understanding that all persons who come before the Board are entitled to a full and fair hearing and should be treated with respect, even when they sometimes act in a disrespectful manner.

Miguel is bright, articulate, and curious by nature. He has effective communication skills, in English and Spanish. He has a strong academic background, outstanding work and volunteer experience and is a person of outstanding character.

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Miguel has never done anything to embarrass me as a friend or a fellow Board member and I cannot imagine him ever doing anything to bring discredit on the Courts or you, should you decide to appoint him to the bench. To the contrary, I believe appointing Miguel to the Circuit Court will bring great credit to you and well serve the citizens of the State of Florida.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Wahlen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

J. Jeffrey Wahlen

JJW/jh