

August 31, 2007

Via Facsimile & U.S. Mail  
(850) 487-0801

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

Re: Vacancy on the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court of Florida,  
In and for Miami-Dade County  
Nominee: Miguel de la O, Esquire

Dear Governor Crist:

I write to highly recommend the appointment of Miguel de la O to the vacancy on the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court of Florida in Miami-Dade County. It is my understanding that his name has been submitted to you for consideration by the Eleventh Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission.

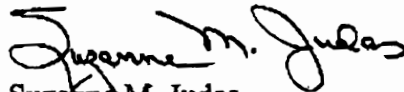
Mr. de la O currently serves as Chair of the Florida Board of Bar Examiners and I serve as his Vice Chair. As members of the Board of Bar Examiners we serve, in part, in a quasi-judicial role. Mr. de la O and I have worked together for the past three years in this capacity and I have observed him in investigative and formal hearings. I have been very impressed with Mr. de la O's consistent and thorough preparation for these hearings, his even-handed and respectful questioning of applicants, and his respect for and knowledge of the rule of law in making decisions on whether or not the applicant is qualified to practice law in Florida. As Board Members, we also are responsible for the preparation and grading of the bar examination, and Mr. de la O's keen intellect and leadership have served the Board well in this capacity also.

It does not take much time working with Mr. de la O to realize why he has been named by his peers as a "Super Lawyer", "Best of the Bar," and one of Florida's "Legal Elite". However, if those accolades recognize superb skills as a lawyer, equally impressive is his work as a mentor for law students and as a guardian ad litem, and his work with minorities in his community. This work demonstrates in thought as well as action Mr. de la O's personal connection with, and involvement in, the Miami-Dade community, as well as a personal recognition of the importance of giving back to one's community. In my opinion both of these attributes are important in those whom we ask to administer justice

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The Circuit Court bench in Miami would be fortunate to have Mr. de la O sitting on it. I have no doubt that persons seeking justice in his court would be treated with respect, and have the benefit of thoughtful, deliberate, timely and fair decisions.

Very truly yours,

  
Suzanne M. Judas

cc: Miguel de la O, Esquire

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