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**Subject:** : Estrada  
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1. Attached please find some additional Miguel Estrada Talking Points, as provided by Pat O'Brien of the DoJ.
  2. Reminder: Coordination meeting TODAY at 1:30 in Russell 120.
- Estrada TPs (DoJ).wpd

Message Sent

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## Miguel Estrada

### **U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit**

- Miguel Estrada was born in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. He immigrated to the United States as a teenager speaking virtually no English. If confirmed, Estrada will be the first Hispanic Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.
- Mr. Estrada graduated *magna cum laude* from Columbia College and *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School. He was a member of the editorial board of the *Harvard Law Review*.
- Mr. Estrada has amassed an extraordinarily distinguished record as a lawyer in private practice and for the government:
  - He is currently a partner at Gibson Dunn & Crutcher in Washington, handling primarily appellate litigation and civil matters on behalf of a variety of clients.
  - From September 1992 to July 1997, Mr. Estrada served as an Assistant to the Solicitor General and represented the United States in the Supreme Court (Estrada thus served over four years in the Solicitor General's office during the Clinton Administration). In that capacity, he argued 14 cases before the Supreme Court on both criminal and civil matters.
  - Mr. Estrada was an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York from 1990 to 1992. He became Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section in that office. He tried approximately 10 cases as a prosecutor and argued 7 cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.
  - Mr. Estrada was an attorney at Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz for two years following his judicial clerkships.
  - He served as a law clerk for Justice Anthony M. Kennedy on the United States Supreme Court from 1988 until 1989. Before that, he served as a law clerk to Judge Amalya Kearse on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. ((Judge Kears was a Carter nominee)).
  - In all, Mr. Estrada has argued 15 cases before the Supreme Court as an attorney for the United States and as a private lawyer. In that capacity, he has amassed a 10-4 record, with one case where the Court did not reach the question he presented. He is widely admired (including by Supreme Court Justices of varying ideologies) for the thoroughness and the quality of his written and oral advocacy.
- Mr. Estrada has served the public in variety of ways apart from his extensive service to the United States, including representation of indigent criminal defendants on a pro bono



basis.

- Most notably, Mr. Estrada represented a capital defendant in the case of *Stricker v. Greene* before the Supreme Court. Mr. Stricker was a Virginia death row inmate, and Mr. Estrada argued that Mr. Stricker should be granted a new trial due to the prosecution withholding evidence that could raise questions as to the credibility of a key eyewitness.
- During his first year of private practice, Mr. Estrada represented an incarcerated defendant who was seeking habeas corpus relief from his state conviction. Mr. Estrada spent approximately 300 hours on that case.
- Mr. Estrada is a trustee of the Supreme Court Historical Society. Since 1988, he has been a member of the National Board of Directors of the Center for Community Interest.
- He is a Barrister in the Edward Bennett Williams White Collar Inn of Court and a Barrister in the Edward Coke Appellate Inn of Court.
- Mr. Estrada is now 40. On the current court, Chief Judge Douglas Ginsburg was 40 when confirmed to the D.C. Circuit, and Judge Harry Edwards was 39 when he took his seat on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Mr. Estrada received a Well-Qualified rating from the American Bar Association (the highest rating they give).
- Ron Klain (former Vice President Gore's chief of staff) and Seth Waxman are among those that have publically expressed their support of Miguel Estrada.
- Miguel has the support of the Hispanic community. The following are examples of organizations that are willing to provide public support for his nomination:
  - 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
  - Casa Del Sinaloense
  - Hispanic Engineers Business Corporation
  - Hispanic Contractors of America, Inc.