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August 5, 2021

Selection Committee
Hispanic National Bar Association
1900 L Street N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Members of the Selection Committee:

It is our great privilege to support, on behalf of LatinoJustice PRLDEF (LJP), the nomination of José Ramón González, Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary, Equitable Holdings, for the 2021 Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) Latino Attorney of the Year award.

As a member of the LJP Board of Directors since 2013 and having ascended to the role of Board Chair in 2020, José's service as a volunteer and leader has had a profound impact on Latinx communities throughout the country. Since 1972, LatinoJustice PRLDEF has sought to protect the human and civil rights of Latinos throughout the country. Additionally, LJP has engaged in law reform impact litigation, legal advocacy and leadership development to strengthen Latino communities as well as the pipeline of Latino lawyers and leaders. Our Board of Directors have been instrumental in helping to secure the necessary financial resources needed to carry out this critical work.

José has been a guiding force among his fellow Board members as they have strategically worked to connect their networks to LatinoJustice's staff and programs, cultivating funding and in-kind resources to support our voting rights, immigrant rights, criminal justice reform and economic justice work. Under José's leadership, the Board has increased the number of law firms and corporations supporting our work through event and program sponsorships. His personal investments, both financial and as a volunteer, have helped build LJP's profile as a leading national social justice organization.

A dedicated ambassador for LIP, Jose has led by example, reaching out to his vast network to help secure volunteers for our legal education programs and pro bono counsel to help carry out our litigation. When we need external stakeholders to weigh in on organizational or external issues, José is always among the first people we tap both for his passionate commitment to upholding the rights of the Latino community and for his steady and comprehensive approach to securing participation from the greater community. José has mentored members of our young professionals' board, the LIP Lideres, and has

also recruited many talented young Latino lawyers to volunteer and participate in LJP's events and programs. His commitment to building a pipeline of Latino leaders who support LJP will continue to benefit the organization for years to come.

José cares deeply for the work that we do and for the advancement of civil and human rights for all. He models the kind of dedicated leadership that nonprofit organizations need and look for to thrive and grow. His commitment has had a tremendous impact on our current strong financial and programmatic position, and the staff and board of LatinoJustice PRLDEF recognize and appreciate José as a true social justice champion. We unequivocally support Jose's nomination and urge the HNBA to select José as its 2021 HNBA Latino Attorney of the Year; his service, dedication and accomplishments exemplify exemplary Latino leadership.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at 212.219.3360 if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Juan Cartagena

President & General Counsel

José Perez

**Deputy General Counsel**