



Puerto Rican Bar Association of Illinois
2332 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60647

January 3, 2008

John O. Steele
8359 South Vernon Avenue
Chicago, IL 60619

Re: Primary Election Candidacy

Dear Mr. Steele:

Based on the information contained in your applications as well as the investigation and interview conducted by the Alliance of Bar Associations for Judicial Screening (“the Alliance”), the Puerto Rican Bar Association of Illinois (“PRBA”) finds you “Highly Recommended” for the office of Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court. This evaluation is effective for three years. You should note that the PRBA has three classifications for primary candidates: Highly Recommended, Recommended and Not Recommended.

Please note that this evaluation does not constitute an “endorsement” of your candidacy by the PRBA. You are precluded from referring to it as such because the PRBA does not endorse candidates for judicial office. If it is determined that you are referring to this evaluation as an “endorsement” by the PRBA in any campaign, including but not limited to political or judicial office, the PRBA reserves the right to change your evaluation to “Not Recommended” and to publish the change in your evaluation.

If you have any questions regarding this evaluation, please contact me at (773) 759-2224.

Sincerely,

Enrique Abraham
Chair of the PRBA JEC

**Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago
Post Office Box 64933
Chicago, Illinois 60664-0933**

December 17, 2007

Hon. John O. Steele
8359 South Vernon Avenue
Chicago, IL 60619

Dear Judge Steele:

As a constituent member of the Alliance of Bar Associations for Judicial Screening (Alliance), the Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago (LAGBAC) is grateful for your cooperation with the Alliance's process of judicial evaluation. We trust that you found the undertaking helpful and fair. If you have comments or concerns about the Alliance's evaluation process, we hope you will please help us make improvements. You may communicate with LAGBAC directly or, if you prefer, you may send a signed or anonymous letter to the Alliance in care of Joyce Williams at the Illinois State Bar Association, 20 S. Clark Street Suite 900, Chicago, Illinois 60603.

In the interest of clarity, we would like to provide you with an outline of LAGBAC's criteria for recommendation for election or appointment to the bench.

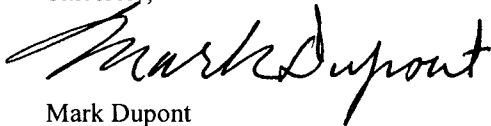
First, we have evaluated your candidacy based on information gained from your written application, the Alliance's investigation, and your in-person interview with the Alliance on September 17, 2007.

Second, the LAGBAC Judicial Evaluation Committee looks for each of the following in all candidates: excellence in legal, analytical, and writing skills; demonstrated impartiality; a thorough understanding of the entire legal process; a patient and respectful temperament; and sensitivity to issues of concern to lesbians and gay men, women, and people of color. We also consider each candidate's personal and professional integrity, character, and extent of community participation and service.

Based on these factors, we have found you **Recommended** for election to the Illinois Appellate Court.

Thank you again for your time and attention, and good luck in your pursuit of a position on the appellate bench.

Sincerely,



Mark Dupont
Judicial Evaluation Committee
(312) 435-3001
markdupont@earthlink.net