

Senator Luján's Introduction of Matthew Garcia

Good morning to the members of the Judiciary committee, and to the guests joining today's hearing.

Thank you Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley for convening this hearing on the nomination of Matthew Garcia for a seat on the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico.

Matthew Garcia is an experienced litigator who has dedicated his life to the pursuit of justice.

I'm confident Mr. Garcia will serve New Mexico admirably on the District Court - not only because his education and professional experience is deeply rooted in service - but because he is a man of outstanding character.

Garcia received his B.A. from the University of New Mexico in 1999 and then went on to earn a Masters in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government in 2003. Garcia completed his formal education back home as a forever Lobo at the University of New Mexico, earning his J.D..

Apart from his formal education, Mr. Garcia took it upon himself after graduating, to devote his legal career to New Mexico— rooting himself in our state's history, societal problems, and the harmful injustices our citizens still live with each and every day.

He started his career in the private sector, gaining experience on a broad range of issues, including multistate antitrust actions, personal injury matters, and related torts.

For many years, Mr. Garcia fought against unlawful discrimination and represented plaintiffs in wage theft cases.

In 2019, Matthew Garcia began serving as General Counsel to New Mexico's Governor, Michelle Lujan Grisham, and later as her Chief of Staff.

Mr. Garcia has a proven track record of standing up for the people of New Mexico, and a life of service to back it up. He is brilliant, unflappable, humble, and committed to justice. He has all the makings of an excellent judge.

I have no doubt that he will continue representing the best our state has to offer while seated on the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico.

Thank you for your time and for inviting me to be here today.