



Women Construction Owners & Executives, USA

February 5, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

On behalf of the Women Construction Owners and Executives (WCOE), I am pleased to write in support of the nomination of Ms. Isabel Guzman to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA). WCOE's focus is helping woman-owned businesses – and women executives – succeed in the construction industry.

Clearly, Ms. Guzman is an outstanding candidate for the SBA Administrator position. Ms. Guzman is highly qualified in every aspect. In addition to being a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in economics, Ms. Guzman was a small business owner and understands not only the challenges of making payroll but also the obstacles faced by women business owners and she is uniquely qualified for the position.

WCOE's California members know her well and add their strong support to her nomination. In her role as director of the Office of Small Business Advocate of the California Office of Business and Economic Development, WCOE California members found Ms. Guzman to be a tireless advocate for small businesses. She is highly respected as an innovative problem solver and has been the persona of leadership because she listens, she hears need and develops an appropriate solution.

In Washington, there is much need for people who listen. Ms. Guzman listens and responds in a thoughtful and cogent manner to stakeholders and teammates alike. She possesses the rare talent to make those with whom she comes in contact empowered to change the world for small business.

As an association that has focused for over 35 years on helping women-owned construction business owners – and women executives – succeed in the construction industry. We want to stress the importance of helping women-owned businesses survive during this dire time in our history. Women-owned businesses have struggled to succeed in the best of times and we strongly support the nomination of Ms. Guzman who we believe will continue to focus on the needs of women-owned businesses to maintain the success they have achieved.

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Ms. Guzman is a hard worker who inspires others to work as hard as she does to attain goals. We look forward to a vote on her nomination in Committee and in the full Senate at the earliest possible date.

Sincerely,

Sheila A. Ohrenberg
WCOE National President
President, Sorella Group, Inc
1030 Pawnee Ave.
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Lee Cunningham
WCOE Legislative Committee Chair
CEO - BT Metals
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Cc: Senator Ben Cardin, Chair, Small Business & Entrepreneurship Committee
Senator Marco Rubio, Ranking Member Small Business & Entrepreneurship Committee
Members of the Small Business Committee

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