

From: **Avila, Joaquin** [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Mar 18, 2011 at 1:19 PM
Subject: Recommendation In Support of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher
To: "votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov" <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

Dear Citizens Redistricting Commission:

I am writing this e-mail to support the application of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, LLP, as voting rights counsel to the Citizens Redistricting Commission. It has been my privilege to have worked together with George H. Brown, a partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher on voting rights cases representing minority communities in challenges to discriminatory methods of election. He is very knowledgeable in applicable voting rights jurisprudence and has a special sensitivity to the voting rights of racial and ethnic minority communities in California. He is also fair and would provide the Commission with an impartial assessment of the legal standards to be applied in the Commission's analysis of proposed redistricting plans. Of the finalists for this position the Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher firm is the only firm that has represented minority plaintiffs in actions involving the impact of a method of election on the voting strength of racial and ethnic minorities. For these reasons I highly recommend the firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, LLP, as voting rights counsel to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Please note that this endorsement does not imply or constitute an endorsement by Seattle University or Seattle University School of Law.

Take Care,

Joaquin

Joaquin G. Avila
Executive Director
National Voting Rights Advocacy Initiative &
Distinguished Practitioner in Residence
Seattle University, School of Law