

**Certified Translation**

10 PANORAMA

For the Governor's Trial

**VISITING JUDGE WAS REQUESTED TO COME**

**Barbadoro will arrive after a unanimous request from the judges of the Island**

**ROSITA MARRERO**

Primera Hora

**A FEDERAL CASE "out of nothing".**

The judges of the Federal Court for the District of Puerto Rico decided to request the First Circuit to appoint a visiting judge as a result of the press conference that Governor Aníbal Acevedo Vilá held last year to talk extensively about the federal investigation against him.

This is how the Chief Judge of the Federal Court, José A. Fusté, answered yesterday the questions raised by several attorneys regarding the procedure that was carried out for the designation of the judge from New Hampshire, Paul J. Barbadoro.

[Photograph]

[Caption]: ANIBAL

On the Rack

"The federal courts and their laws that created the organism give chief judges of the Circuit the power to appoint visiting judges in any of its districts to attend to cases. For example, throughout the years tens of visiting judges have come here to work. I have worked in Maine, in Massachusetts and in the Circuit", indicated Judge Fusté in a telephone interview with **PRIMERA HORA**.

"Simply, when all this mess started coming out and the Governor held his famous press conference, the judges decided to ask (Chief Judge Michael) Boudin to send someone", he indicated.

"It was a unanimous decision to ask Judge Boudin to send someone. It's (a question) of fairness...What other way did they want me to handle it?", he maintained.

Some defense attorneys this week stated to this newspaper that the recusals of the local judges should be made public, including the minutes of the meeting in which they decided to disqualify themselves.

Judge Fusté made it clear that there were no recusals because the judges did not disqualify themselves, but rather they simply agreed to request of Boudin the designation of a visiting judge.

**EXHIBIT C**

- However, the issue being raised is that he was appointed before the indictment was filed.

Because the appointment (of Barbadoro) has nothing to do with that. He wasn't appointed for that case.

He stated that Barbadoro was appointed to take care of any case assigned to him.

"He has been appointed since last year. They're looking for the cat's fifth paw. The appointment of visiting judges is a tradition", he mentioned.

He mentioned that Court of Appeals Judge Juan R. Torruella has an appointment in Federal Court, as well as Judge Steven McCauliffe and Judge Nancy Gettner [sic].

"Magistrate Justo Arenas has appointments in other districts", he said.

- The thing is that this is a sensitive case.

"Don't you think that a person who is not in Puerto Rico, who doesn't vote here, is an alternative?"

Since the judges have not disqualified themselves, he said, they could act in the case, if necessary.

"If at any time no one can take care of (the case), one of us will do it. They're making a federal case *out of nothing*", he commented.

- Questions are being asked about whether there was a drawing of lots.

The Chief Judge of the Circuit doesn't have to draw lots to appoint a judge. We asked him to appoint a judge from among the visiting judges and he chose Barbadoro. That's it. That's all there is to that.

Fusté pointed out that the attorneys who practice in the Federal Court are governed by some rules that prohibit them from talking about the cases, like rule 83.7, for which reason he does not approve of the statements that are made to the press.

United States District Court  
For the District of Puerto Rico

-CERTIFIED-

To be a correct translation prepared by:

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