

PAUL HASTINGS

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October 13, 2011

VIA FACSIMILE

The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Fax: (202) 224-9102

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Fax: (202) 224-9516

Re: The Nomination of Judge Jacqueline Nguyen to the United States Court of Appeals for
the Ninth Circuit

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

I have been asked by the National Asian Pacific Bar Association to express my view of the nomination of Judge Jacqueline Nguyen, now of the Central District of California, to the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. While serving as the former United States Attorney for the Central District of California under President George W. Bush, I strongly endorsed Judge Nguyen for her current position as District Judge, and it is my privilege and honor to do so again for her confirmation to the Ninth Circuit.

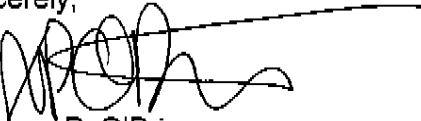
I met Judge Nguyen when she and I were both Assistant United States Attorneys in the Criminal Division in the United States Attorney's Office in Los Angeles. She was assigned to the Organized Crimes Strike Force and the Public Corruption and Government Fraud Section before rising to the position of Deputy Chief of the General Crimes Section. She supervised me when I joined the office as a prosecutor in 2000, and I had a first-hand opportunity to observe the depth of her legal reasoning, her thoughtful and calm demeanor during stressful situations, and her excellent leadership skills. Based on that experience, I believe her to be a highly qualified nominee who is intelligent, skilled, and exercises sound judgment. She has handled complex and controversial cases with technical finesse and grace. Additionally, Judge Nguyen has an outstanding reputation here in the Southern California, where she has been a leader and role model in the legal community. She will bring to the appellate bench a wealth of expertise, intellect, and integrity.

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I have every confidence that Judge Nguyen will be an excellent appellate judge, and she has my complete and personal recommendation for immediate confirmation. If there is any further information I can provide, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. O'Brien', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Thomas P. O'Brien
of PAUL HASTINGS LLP