



c/o T. Christine Pham
Rosenberg Martin Greenberg, LLP
25 South Charles Street, Suite 2115
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
410.547.9142
E-mail: info@APABA-MD.org
Website: www.APABA-MD.org

December 16, 2013

VIA First Class Mail and Electronic Transmission
info@judiciary-dem.senate.gov

Senator Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman
Senator Chuck Grassley, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Confirmation of Theodore D. Chuang for the
United States District Court for the District of Maryland

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Maryland (“APABA-MD”), we submit this letter in support of the confirmation of Theodore D. Chuang’s nomination for the judicial vacancy on the United States District Court for the District of Maryland.

As you may be aware, APABA-MD is the Maryland chapter of a national, professional association of attorneys. One of our goals is to promote diversity and address issues affecting the Maryland Asian and Pacific American communities.

APABA-MD commends the Senate Committee on the Judiciary for its efforts to diversify the federal bench over the last fifteen years and three presidencies. While these confirmations have certainly expanded diversity on the federal bench, for which the association is immeasurably grateful, currently less than 3% of the over 800 active federal judges are of East Asian, South Asian or Pacific American descent.

In the State of Maryland, the time is ripe for your Committee to make another mark on history by confirming the first Asian American as a United States District Court Article III Judge

in Maryland, Virginia, or Washington, D.C. The confirmation of Theodore Chuang, a member of the Maryland bar and a longtime Montgomery County resident, to the federal bench, would once again demonstrate the Committee's strong support of diversity among the leadership of our great United States.

Mr. Chuang is expected to serve as a jurist with integrity, intellect, respect, and excellence, as he has done in his years as a lawyer. Mr. Chuang will bring his unique talents, background, and perspectives to the bench. Notably, Mr. Chuang has devoted the vast majority of his professional and personal life to public service.

Following his judicial clerkship with the Honorable Dorothy Nelson, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Mr. Chuang embarked on his path of public service through his positions with the U.S Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, United States Attorney's Office, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Mr. Chuang presently serves as Deputy General Counsel for the United States Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") and has served at DHS since 2009.

Throughout his life, Mr. Chuang has developed and embodied an appreciation for the law and the role that it serves in the communities that we live in. Mr. Chuang's community service and his involvement with the Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center ("APALRC") evidence his commitment to serve the public and to promote diversity. APALRC is a non-profit legal services organization that serves APA immigrants in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. who often have nowhere else to turn. One of its goals is to ensure that APAs have access to the legal system to protect and enforce their rights. Mr. Chuang does not merely pay lip service to these efforts, but actively participates to ensure that due process of law and access to justice is available to everyone. Above all, APABA-MD is confident that Mr. Chuang will lead by example inside and outside the courtroom.

Members of APABA-MD have gotten to personally know Mr. Chuang, a member of our organization, and we strongly believe that his even temperament, keen insight and demeanor will ensure that he performs his duties and obligations with fairness and respect for our judicial system and the people that it serves. There is no doubt that Mr. Chuang will both proudly and humbly serve the citizens of Maryland, and all who come before him, with distinction. Accordingly, APABA-MD wholeheartedly supports and enthusiastically endorses the nomination of Theodore Chuang for the United States District Court for the District of Maryland.

Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley
December 16, 2013
Page 3

The President and Co-Chairs of the Judicial Selections Committee of APABA-MD are available to you should you have any questions or would like to discuss Mr. Chuang's confirmation further.

Ranju R. Shrestha, Esquire, President	877.711.5019, ext. 28933
Ari Ghosal, Esquire, Judicial Selections Co-Chair	301.804.3615
Michael W. Siri, Esquire, Judicial Selections Co-Chair	410.583.2400
T. Christine Pham, Judicial Selections Co-Chair	410.547.9142

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



T. Christine Pham
Co-Chair, APABA-MD
JUDICIAL SELECTIONS COMMITTEE