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Asian Pacific American Bar Association

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December 16, 2013

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of the Greater Washington, D.C. Area (APABA-DC), I write to respectfully request that you vote in favor of confirming Theodore D. Chuang to become the first Asian Pacific American judge on the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Greenbelt Division, and indeed, the first Asian Pacific American judge on any federal court within the Fourth Circuit. His confirmation hearing is scheduled on December 18, 2013. With over 600 members, APABA-DC is the oldest and largest association of Asian Pacific American attorneys in the national capital region. We proudly support Mr. Chuang as a long-standing member and former officer of our organization.

Mr. Chuang is very well-qualified to serve as a District Judge. He is a graduate *magna cum laude* of Harvard Law School, where he was an editor of the Harvard Law Review. Following a clerkship for a U.S. Court of Appeals judge, he practiced law as a trial attorney at the Department of Justice, an Assistant U.S. Attorney, and an attorney in private practice with a leading law firm. His nearly 20 years of legal experience has included representing the prosecution and defense in criminal matters, and plaintiffs and defendants in civil matters. Through his recent service in the Obama Administration as the Deputy General Counsel for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and prior experience as counsel to congressional committees, Mr. Chuang has a strong understanding of complex federal laws and regulations and the legislative process.

Besides being an accomplished attorney, Mr. Chuang has served as a leader in multiple bar associations, as well as non-profit legal organizations, and is an active member of the community. Most significantly, Mr. Chuang has worked to ensure that

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Maryland residents have access to justice. He has served as Chair of the Board of the Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center (APALRC), which serves low-income, limited-English proficiency Asian Americans in Montgomery County and in Washington, D.C. In this position, he has worked to secure critical funding for legal services from Montgomery County and the Maryland Legal Services Corporation. He also has served as a precinct chair for elections in Montgomery County.

Finally, we believe in the importance of having federal courts that reflect the communities they serve. Asian Americans are the fastest growing population in Montgomery County and make up approximately 14% of the County, which is served by the Greenbelt Division, yet there has never been an Asian American judge on the Maryland federal district court. We urge you to be part of the historic process of appointing an Asian American from Montgomery County to the U.S. District Court in Greenbelt.

Mr. Chuang is the son of immigrants who came to the United States 50 years ago seeking freedom and opportunity. He has devoted the majority of his professional career to public service and has demonstrated his commitment to upholding the United States Constitution and the laws of the United States for the benefit of all parties. He would be an exemplary and inspiring addition to the federal bench in Maryland. For all these reasons, we strongly urge you to support Mr. Chuang's confirmation as a judge of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Greenbelt Division.

If you would like to discuss Mr. Chuang's qualifications or any of the information above, please do not hesitate to contact me at nominations@apaba-dc.org.

Sincerely,



Tacie H. Yoon
Nominations Committee Co-Chair

APABA-DC, a 501(c)(6) organization, is the oldest and largest association of Asian Pacific American attorneys in the greater Washington, D.C. area. Since its founding in 1981, APABA-DC's membership has grown into a network of over 600 lawyers, law professors, law school students, and other community leaders. APABA-DC encourages and promotes the professional growth and advancement of our members by providing substantive professional development and educational programs, mentoring and networking opportunities, and opportunities to develop leadership and public speaking. To learn more about our organization and its activities, please visit our website at www.apaba-dc.org. Contributions to APABA-DC are not deductible as charitable contributions.