



NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

October 3, 2011

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

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Letter of Support for Miranda M. Du (D. Nev.)

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (“NAPABA”), we proudly endorse and urge the prompt confirmation of Miranda M. Du for the United States District Court for the District of Nevada. Ms. Du has the qualifications necessary to make a positive contribution as a United States District Court judge.

NAPABA is a national bar association representing the interests of Asian Pacific American attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students. Now in its 23rd year, NAPABA represents the interests of over 60 affiliate organizations and over 40,000 Asian Pacific American attorneys. NAPABA is deeply committed to supporting the appointment of qualified Asian Pacific Americans to the federal bench, especially where Asian Pacific Americans are woefully underrepresented.

Notably, Ms. Du would be the first-ever Asian Pacific American Article III judge in the District of Nevada. Given that Asian Pacific Americans represent approximately 9 percent of the population of Nevada, the confirmation of an Asian Pacific American federal judge in that jurisdiction would be significant.

Ms. Du is a partner with the prominent Nevada law firm of McDonald Carano Wilson LLP, where she has practiced for over 17 years. She leads the firm’s employment and labor law group, where she has litigated employment and complex civil cases, including cases involving misappropriation, Lanham Act violations, breach of fiduciary duties, unfair lending practices, corporate dissolution, defamation, and condemnation. She has also served as a court-appointed special advocate for abused and neglected children, and often teaches continuing legal education

courses on litigation and employment law.

Ms. Du has received support from a variety of individuals for this nomination. Current Governor Brian Sandoval has stated that: "In all the years that I have known Miranda, she has exhibited great character and is well respected in the legal community. During my tenure as a U.S. District Judge, each time Miranda appeared before me, she was always well prepared and represented her clients with integrity and distinction." Reno Mayor Robert Cashell has described Ms. Du as "effective and professional" in representing clients, and that she is "intelligent, articulate, and even-tempered." The Association of General Contractors of America has commended Ms. Du for her "personal integrity, excellent judgment, a strong legal background and the ability to understand both sides of an issue."

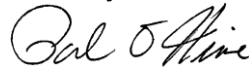
Given these comments, it is unsurprising that Ms. Du has received several awards from the Nevada legal community. These recognitions include selection as a Mountain States Rising Star by Super Lawyers in 2009, a "Top 20 Under 40" young professional in the Reno-Tahoe area in 2008, and a Woman of Achievement by the Nevada Women's Fund in 2007.

Ms. Du has demonstrated a strong commitment to community service. She has served on the board of directors for the Nevada Women's Fund (a group dedicated to strengthening the Nevada community through empowering women to improve their lives and the lives of their families), Step 2 Inc. (an organization dedicated to helping women and families through substance abuse recovery and treatment), and as a Commissioner on the Nevada Commission on Economic Development.

Miranda Du's personal story reflects strength in the American system. She is an immigrant, having left Vietnam with her parents, two siblings and extended family by boat when she was eight years old. After a year in two refugee camps in Malaysia, Ms. Du and her family were sponsored by a family in Winfield, Alabama. Ms. Du attended public schools throughout, starting in the third grade, and after the family moved to Tuscaloosa, Alabama to reunite with relatives, she and her siblings quickly learned English and assimilated with the help of caring teachers and a volunteer tutor. The Du family eventually moved to Oakland, California, where Ms. Du attended junior high and high school. Ms. Du went on to obtain a Bachelor's degree in history and economics at the University of California, Davis, and a J.D. degree from the University of California, at Berkeley. After law school, she moved to Nevada, and has practiced there ever since. In addition to the community service listed above, Ms. Du and her husband are actively involved in the Reno running community and frequently volunteer at local racing events.

Based on her qualifications, intellect, integrity, and commitment to justice, NAPABA extends an enthusiastic endorsement to Miranda M. Du to serve as a District Judge for the United States District Court for Nevada. NAPABA urges that the Senate confirm her promptly.

Sincerely,



Paul O. Hirose
President



Tina R. Matsuoka
Executive Director