

**UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1. **Name:** State full name (include any former names used).

Jacqueline Hong-Ngoc Nguyen

Hong-Ngoc Thi Nguyen 1965-1984 (birth name)

Nita (unofficial nickname used from 1976-1983)

2. **Position:** State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States District Judge for the Central District of California

3. **Address:** List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

State of California, Los Angeles Superior Court
Alhambra Courthouse, Department 1
150 West Commonwealth Avenue
Alhambra, Los Angeles County, CA 91801

Residence:



4. **Birthplace:** State year and place of birth.

1965; Dalat, Vietnam

5. **Education:** List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

1988-1991, UCLA School of Law; J.D., May 1991

1983-1987, Occidental College; A.B., June 1987

1985-1986, Waseda University (Tokyo, Japan); No degree (study abroad program)

6. **Employment Record:** List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises,

partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

2002-present

State of California, Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles
Alhambra Courthouse
150 W. Commonwealth Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91801
Judge of the Superior Court
Site (supervising) Judge, Alhambra Courthouse, October 2008-present.

1995-2002

United States Attorney's Office
312 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Deputy Chief, General Crimes Section (2000-2002)
Assistant United States Attorney (1995-2000)

1991-1994

Musick, Peeler & Garrett
One Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Associate Attorney

Summer 1990

Rosen, Wachtell & Gilbert
[now defunct]
Century City, CA
Summer Associate

Spring 1990

Public Advocates
131 Steuart Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105
Law Student Intern

Summer 1989

The Honorable Richard A. Gadbois, Jr.
United States District Court, Central District of California
312 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Judicial Extern

August 1987-March 1988

Los Angeles Unified School District
333 S. Beaudry Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Substitute Teacher (K-5)

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

None

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Keynote Speaker, Annual Dinner of the Vietnamese American Employees Association of Los Angeles County, 2009

Keynote Speaker, Installation Dinner of the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Southern California, 2008

Panel speaker, Annual National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys, 2006 and 2008

Occidental College, Alumni Award, 2007

Lecturer, "State of the Courts in Los Angeles County," Occidental College, 2007

Keynote Speaker, Installation Dinner of the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California, 2007

Keynote Speaker, Annual Vietnamese American Youth Excellence Award Luncheon, Houston, Texas, 2003

Trailblazer Award, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, 2006

Various state and U.S. congressional certificates and recognition as the first Vietnamese American woman judge in the State of California, 2002

Special Recognition Award, Asian Pacific American Legal Center, 2002

"Best Lawyer Under 40," National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, 2002

Award from the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association for outstanding contribution in the field of law enforcement, 2002

Director's Award from the Department of Justice for "Superior Performance as an Assistant United States Attorney," 2000

Special Award in the prosecution of Operation Permit to Smuggle, the "largest commercial smuggling case in the history of the U.S. Customs Service," 2000

Commendation from U.S. Attorney Alejandro N. Mayorkas, for Efforts in Prosecution of Health Care Fraud, 2000

Award from the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Diplomatic Security, for the prosecution of Operation Eastern Approach, 2000

Special Commendation from FBI Director Louis J. Freeh, for securing first conviction ever in the U.S. for providing support to a designated foreign terrorist organization, 2000

Certificates of Appreciation, Public Counsel, Children's Rights Project, 2000 and 2001.

Award from the Asian Pacific American Bar Association, in recognition of leadership as President, 2000

Special Achievement Award for Sustained Superior Performance as an Assistant United States Attorney, 1996

Special Achievement Award for Sustained Superior Performance as an Assistant United States Attorney, 1997

United States Attorney's Office "On-the-Spot" Award, 1997

Commendation from United States Attorney, assistance in Out of District Prosecution of Corrupt Customs Employee, 1996.

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

The Asian Pacific American Bar Association

President (1999-2000); Board Member (1998, 2001); Founding Member (1998)

The Japanese American Bar Association - Board of Governors (1995-1997)

The Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles County

Board of Governors (2001-2002); Co-Chair, Appointive Office Committee (2000-2001); Co-Chair, Criminal Justice Section (2001-2002).

The Asian Concerns Committee - Co-Chair (1994-1995)

At various times over the past 18 years, I have also been a member of the following organizations:

The Korean American Bar Association

The Southern California Chinese Lawyers' Association

The Vietnamese American Bar Association of Orange County

The Los Angeles County Bar Association

The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

- a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

State of California: November 1991.

There has been no lapse in membership from the date I was admitted to the date I was appointed as a judge to the Superior Court of Los Angeles County. Under the Constitution of California, a person serving as a judge of a court of record is not considered to be a member of the State Bar while in office. See California Constitution Article 6, § 9.

- b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

All state courts in the State of California, 1991

United States District Court for the Central District of California, 1991

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, 1995

There has been no lapse in membership from the date I was admitted to the date I was appointed as a judge to the Superior Court of Los Angeles County. Under the Constitution of California, a person serving as a judge of a court of record is not considered to be a member of the State Bar while in office. See California Constitution Article 6, § 9.

11. Memberships:

- a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

Parent Teacher Association for South Pasadena Unified School District.

- b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

No.

12. Published Writings and Public Statements:

- a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

I wrote a short article, "A Flight from Saigon to America", for *Gavel to Gavel*, a magazine of the Los Angeles Superior Court, published in the spring of 2006.

As President of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association ("APABA") from 1999-2000, I wrote short summaries of the organization's activities for APABA's newsletter. I have provided copies of the only one that can be located. I have no recollection of the content of any other articles or summaries that I may have written for the newsletter.

- b. Supply four (4) copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

None.

- c. Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

None.

- d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you, including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

The Asian Pacific Islander Law Students Association of Southwestern Law School, January 2009.

Annual Dinner of the Vietnamese American Employees Association of Los Angeles County, February 2009.

Installation Dinner of the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Southern California, 2003 and 2008. I have included partial notes of the 2003 remarks. I do not have copies of the rest of those notes, nor the notes for the 2008 remarks. I do not recall the specifics of these speeches, but my goal was to share my own experiences and encourage participation in public service. The association's current address is 10517 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, CA 92843.

Panel Speaker, Annual National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys, 2006 and 2008. I did not speak from any prepared text or notes. The panel discussion concerned advice from judges regarding effective courtroom presentation.

Installation Dinner of the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California, 2007. I no longer have the notes I used to deliver this speech, but some of it was similar to the speech given to the Vietnamese American Employees Association of Los Angeles County.

Lecturer, "State of the Courts in Los Angeles County", Occidental College, 2007.

The UCLA Asian Pacific Islander Law Students Association, 2004.

Annual Vietnamese American Youth Excellence Award Luncheon, Vietnamese Culture and Science Association, Houston Texas, 2003. I do not have notes from

this keynote speech. This luncheon was to honor Vietnamese American high school students who graduated as valedictorians of their high schools. The organization's current address is 4615 Belle Park Drive, Houston, Texas 77072. My remarks were designed to celebrate these students' achievements and encourage Vietnamese American students to strive and achieve their dreams, regardless of the barriers they may face.

In connection with bar association activities for the past 18 years, I have also participated in numerous other discussions or "question and answer" type sessions on issues such as work/life balance and my experiences as a Vietnamese American attorney and judge. I do not have a recollection of when or where these informal talks occurred.

- e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

The APABA Reporter – August 2000 (Volume II, Issue 3)

Asian Week – August 23-29, 2002

The Los Angeles Times – August 18, 2002

Metropolitan-News Enterprise – August 14, 2002

The Rafu Shimpo, August 23, 2002

Dia Phuong, October 7, 2002

The Daily Journal – December 9, 2003

The Occidental College Magazine – Winter 2003

The Daily Journal – August 3, 2009

The Metropolitan News – August 3, 2009

I have conducted an Internet search as well as reviewed my own records and have provided all articles that I could find in which I was quoted or a remark was attributed to me. I do not believe that I gave interviews to all of these papers directly, and perhaps the some of these articles lifted materials from other published articles. After my appointment to the Los Angeles County Superior Court in 2002, I gave several interviews to the Vietnamese language media and to other papers in the Asian Pacific American community. Other than what has already been provided, I do not have any other materials.

13. **Judicial Office:** State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

Judge, State of California, County of Los Angeles - Appointed by former Governor Gray Davis in August 2002

As a Superior Court judge, I have the authority to preside over all lawsuits filed in the County of Los Angeles. I am currently assigned to hear primarily criminal law matters. As such, I preside over matters, including trials, filed and prosecuted by the District Attorney's Office in Los Angeles County.

- a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment?

Thousands of cases, including over 65 jury trial.

- i. Of these, approximately what percent were:

jury trials? 95%; bench trials 5% [total 100%]

civil proceedings? 1%; criminal proceedings? 99% [total 100%]

- b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.

I am a trial court judge and do not issue written opinions.

- c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (3) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

- (1) People v. Danny Young, Case No. GA070636; Trial dates: October 2 to 29, 2008

Defendant was charged with multiple counts of oral copulation and sodomy on a child under 10 years old, and lewd acts with a child under 14 years old. The victim was defendant's stepdaughter. The evidence showed that defendant repeatedly sexually abused his stepdaughter, including sodomizing her when she was only eight years old. He was eventually apprehended after percipient witnesses observed the child being forced to engage in a sex act with defendant in a vehicle. Following a lengthy trial, defendant was convicted of all counts. Due to defendant's prior criminal history, on January 6, 2009, defendant was sentenced under the Three Strikes Law to a term of 250 years to life.

People's counsel: Ana Lopez
Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
300 E. Walnut
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 356-5620

Defense counsel: Geoffrey Pope
1375 Elma Ct.
Ontario, CA 91764
(909) 983-3917

- (2) People v. Dunifu Ali Kincy, Case No. GA071703; Trial dates: September 18 to 24, 2008

Defendant was charged with assault with a semi-automatic firearm, discharge of a firearm, and gun charges, arising out of a gang-related shooting in Pasadena. After the shooting, defendant crashed his vehicle and fled the scene. Percipient witnesses were unable to identify the shooter, but circumstantial evidence tied defendant to the shooting. Following a jury trial, defendant was convicted of all counts, and the gang enhancement was found to be true. On October 28, 2008, defendant was sentenced to 24 years in the state prison.

People's counsel: Mario Haidar
Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
300 E. Walnut
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 356-5620

Defense Counsel: William Jacobson
2272 Colorado Blvd., # 1226
Los Angeles, CA 90041
(323) 255-3900

- (3) People v. Gerardo Olmos, Case No. GA067272; Trial dates: August 28 to September 15, 2008

Defendant was charged with first degree murder of his common-law wife after a heated argument. The evidence showed that, while their 10-month old twins slept nearby, defendant killed the victim by stabbing her in the chest and neck. The coroner also opined that the victim may have also been strangled prior to her death. Defendant took the stand and testified to his state of mind, and the defense

tried to mount a voluntary manslaughter / heat of passion defense. Following a trial, the jury found defendant guilty of second degree murder. On October 16, 2008, defendant was sentenced to 16 years to life.

People's counsel: Donna Hollingsworth
Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
150 N. Commonwealth Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 308-5400

Defense counsel: Diane Link
Deputy Public Defender
Public Defender's Office
150 N. Commonwealth Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 308-5302

(4) People v. Jorge Luis Guerra-Zamudio, GA 070706; Trial dates: June 17-23, 2008

Defendant was charged with felony driving while under the influence of alcohol causing severe injuries to a little girl and her father. After the accident, defendant and the other occupant of his car fled the scene. At trial, defendant argued that he was not the driver of the vehicle. The jury convicted defendant of all charges. On July 18, 2008, defendant was sentenced to over 5 years in the state prison.

People's counsel: David Ayvasian
Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
150 N. Commonwealth Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 308-5302

Defense counsel: Tomas Requejo
800 E. Ocean Blvd., Ste 105
Long Beach, CA 90802
(213) 910-7963

(5) People v. Ricky Dowell and Jeremy Lewis, Case No. GA069537; Trial dates: May 5 to 14, 2008

Defendants were charged with attempted robbery, assault with a firearm and related charges, along with an allegation that the crimes were committed at the direction of, in association with, or for the benefit of a criminal street gang. The evidence showed that defendant Dowell engaged in a senseless beating of the victim with a firearm and attempted to rob him. The victim, who lived in the

same neighborhood and has known defendant since he was a child, suffered serious and permanent injuries. Co-defendant Lewis acted as a look-out. A gang expert testified that the crimes were for the benefit of the Crips gang. Following a jury trial, both defendants were convicted of the substantive charges, and the jury found the gang allegation to be true. On July 10, 2008, defendant Dowell was sentenced to 25 years, due in large part to the allegations of personal use of a firearm, the street gang enhancement and the great bodily injury enhancement. On September 24, 2008, defendant Lewis was sentenced to 11 years and 4 months in the state prison, also due to the gang and firearm enhancements.

People's counsel: Fernanda Barreto
Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
150 N. Commonwealth Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 308-5302

Defense counsel: Tommy Lee
Deputy Alternate Public Defender
Alternate Public Defender's Office
1611 S. Garfield Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
(909) 629-6844

John Fischer, Bar Panel
301 E. Colorado Blvd., #514
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 795-0605

(6) People v. Josiah Alastair Patterson, GA 069622; Trial dates: March 19-28, 2008

Defendant was charged with two counts of assault with a deadly weapon arising out of an incident at a party in which defendant hit the victim with a shovel, causing head injuries that required multiple staples. Virtually all the witnesses were intoxicated during the incident and their recollections differed significantly. Defendant also took the stand to testify in his own defense. Following a jury trial, defendant was acquitted of all charges.

People's counsel: Byron Beck
Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
150 N. Commonwealth Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 308-5302

Defense counsel: Omar Abukura
Los Angeles Criminal Defense APC
8200 Wilshire Blvd., #400
Beverly Hills, CA 90211
(310) 202-6300

(7) People v. John Carpenter, GA066584; Trial dates: October 22-November 6, 2007

Defendant was charged with attempted murder arising out of an incident in a local motel room in which defendant stabbed a paraplegic victim multiple times. Defendant fled the scene while the victim lay bleeding. The evidence showed that the victim may have been invited to defendant's motel room by other people in order to do drugs, although the victim denied that he used any drugs. The victim described the attack as unprovoked and rage-induced. Defendant, however, described the victim as the aggressor, and testified that he vigorously defended himself after the victim attempted to slash his throat in order to rob him. Defendant testified that he fled from the scene because of his criminal history and the fear that the police would discount his version of events. Despite the severity of the victim's injuries, the victim's version was rife with inconsistencies, and the jury found defendant not guilty.

People's counsel: Donna Hollingsworth
Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
150 N. Commonwealth Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 308-5302

Defense counsel: Eric Stanford
Deputy Public Defender
Public Defender's Office
150 N. Commonwealth Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 308-5007

(8) People v. Johnny Lieu, GA 066065; Trial dates: February 2007

Defendant was charged with multiple counts of kidnapping to commit robbery, false imprisonment and assault with a firearm. He was a juvenile at the time of the incident and was being tried as an adult. The evidence showed that several individuals wearing dark hooded sweatshirts and handkerchiefs over their faces attempted to rob the victim. The victim fled to his landlord's house at the rear of

his own residence. Only one robber pursued him. While at the door of his landlord's house, the robber held a gun to the victim's head and demanded that the landlord open the door. Once the landlord complied, the robber forced his way inside, ordered the entire family to the ground, and robbed them. This case presented an interesting issue on the level of asportation required to establish kidnapping. The court denied the motion to dismiss the kidnapping charges, and the defendant was convicted of all counts following a jury trial. Defendant was sentenced to 16 years and 4 months.

People's counsel: Teresa Sullivan
Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
150 N. Commonwealth Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 308-5302

Defense counsel: Rickard Santweir
1055 E. Colorado Blvd., #310
Pasadena, CA 91106
(626) 449-6504

(9) People v. Val Escatiola, GA 065384; Trial dates: September 7-15, 2006

Defendant was charged with felony stalking and vandalism. The evidence showed that over the course of several months, defendant frightened the victims, who were his neighbors, by pacing in front of their house and watching the victims whenever they came home. On April 12, 2006, defendant raced down the victims' driveway in his car and attempted to break into the victims' vehicle. Defendant also threw a brick through the victims' living room window, where one of them stood about 10 inches away. Later, defendant crashed his car into the victims' garage. A week later, defendant drove down the victims' driveway again, and a man who accompanied defendant attempted to force open the garage. Defendant was convicted following a jury trial of stalking and vandalism. On October 16, 2006, defendant was sentenced to 3 years.

People's counsel: Alice Milrud
Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
210 W. Temple St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-3511

Defense counsel: Louise Gulartie
Deputy Alternate Public Defender
Alternate Public Defender's Office

1611 S. Garfield Ave., Ste 100-C
Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 308-7074

- (10) People v. Cardona and Lario, 4AL05741; Hearing dates: May and June, 2005

Defendants, employees of the City of Monrovia Department of Public Works, were charged with various drug-related offenses. Defendants filed a motion to suppress evidence seized against them. The evidence showed that in the spring of 2004, the Chief of Police for the City of Monrovia initiated an informal investigation based on rumors of drug use and/or sales at the Department of Public Works. Based on the results of the investigation, the Chief of Police decided to install video-surveillance cameras over the defendants' desks in their offices without a warrant. After extensive hearing and argument, the court granted the motion to suppress the workplace search based on defendants' reasonable expectation of privacy in their offices. The decision was affirmed.

People's counsel: Teresa Sullivan
Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
150 N. Commonwealth Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 308-5302

Defense counsel: William Paparian
272 S. Los Robles Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 795-1750

William Maestas
Alternate Public Defender's Office
101 W. Mission Blvd., Ste 212
Pomona, CA 91766
(626) 962-0659

- d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.

None.

- e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.

None.

- f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

To my knowledge, my decisions have been appealed 11 times to the Court of Appeal. Each decision was affirmed, some with minor modification. I am aware of two appeals that are currently pending.

- g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.

None.

- h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

None.

- i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority, dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.

I have not sat by designation on a federal court of appeals.

14. **Recusal:** If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an "automatic" recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information:

- a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;
- b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;
- c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;

- d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself, including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

There is no automatic recusal system in my court. I have never been asked by any party or litigant to recuse myself. I would recuse myself if I know one of the parties or litigant well. However, I do not recall this situation ever arising in my court.

15. Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

None.

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

None.

16. Legal Career: Answer each part separately.

- a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:

- i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

I did not serve as a clerk to a judge.

- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I have not practiced alone.

- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each.

1991-1994

Musick, Peeler & Garrett
One Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Associate Attorney

1995-2002

United States Attorney's Office
312 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Deputy Chief, General Crimes Section (2000-2002)
Assistant United States Attorney, Organized Crime Strike Force (1999-2000)
Assistant United States Attorney, Public Corruption & Government Fraud Section (1996-1999)
Assistant United States Attorney, General Crimes Section (1995-1996)

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I have not served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

I began my legal career following graduation from law school in 1991 as an associate attorney in the Litigation Department of Musick, Peeler & Garrett. I practiced civil litigation in various areas, including commercial disputes, intellectual property, and construction defect.

From 1995 to August 2002, I served as an Assistant United States Attorney ("AUSA") with the United States Attorney's Office, Central District of California. I worked in various sections in the Criminal Division. For approximately two years prior to my appointment to the bench, I was as a Deputy Chief with the General Crimes Section, responsible for the training and supervision of all new AUSAs. The General Crimes Section handled a wide variety of cases, including violent crimes, narcotics trafficking, gun cases, and all types of fraud. In addition to training and supervision responsibilities, I frequently served as a "moot court" judge to prepare other AUSAs for oral argument in the Ninth Circuit.

Prior to my promotion to Deputy Chief, I served for six months in the Organized Crime Strike Force Section, where I handled a Title III wiretap investigation of a Russian organized crime group responsible for the smuggling of sex slaves into the United States from the Ukraine. Prior to that, I served as an AUSA in the Public Corruption and Government Fraud section, specializing in the prosecution of complex fraud matters involving smuggling offenses, immigration fraud, mail and tax fraud, and money laundering. I handled all phases of the prosecution, including leading extensive grand jury investigations, complaints and arrests, indictments, trials, sentencings, appeals before the Ninth Circuit, and post-trial habeas corpus litigation. I was also selected to serve as the Department of Defense ("DOD") Fraud Coordinator, responsible for oversight of all DOD fraud prosecutions in the Central District of California. I met regularly with the managers of all federal agencies responsible for the investigation of DOD fraud, including the FBI, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service ("DCIS"), the NASA Office of the Inspector General, and the Office of Investigations for the Air Force and Navy, in order to plan new prosecution initiatives and coordinate significant investigations and prosecutions. While a member of the Public Corruption and Government Fraud Section, I prosecuted some of the Office's most significant cases. For example, I was co-lead counsel in prosecuting a case that was described by the U.S. Customs' Service as their largest commercial smuggling case. I was also the lead attorney in a multi-agency, two-year undercover investigation that resulted in the first ever conviction in the United States for providing material support and resources to a designated terrorist organization.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

As an Assistant United States Attorney, my client was the United States of America. I specialized in the prosecution of violent crimes, organized crime, narcotics trafficking, gun cases, organized crime, and complex fraud matters.

In private practice, I represented organizations and individuals involved in commercial disputes, intellectual property, and construction defect matters.

- c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

All of my practice as an attorney has been in litigation. In private practice, I appeared in court occasionally. As an Assistant United States Attorney, I appeared in court frequently.

i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. federal courts: 70%
2. state courts of record: 30%
3. other courts;
4. administrative agencies

ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. civil proceedings: 33%
2. criminal proceedings: 67%

d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

I have tried 10 criminal cases to verdict as an attorney prior to becoming a judge. I was sole counsel representing the United States in seven trials, and co-lead counsel in three long trials.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

1. jury: 80%
2. non-jury. 20%

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I have not practiced before the Supreme Court of the United States.

17. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation;
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

- (1) United States v. Perla Nunez, CR 01-145-NM; United States District Court, Central District of California; Honorable Nora M. Manella; 2001

This was a complex health care fraud case that resulted from an extensive grand jury investigation in which numerous witnesses were immunized and hundreds of documents were meticulously analyzed. Defendant, a registered nurse, was the owner of a home health agency called Care Plus Home Health Services, Inc. From approximately 1995 to 1998, defendant also owned or controlled several board and care facilities for primarily Medicare patients. Defendant created and orchestrated a scheme to defraud Medicare, resulting in a loss of millions of dollars. Defendant's sophisticated scheme of kick-backs and false books was calculated to avoid a paper trail. Defendant also concealed claims for non-existent services by creating numerous shell companies. After extensive investigation, defendant pleaded guilty on February 26, 2001 to health care fraud and tax charges, and cooperated with the government in connection with health care fraud perpetrated by other individuals. I was sole counsel for the United States of America

Defense Counsel: Richard Steingard
Sheppard Mullen Richter & Hampton LLP
333 S. Hope Street
Los Angeles, CA 90071
(213) 620-1780

- (2) United States v. Sammy Dev, CR 01-224-RSWL; Related cases: United States v. James Yekrang, CR 01-225-CBM, United States v. Fourrozan Tabatabai, CR 01-663-RSWL; United States District Court, Central District of California; Honorable Ronald S.W. Lew (CR 01-224 and CR 01-663); Honorable Consuelo B. Marshall (CR 01-225); 2000 – 2001.

This case involved acceptance of illegal kick-back payments by defendants Yekrang and Tabatabai, employees at Allied Signal, Inc. (now Honeywell, Inc.) a government contractor. Defendant Dev was the owner of Object Foundry, Inc., a software company providing software-related consulting services to Allied Signal on a subcontract basis. Yekrang and Tabatabai accepted illegal payments from Dev in exchange for subcontract awards, contract extensions, and for the approval of inflated labor claims submitted by Dev to Allied Signal. Defendants disguised the illegal payments by funneling the money through various corporate bank accounts and falsely reporting the nature of the payments to the IRS. In less than two years, Dev paid about \$250,000 in kickbacks. Defendants Dev and Yekrang pleaded guilty to kick-back and tax charges on April 2 and 9, 2001, respectively. Defendant Tabatabai pleaded guilty to tax evasion on September 21, 2001. These guilty pleas were secured following a one-year grand jury investigation. I was sole counsel for the United States of America.

Defense Counsel: Michael Artan (for defendant Sammy Dev)
One Wilshire Blvd., Suite 2200
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 688-0370

Martin Bakst (for defendant James Yekrang)
15760 Ventura Blvd., Floor 16
Encino, CA 91436
(818) 981-1400

David Conn (for defendant Fouroozan Tabatabai)
(deceased)

- (3) United States v. Bahram Tabatabai, et al., CR 99-225-CAS; United States District Court, Central District of California; Honorable Christina A. Snyder; 1999

This investigation, dubbed Operation Eastern Approach, was a complex, 2 ½-year undercover operation. I led a team of agents from the FBI, State Department, INS, and LAPD. The investigation led to the arrests of 35 individuals in several countries in 1999, and also resulted in the first successful prosecution in the United States for providing material support and resources to a designated foreign terrorist organization, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2339B. I was the sole counsel for the government during the two-year investigation. Due to the magnitude and significance of the case, a second prosecutor was assigned to assist me during the take-down phase of the investigation.

The investigation focused on a criminal enterprise run by an individual named Bahram Tabatabai. Tabatabai's operation in Los Angeles assisted foreign clients in filing false applications for U.S. entry visa and asylum status in the United States. These applications were supported by false documents created by numerous independent document producers. These false documents, including identity cards, passports, bank and employment records, were also submitted at various U.S. Embassies or Consulates in numerous countries. As the investigation progressed, it became apparent that this was an international network spanning six states and four countries. Significantly, Tabatabai and others were able to change their clients' identities during the asylum process by changing their names, dates of birth, and if necessary, creating false fingerprint cards. These individuals' identities were changed if they had an arrest record, were previously denied asylum under their true names, or were affiliated with a terrorist or subversive organization. During the "take-down" in March of 1999, I coordinated over 40 searches, arrests and interview teams consisting of more than 250 law enforcement agents. Agents seized more than \$2 million in property and cash and confiscated weapons, narcotics, and hundreds of counterfeit identity documents. As a result of this investigation, four additional suspects were arrested in Turkey, Cyprus, and the Netherlands. On October 25, 1999, Tabatabai became the first individual ever in the United States to be convicted of providing material support and resources to a designated foreign terrorist organization.

He also pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit visa and asylum fraud. Further, 16 other individuals were indicted and eventually pleaded guilty to various fraud and immigration-related offenses. I was lead counsel for the United States of America

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Defense counsel: Jerry Kaplan (for defendant Bahram Tabatabai)
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Alex R. Kessel (for defendant Reza Veiseh)
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Laura C. Crawford (for defendant Shahbod Noori)
Law Offices of Laura C. Crawford
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Ron Kaye (for defendant Amir Haghighatgoo)
Kaye, McLane & Bednarski LLP
128 N. Fair Oaks Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91103
(626) 844-7660

- (4) United States v. Jeffrey James Dennis, et al., CR 98-556-MMM; United States District Court, Central District of California; Honorable Margaret M. Morrow; 1998

In April and May of 1998, defendants committed two armed, take-over style robberies of a Bank of America in Duarte, California. In the first robbery, defendant Hunter guarded the door with a gun while defendant Dennis vaulted over the counter and robbed the merchant teller of approximately \$13,000. One month later, defendants returned to the same bank, joined by a third robber. Defendants were more violent during this robbery, forcing a guard and customers to the floor at gunpoint. Defendant Hunter jumped over the counter and robbed all of the tellers. A third robber, who joined them during the second robbery, pleaded guilty prior to trial. Following the jury trial of defendants Hunter and Dennis, during which I handled half the witnesses and the closing and rebuttal arguments, defendants were convicted of conspiracy, armed bank robberies, and using and carrying a firearm during crimes of violence. I was co-lead counsel for the United States of America.

Co-counsel: Anthony Pacheco
Proskauer Rose
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Los Angeles, CA 90067
(310) 284-5647

Defense counsel: Humberto Diaz (for defendant Darren Kevin Hunter)
Deputy Federal Public Defender
Federal Public Defender's Office
321 East Second Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 894-2854

Cornell Price (for defendant Jeffrey James Dennis)
445 S. Figueroa St., # 2640
Los Angeles, CA 90071
(213) 612-0020

Marcia Brewer (for defendant Brenda Ann Cotton)
400 Corporate Pointe, Suite 800
Culver City, CA 90230
(310) 670-5325

- (5) United States v. Johnny Wang, et al., CR 98-455-RAP; United States District Court, Central District of California; Honorable Richard A. Paez; 1997-1999

This case has been described by the U.S. Customs Service as the largest commercial smuggling case ever dismantled in the history of the Customs Service, in which over \$100 million worth of goods were smuggled into the United States in less than one year. The duty loss to the government alone was over \$10 million. The smuggling scheme was masterminded by Stephen Juang, who operated a Customs-bonded container freight station under various legal entities from approximately 1995 to 1997. Juang used the container freight station to smuggle goods manufactured in China or Hong Kong, including wearing apparel and luggage, subject to quota restrictions and high duty rates, as well as prohibited Asian medicines, into the United States. Juang successfully evaded detection by skillfully manipulating the Customs entry process and filing multiple false documentation describing the goods as cheap, low-duty items not subject to quota restrictions. Moreover, the identities of the actual importers were concealed, and Juang or his co-conspirators falsely listed "shell" corporations he controlled as the importers in order to maintain control over the shipments. Juang was paid millions of dollars for his services by dozens of importers. The paper trail on the individual importers other than Juang was extremely thin because Juang and his employees controlled all the documentation submitted to Customs. Thus, the cases against these individual importers were built mainly on Juang's cooperation. I was primarily responsible for handling Juang's cooperation and conducting his examination during the trials against the two importers who proceeded to trial. The remaining defendants pleaded guilty to smuggling charges. I was co-lead counsel for the United States of America.

Co-counsel: William Carter
Musick Peeler & Garrett LLP
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Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 629-7863

Defense counsel: Michael Abzug (for defendant Stephen Juang)
Judge, Los Angeles County Superior Court
Metropolitan Courthouse
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Los Angeles, CA 90007
(213) 744-4073

Alex R. Kessel (for defendant Johnny Wang)
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Encino, CA 91436
(818) 995-1422

Ed Robinson (for defendant Won Chi Lu, aka Frank Lu)
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Torrance, CA 90503
(310) 316-9333

David Reed (for defendant Tommy Chen)
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Los Angeles, CA 90010
(310) 854-5246

- (6) United States v. Ken Lee Lam, CR 99-454-RAP; United States District Court, Central District of California; Honorable Richard A. Paez; 1999

This was a spin-off investigation of the prosecution described above. Defendant was a large New York-based importer of wearing apparel manufactured in China. Defendant conspired with Juang to smuggle defendant's goods into the United States. Defendant paid Juang a set fee per container to handle the importation and transportation of about 52 shipments and to file fraudulent documents with the Customs Service. In a two-year period, defendant avoided paying over \$2 million in duties and saved millions more in quota fees. Following a 13-day jury trial, defendant was convicted on all counts. I was co-lead counsel for the United States of America.

Co-counsel: William Carter
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Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 629-7863

Defense Counsel: Joseph Vodnoy
316 West Second St., Ste 1200
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 893-7500

- (7) United States v. Sergio Glushankoff, CR 99-109-SVW; United States District Court, Central District of California; Honorable Stephen V. Wilson; 1995 - 1999

This investigation focused on the Foreign Trade Zone ("FTZ"), set up to facilitate international commerce. Defendant and numerous co-conspirators smuggled millions of dollars of textiles from China into the United States through the port of entry in Long Beach and Los Angeles. Defendant transported the goods to Laredo, Texas, and filed documents with the U.S. Customs Service showing that the shipments were purportedly

exported to Mexico. (There is no duty assessed, and no quota restrictions apply, to goods that merely transit through the United States.) Once the goods were inspected at the Texas-Mexican border, numerous co-conspirators in Texas diverted the goods back to Los Angeles. Defendant's co-conspirators created false bills of lading and other documents in order to conceal the scheme. The fraud was difficult to detect because the Customs documents appeared legitimate. However, through the use of undercover agents and extensive surveillance for nine months, agents tracked the connection to the border in Laredo. Nevertheless, it was difficult to connect defendant to the fraud. As a result, I spent considerable effort securing the cooperation of defendant's co-conspirators in Laredo in order to build a case against defendant. Defendant eventually pleaded guilty to smuggling and tax charges. I also prosecuted two co-conspirators in Laredo for their participation in the scheme. They pleaded guilty and were sentenced in Texas. I was sole counsel for the United States of America.

Defense counsel: Thomas Campbell
Newell, Campbell & Roche
520 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 390
Los Angeles, CA 90071
(213) 622-9444

- (8) United States v. Samuel Ehi Osakue, CR 96-431-R; United States District Court, Central District of California; Honorable Manuel L. Real; 1996

Defendant, a law student at Hastings Law School in San Francisco, fraudulently obtained a United States passport in 1989 by submitting a fraudulent birth certificate. Four years later, an investigation of defendant's brother, who was the main suspect in a major Nigerian credit card fraud ring, led to a search of the home defendant shared with his brother. Defendant presented the passport as proof of his identity. The evidence seized from defendant's home also connected him to other illegal activities. Through circumstantial evidence, including inconsistencies between defendant's passport application, his school records, and his brother's records, I proved at trial that defendant applied for a passport in a false identity. Defendant was convicted by the jury and became a fugitive while his appeal was pending in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal. I was sole counsel for the United States of America.

Defense counsel: Derek Li
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
255 E. Temple St., 4th Fl.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 894-1077

- (9) United States v. Nelson Garcia Orjuela, et al., CR 95-11-WJR; United States District Court, Central District of California; Honorable William J. Rea; 1995

This investigation focused on a cocaine trafficking organization headed by three individuals, Orjuela, Posso, and Silva. The organization also included at least three other accomplices. The investigation relied heavily on wiretap interception of telephones and paging devices connected to defendants' organization, and extensive surveillance of defendants' activities. Defendants were planning to distribute multiple shipments of cocaine to wholesale distributors throughout the Los Angeles and other areas. Defendants were arrested when the organization received a shipment of approximately 50 kilograms of cocaine and attempted to deliver it to a distributor. After extensive pre-trial preparation, defendants pleaded guilty to conspiracy and drug trafficking charges. Defendants pleaded guilty in 1995 on the eve of trial. I was co-counsel for the United States of America.

Co-counsel: Larry Cho
Judge, Los Angeles Superior Court
1725 Main St.
San Monica, CA 90401
(310) 260-1854

Defense counsel: Richard Callahan (for defendant Nelson Garcia Orjuela)
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Nadine Hettle (for defendant Alvaro Quintero)
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W. Michael Mayock (for defendant Gilbert Longoria)
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(626) 405-1465

- (10) In re Extradition of Duane Allen Vachon, SACV 96-672-GLT (EE); United States District Court, Central District of California; Honorable Elgin Edwards, United States Magistrate Judge; 1996 – 1997.

Defendant fled to the United States in 1994 after kidnapping and torturing two female victims in Australia. Defendant lured the victims to a remote cabin, where he and an accomplice hung the victims up by their hands and repeatedly tortured and assaulted them. I filed an extradition arrest warrant and litigated defendant's extradition proceedings. Defendant vigorously fought extradition, challenging every stage of the proceedings, including his detention based on several serious medical conditions and the probable cause for each charge against him. I extensively researched California law in order to prepare the government's response. After a hearing, the court certified that defendant was extraditable. Defendant then challenged the court's findings. When he lost, defendant filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, and subsequently, a motion for stay pending appeal in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. After his remedies were exhausted, defendant was extradited nearly a year after he was arrested. I served as sole counsel for the United States of America.

Defense Counsel: Neison Marks
Federal Public Defender's Office
1 E. Broward Blvd., Ste 1100
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
(954) 356-7436

18. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

None, other than the matters described above.

19. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

None.

20. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

None.

21. **Outside Commitments During Court Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

No, other than continuing participation in various bar organizations as a mentor and speaker.

22. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

See attached Financial Disclosure Report.

23. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement

24. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

My husband is employed as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Asset Forfeiture Section of the United States Attorney's Office, and this presents an ongoing potential conflict of interest. Obviously, I will ensure that I am not

assigned any cases handled by him. I will also discuss with the United States Attorney's Office appropriate procedures to "wall off" my husband, if necessary, from cases pending in my court.

I have no financial arrangements that will likely present any potential conflict-of-interest. I have served in the public sector for nearly all of my professional life, and neither my husband nor I have any business arrangements or interests that may pose a conflict-of-interest.

- b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

To the extent that any conflict issue arises during my service, I will follow my usual practice of analyzing each situation to determine whether the issue calls for disclosure or recusal. In all cases, I will follow the Code of Conduct for United States Judges.

25. **Pro Bono Work:** An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

In law school, I began to volunteer at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center in Los Angeles. I met with indigent clients of APALC in order to conduct intake interviews. After I began practicing law, I consistently made time to provide free legal services. While in private practice, I asked my firm to authorize me to handle pro bono matters in the wake of the 1992 riots in Los Angeles, representing indigent Vietnamese speaking clients in small business disputes. As an attorney, I was always active in various Asian American bar associations, including the Asian Pacific American Bar Association, the Japanese American Bar Association, and the Southern California Chinese Lawyers Association. These organizations have annual Law Days in their respective communities. I frequently participated in Law Days organized by these associations, where I met with indigent clients and gave them free legal advice on immigration, landlord-tenant and business disputes. From approximately 1997 to 2002, after I joined the U.S. Attorney's Office, I handled adoption cases through Public Counsel's Adoptions Program, representing foster parents in adoption proceedings to adopt their foster children. I handled the filings and appear in court on behalf of these parents. I also frequently volunteered to speak at various community and student-sponsored forums on issues of concern to the Asian Pacific American communities.

Since becoming a judge, I can no longer provide free legal services. However, I am still active in bar activities, particularly in the Asian Pacific American community. I support these associations by attending their events and making myself available as a panel speaker and a mentor. I spend a substantial amount of time mentoring minority attorneys, both through formal bar association channels as well as on my own. I frequently meet

with young attorneys in small groups or one-on-one to provide guidance and support. I am acutely aware that, as the first Vietnamese American woman judge in the State of California, I am looked upon as a role model, and I make an effort to be available in whatever way I can to my community.

Further, my children both attend public school where resources are limited. As such, I try and participate by volunteering as many hours as I can. I have for several years frequently served as one of the "Room Parents" for my children's classes and help coordinate activities for the teachers. Prior to law school, I spent about eight months serving as a substitute teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District, working in economically depressed neighborhoods. Throughout college, I was active in the In-School Scouting program. I spent time weekly in underprivileged elementary school classroom to teach values such as honesty, friendship, tolerance and teamwork through various songs and activities. I also worked as a writing instructor in my college's writing assistance clinic and helped mostly minority students improve their essay writing skills.

26. Selection Process:

- a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

Senator Feinstein has established a bipartisan Judicial Advisory Committee for screening, interviewing and recommending candidates to the United States District Court, Central District of California. This Committee is comprised of several prominent local attorneys and former judges, and is chaired by Holly Fujie, the current President to the State Bar of California. Senator Feinstein's statewide Chair, David Casey, oversees all of the committees for each district.

On March 17, 2009, I interviewed with the local Committee. The Committee recommended me to David Casey. On April 14, 2009, I interviewed with Mr. Casey. On May 27, 2009, I was contacted by staff from the Department of Justice regarding the nomination process and paperwork. I have had numerous subsequent conversations with staff from the Department concerning pre-nomination paperwork. I interviewed with Associate Attorney General Thomas Perrelli and other Department of Justice personnel and a White House Counsel representative on July 15, 2009. My nomination was submitted to the Senate on July 31, 2009.

- b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

No.