



October 2, 2021

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: **Letter of Support for Lucy H. Koh for the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**

We, the undersigned groups, represent diverse legal, advocacy, and community-based organizations, who write in strong support for the nomination of the Honorable Lucy H. Koh to become a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Judge Koh's historic legal reputation is beyond reproach. In 2008, Judge Koh was appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to the California Superior Court for the County of Santa Clara. In 2010, she was nominated to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California and was confirmed 90-0. Upon confirmation, she became the first female Korean American Article III judge and the first Asian American Article III judge in the Northern District of California. Throughout the federal nomination process Judge Koh received strong bipartisan support.

Judge Koh is a proven jurist with a strong command of technology, business litigation, and criminal law issues. She has been recognized for her adept handling of some of the nation's most technologically complicated, high profile federal disputes involving

intellectual property, privacy, antitrust, and other complex subjects. She has presided over blockbuster trials including four *Apple v. Samsung* intellectual property jury trials and litigation involving data breach, antitrust, and other matters with global technology giants such as Google, Amazon, Facebook, Yahoo, and Microsoft. *WIRED* Magazine and *Popular Mechanics* have recognized her as one of the most influential people in technology.

While Judge Koh's legal bona fides are unimpeachable, we wanted to take this opportunity to underscore her deep and abiding commitment to public service, to her community, and to spotlight her own extraordinary personal background.

Judge Koh is a child of immigrants. Her mother was a refugee who escaped from North Korea, and her father fought against the Communist North. She was the first in her family to be born in this country and has lived throughout this great nation, including in Lorman, Mississippi where her mother taught at Alcorn State University, the nation's first African American Land Grant college, and where her father ran a small business; and in the heartland of America, including in Norman, Oklahoma.

Prior to her position on the federal bench, Judge Koh spent extensive time in public service including serving as a fellow with the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary and serving several tours of duty with the U.S. Department of Justice: first, in the Office of Legislative Affairs, and later, as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California where she prosecuted financial fraud, narcotics, bank robbery, immigration, public corruption, and violent crimes cases.

Throughout her exceptional career, Judge Koh has maintained a strong connection with her community, lifting up and aiding other people of color. For example, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) bestowed upon her its Women's Leadership Award, as well as its Daniel K. Inouye Trailblazer Award, the organization's highest citation for commitment and leadership by lawyers who have paved the way for the advancement of other Asian American and Pacific Islander attorneys. Judge Koh's achievements in law and community service have been honored by the Korean American Bar Associations of Orange County, Southern California, and San Diego as well as the Council of Korean Americans. Her public service and community contributions have also been honored by the Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area, Asian Law Alliance, Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Silicon Valley, and Bay Area Asian Pacific American Law Students Association.

Judge Koh has demonstrated a commitment to serve communities beyond that of her own personal background. The San Francisco La Raza Lawyers Association bestowed upon her their Judge of the Year Award. She has been a keynote speaker at the Hispanic National Bar Association's National Convention and a member of the La Raza Lawyers Association of Santa Clara County for many years.

This Committee already knows Judge Koh's resume extremely well, and we believe that recognizing her strong personal commitment to others and unique background only makes her even more well qualified to continue to serve the people as a judge on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Thank you for this opportunity to discuss Judge Koh's extraordinary background commitment to community service. We urge the Senate's swift confirmation of Judge Koh.

Sincerely,

Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area

Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Los Angeles County

Asian/Pacific American Bar Association of Sacramento (ABAS)

California Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus

Chinese American Lawyers of the Bay Area

Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego

Filipino Bar Association of Northern California

Korean Americans For Political Action

Korean American Bar Association for Washington DC

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA)

Orange County Asian American Bar Association

Orange County Korean American Bar Association

Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego (PALSD)

Santa Clara County La Raza Lawyers Association

South Asian Bar Association of San Diego

South Asian Bar Association of Southern California

Southern California Chinese Lawyers Association