



NAPIPA

NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER PROSECUTORS ASSOCIATION

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NEWS RELEASE

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NAPIPA APPLAUDS NOMINATION OF THE HONORABLE LUCY HAERAN KOH TO THE NINTH U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

SAN JOSE, CA—The National Asian Pacific Islander Prosecutors Association (“NAPIPA”) applauds the nomination of the Honorable Lucy Haeran Koh to the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

NAPIPA is a non-profit professional organization dedicated to advancing the interests of prosecutors of API heritage and promoting a greater understanding of the criminal justice system in the API community. NAPIPA has members across the country, consisting of federal, state and local prosecutors, elected officials, and law students. NAPIPA is currently made up of five chapters, including New York, Chicago, Southern California, San Diego, and Northern California.

“We are pleased with President Obama’s continued commitment to judicial diversity,” said Paul T. Jhin, NAPIPA President. “Judge Koh is an exceptional jurist and has a strong connection with the Asian Pacific Islander American community. NAPIPA proudly supports her nomination.”

In 2008, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed Judge Koh to the Superior Court of California for Santa Clara County. In 2010, President Obama nominated Judge Koh to the federal bench and the U.S. Senate voted 90-0 to confirm. She is the first Asian American judge in the U.S. District Court in the Northern District of California and the first female Korean American federal judge in the nation.

“Judge Koh had a distinguished career as a federal criminal prosecutor and as a business and technology litigator,” said Hanley Chew, NAPIPA Co-Founding Member and college classmate of Judge Koh. “As a judge, she has a well-deserved reputation of being smart, hardworking, fair and even-handed.”

With extensive and heavyweight experience in both civil and criminal law, Judge Koh is truly an extraordinary candidate. Prior to the bench, she was a patent litigation partner at a prestigious Silicon Valley law firm and served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Major Frauds Section for the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Los Angeles. Her experience also includes serving as a Special Assistant to the U.S. Deputy Attorney General, Special Counsel for the Office of Legislative Affairs with the U.S. Department of Justice, and a Women’s Law and Public Policy Fellow for the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

Judge Koh was born in Washington D. C. to immigrant parents. Her childhood experiences inspired her to pursue a career in law. She graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Harvard University in 1990 and a Juris Doctorate degree from Harvard Law School in 1993. While at Harvard Law School, she was awarded the Irving R. Kaufman Public Service Fellowship. NAPIPA commends Judge Koh on her historic nomination.