



June 3, 2021

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Letter of Support to Confirm Tana Lin, Nominee for the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

The Asian Bar Association of Washington (“ABAW”), the Filipino Lawyers of Washington (“FLOW”), and the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Washington (“VABAW”) write to strongly support the confirmation of Tana Lin to serve as District Court Judge for the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington.

If confirmed, Ms. Lin will be the first Asian American in the state of Washington to serve as an Article III judge. Thus, Ms. Lin’s confirmation would be a monumental achievement for the AAPI community in Washington state. Asians make up the largest minority racial group in Washington, comprising 9.2 percent of the state’s total population as of 2020. We believe it is imperative that the federal judiciary reflect the people the court serves.

Ms. Lin is an accomplished and experienced litigator, with a reputation in the legal community for exceptional legal acumen, work ethic, and integrity. Ms. Lin has had a wide and varied legal career, both in the private and public sectors, and her depth of experience will be a significant asset to the Western District of Washington.

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Ms. Lin's personal story is particularly compelling. Ms. Lin immigrated to the United States from Taiwan when she was three years old, speaking only Mandarin at home before she enrolled in school. Ms. Lin worked at a K-Mart in high school while juggling school and extracurricular activities. Through tremendous hard work and determination, Ms. Lin earned the right to attend Cornell University and New York University School of Law, working multiple jobs during both college and law school. Ms. Lin has fought to overcome adversity and has achieved greatness in the law. She embodies a fortitude that we all should be proud of, and that we all should strive for.

Ms. Lin has been a member of ABAW since 2016, including past service as a volunteer with the Joint Asian Judicial Evaluations Committee, a committee that evaluates judges and candidates for judicial positions within the State of Washington and provides such evaluations for review by the Governor of the State of Washington and the general public. In addition, Ms. Lin has served as a mentor to many attorneys, volunteering her time to help train the next generation of lawyers. Ms. Lin's efforts have helped continue traditions of excellence and professionalism in the judiciary and in the practice of law.

ABAW, FLOW, and VABAW are extremely proud of Ms. Lin's historic nomination and urge the Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Lin for District Court Judge for the Western District of Washington.

Very truly yours,

Asian Bar Association of
Washington



John Fetters
President

Filipino Lawyers of
Washington



John Laney
President

Vietnamese American Bar
Association of Washington



*Amy Phan Taylor
Maria Williams*

Amy Phan Taylor
Maria Williams
Co-Presidents

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About ABAW

The Asian Bar Association of Washington is Washington State's largest voluntary bar association of Asian attorneys. Formed in 1987 by a small group of Seattle area attorneys, ABAW now counts hundreds of member attorneys, judges, professors, and law students in a wide range of practice areas and locations in the state of Washington and throughout the country. As a voice for the Asian Pacific American legal profession in the State of Washington, ABAW promotes justice, equity and opportunity for Asian Pacific Americans. We serve as a resource for our members and foster professional development, legal scholarship, advocacy and community involvement.

About FLOW

The Filipino Lawyers of Washington is a professional association of lawyers in the Filipino community dedicated to fostering the exchange of ideas and information among and between its members and other members of the legal profession, the judiciary and the community; promoting the professional growth of its members; assisting in efforts to diversify the legal profession; cooperating with other organizations of minority attorneys; celebrating Filipino culture; and providing a vehicle and forum for the expression of opinions and positions about current social, political, economic, legal or other matters or events that concern the members of the association.

About VABAW

The Vietnamese American Bar Association of Washington was formed in 2005 in order to provide support to attorneys in the advancement of their careers, be a trusted resource for students who aspire towards the legal profession, and serve as a voice for the interest of the local Vietnamese-American community. Our current membership includes practicing attorneys from Seattle, greater King County, Snohomish County as well as Washington-admitted attorneys who are now practicing in Oregon, California, New York, and Washington, D.C.