September 28, 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin Chairman Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

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

## Re: Nomination of the Honorable Myong J. Joun for the United States District Court Judge for the District of Massachusetts

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chairman Durbin, and Ranking Member Grassley:

It is with much pride that we write in enthusiastic support of our colleague, Myong J. Joun's, nomination to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. As judges who have worked alongside Judge Joun during his eight years of service as an associate justice of the Boston Municipal Court, we know that Judge Joun has the intelligence, demeanor, experience, temperament, and judgment to serve with excellence on the United States District Court. We know this to be true because we have already observed that of him in his tenure as a trial and appellate judge on the Boston Municipal Court.

The Boston Municipal Court Department of the Trial Court ("BMC") has a proud history dating back to its formation in 1822. The eight courts that comprise the BMC serve as district courts for the city of Boston. The judges of the BMC preside over thousands of felonies and misdemeanor criminal matters each year. The BMC also has jurisdiction over civil matters, including mental health and substance abuse commitment hearings. The BMC routinely has some of the highest numbers of jury trials per capita each year within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Judges of the BMC serve on the Appellate Division of the BMC, in which civil appeals are heard by a panel of three judges.

Prior to serving as a judge on the BMC, Judge Joun was an attorney practicing in our courts and some of us had the privilege of observing his trial and advocacy skills. He was always thoroughly prepared and was a zealous advocate for his clients. He was also an effective negotiator and someone who was well-respected by both the bench and the bar, including prosecutors against whom he routinely argued. In 2014, he was named one of the Top 100 Criminal Defense Attorneys in Massachusetts by the American Society of Legal Advocates and was named a "Super Lawyer" in the area of Criminal Defense every year from 2009 through 2014.

Since joining the bench, Judge Joun has become a valued and respected colleague. Whether as a fellow judge on an appellate panel or as the presiding judge in a complicated jury trial, Judge Joun has a well-deserved reputation as a hard-working, compassionate, and ethical justice. His written decisions are

consistently excellent and demonstrate his keen and incisive intellect. He has presided over more than 125 criminal and civil jury trials since becoming a judge.

As a colleague, his willingness to take on volunteer committee assignments to improve the courts and their functioning have been very much appreciated. He serves as the Chair of the BMC's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee, and serves on our Technology Committee. He is our court's representative on the Joint District and BMC Committee on Immigration. Judge Joun also serves on the Massachusetts Trial Court's Digital Courtroom Committee and its Committee to Eliminate Racism and Other Systemic Barriers. In addition, he has served on the Board of Trustees of and as a lecturer at the Flaschner Judicial Institute, which provides continuing legal education to judges throughout the Commonwealth. Judge Joun has been a regular contributor and lecturer on panels for the BMC's own judicial conferences, including leading a panel on "Debt Collection" matters in 2018. He has also volunteered on numerous occasions to present lectures on the workings of the judiciary to secondary schools and college students, as well as serving as a faculty member for Harvard Law School's Trial Advocacy Workshop.

If confirmed, this will not be the first time that Judge Joun has been called upon to serve the people of the United States. From 1990 to 1996, Judge Joun served as member of the United States Army National Guard. While doing so, he attended college at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, from which he received his Bachelor of Arts, *Magna Cum Laude*, in 1994.

Judge Joun's personal and professional accomplishments have demonstrated time and again his commitment to and love for country and for administering justice in a fair and equitable manner. His experience, intellect, and adherence to the rule of law have served him well as a justice on our court. For all of those reasons, we, without reservation, support Myong J. Joun's nomination as a District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

Chief Justice Roberto Ronquillo Hon. Kathleen Coffey Hon. Mark Hart Summerville Hon. James Coffey Hon. David T. Donnelly Hon. Michael C. Bolden Hon. Tracy Lee Lyons Hon. Eleanor C. Sinnott Hon. David B. Poole Hon. David Weingarten Hon. Kenneth J. Fiandaca Hon. Pamela M. Dashiell Hon. Jonathan R. Tynes Hon. John E. McDonald Hon. Thomas S. Kaplanes Hon. Lisa Grant Hon. Debra A. DelVecchio Hon. Lisa Ann Grant Hon. David J. Breen Hon. James Stanton

Hon. Richard Sinnott Hon. Paul M. Treseler Hon. Stephen M. Key Hon. John E. Garland Hon. Samir Zaganjori Hon. Maureen F. Flaherty Hon. Stephen W. McClenon Hon. Joseph M. Griffin Hon. Erika P. Reis