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DECEMBER 6, 2023

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin

Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham

Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Adeel Mangi to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

On behalf of the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey, Inc. (“APALA-NJ”), we express our resounding support for Adeel Mangi’s candidacy for the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. If confirmed, Mr. Mangi will serve as the first Muslim American on any federal appellate court.

APALA-NJ, founded in 1985 and incorporated in 1993, is New Jersey’s only pan-Asian specialty bar association, collectively representing the interests of Asian and Pacific American (“APA”) attorneys, judges, and legal professionals in the State of New Jersey. Between 2000 and 2010, the APA population more than doubled in 110 New Jersey municipalities, and every county in New Jersey experienced double digit growth of its APA population. Indeed, Asian Pacific Americans were also the fastest growing minority group during the past decade nationwide. New Jersey remains among the top five U.S. states with the largest APA populations. According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2018 estimates, APAs represent approximately 10.1% of New Jersey’s population. Yet, there is currently no Muslim jurist on the Federal Circuit Courts and only one Asian-American Third Circuit Judge.

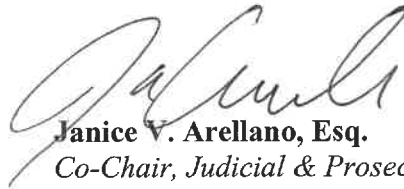
The time is ripe to redress the serious underrepresentation of the APA community in the judiciary, and to that end, we enthusiastically endorse Mr. Mangi’s nomination to the Third Circuit. Mr. Mangi’s decades long career as a high-stakes litigator with extensive pro bono and civil rights landmark

victories make him imminently qualified to serve the people of New Jersey and of our country fairly and impartially.

Mr. Mangi is a partner at Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler in New York, where he started his legal career following his LL.M from Harvard Law School. Born in Pakistan, Mr. Mangi has devoted thousands of hours to pro bono service. He has filed numerous amicus briefs in the federal appellate courts and before the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of cross-faith religious coalitions. He also successfully fought on behalf of Muslim communities seeking to build and open mosques in New Jersey towns, even when he thought he did not have a minute to spare from his private practice responsibilities. Mr. Mangi is highly qualified and will continue to make meaningful contributions to the administration of justice as a Circuit Judge.

APALA-NJ urges the Committee to swiftly act on the historic confirmation of Mr. Mangi to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Once confirmed, Mr. Mangi will make history as the first Muslim American to serve as Circuit Judge (and on any appellate level) in the United States Federal Courts. We thank President Biden for his nomination and look forward to the Senate's speedy approval. APALA-NJ looks forward to continuing to work with the Senate to achieve our common goal of the much-needed diversity and in our judiciary.

Sincerely,



Janice V. Arellano, Esq.

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and



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Past Board Member, APALA-NJ (2019-2022)
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c: Honorable U.S. Senator Cory A. Booker