

October 2, 2023

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chair  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: Nomination of Hon. Shanlyn Park to the United States District Court for the District of Hawai`i**

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

We write on behalf of the Board of Directors of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA)—Hawai`i Chapter in strong support of the nomination of Judge Shanlyn Park to the United States District Court for the District of Hawai`i and to urge her speedy confirmation. NAPABA is the nation's largest Asian Pacific American membership organization representing the interest of 60,000 attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students. The Hawai`i Chapter includes as members federal and state judges, present and former prosecutors, civil practitioners, and business leaders.

If confirmed, Judge Park will make history as the first woman federal judge of Native Hawaiian descent. Beyond the historical significance of that fact, Judge Park is eminently qualified to be confirmed as a District Judge for the District of Hawai`i. Before being confirmed by the Senate of the State of Hawai`i as a judge of the Circuit Courts of the State of Hawai`i in 2021, Judge Park was an experienced and respected criminal and civil trial attorney, with twenty years of practice in the Office of the Federal Public Defender and five years of civil and criminal practice in private law firms, at both the trial and appellate level. She served as a Criminal Justice Panel Attorney in the District of Hawai`i for four

years. In addition, she trained lawyers and law students in advocacy skills, having taught Appellate Advocacy at her alma mater, the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai`i and having been responsible for advocacy skills training of other assistant federal public defenders. Judge Park started her legal career in the District Court of the District of Hawai`i. After graduating law school, she served as a law clerk to then U.S. Magistrate Judge Francis Yamashita in the District of Hawai`i.

Judge Park is a daughter of Hawai`i. Born and raised in Hawai`i, she attended grade school, college and law school in the State of Hawai`i.

She has been a member of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association since 2020 and of the Federal Bar Association since 2018. She is also a member of the Native Hawaiian Bar Association.

Judge Park has served her community in many ways. She served on the boards of the Hawai`i State Bar Foundation, the Legal Aid Society of Hawai`i, Project Focus Hawai`i (providing photography internships to at-risk youth, her alma mater Sacred Hearts Academy, HUGS-Helping, Understanding and Group Support (a Hawai`i nonprofit providing support to families with seriously ill children), The Research Corporation of the University of Hawai`i, and the William S. Richardson School of Law Alumni Association.

The Board of Directors of NAPABA-Hawai`i urges the Senate to vote in favor of the confirmation of Shanlyn Park as a United States District Judge for the District of Hawai`i.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association-Hawai`i Chapter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Rhee', written in a cursive style.

By JOHN RHEE  
Its President