

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 Micah Smith 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 to express our wholehearted support for the nomination of Micah Smith to the United States District Court for the District of Hawai`i and to urge his 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 federal and state judges, present and former prosecutors, civil practitioners, and business leaders.

Micah Smith is well qualified to serve as a United States District Judge. His list of professional and academic achievements is impressive: He graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School in 2006. After graduating law school, Mr. Smith worked as a law clerk for Judge Guido Calabresi on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 2006 to 2007, and Justice David H. Souter on the U.S. Supreme Court from 2007 to 2008. Mr. Smith then worked for several years at a leading law firm in D.C. and as an Assistant United States Attorney in the

Southern District of New York (where he was Co-Chief of the Violent and Organized Crime Unit and Acting Deputy Chief of Appeals) before returning home to Hawai'i in 2018. Mr. Smith has gained experience in both civil and criminal legal practice, and at both the trial and appellate level. He has also gained a well-earned reputation as a person with a tremendous work ethic, keen analytical skills, and a well-deserved reputation for acting with integrity and treating others with respect.

Mr. Smith is a product of the Hawai'i public schools. He was raised on Kaua'i and graduated from Kaua'i High School in 1999.

Since returning to Hawai'i, Mr. Smith has served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office in Honolulu. In that role, he handles a broad range of criminal cases and has served as Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division, Criminal Civil Rights Coordinator, and Chief of Appeals and Legal Strategy.

Mr. Smith has deep local roots and a strong commitment to serving his community. He serves as Chair of the Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services to the Public with the Hawai'i State Bar Association, as a Board Member of the Hawai'i Justice Foundation, and as a Committee Member of the African American Lawyers Association of Hawai'i. He also actively participates in events hosted by NAPABA-Hawai'i, as well as the Federal Bar Association-Hawai'i Chapter.

NAPABA-Hawai'i urges you to confirm Mr. Smith for the United States District Court for the District of Hawai'i.

We thank you 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