



February 2, 2024

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: Letter of Support for Judge Sunil R. Harjani, Nominee to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association strongly supports Judge Sunil R. Harjani's nomination to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

NAPABA is the national association of Asian Pacific American attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students. NAPABA represents the interests of over 60,000 attorneys and over 90 national, state, and local bar associations. Its members include solo practitioners, large firm lawyers, corporate counsel, legal services and non-profit attorneys, and lawyers serving at all levels of government.

A prominent member of the Chicago legal community, Judge Harjani was the first South Asian American to serve as a U.S. Magistrate in the Northern District of Illinois. Before his Magistrate appointment, Judge Harjani had a 15-year career as a government attorney. He served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Securities and Commodities Fraud Section in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois from 2008-19 and as senior counsel at the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission from 2004-08.

Earlier in his career, he was in private practice at Jenner & Block LLP and served as a law clerk for Judge Suzanne B. Conlon on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. He received his J.D., cum laude, from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law in 2000 and his B.A. from Northwestern University in 1997.

Active in the Asian American community, Judge Harjani is supported by the Asian American Bar Association of Chicago, an affiliate of NAPABA. He was instrumental in the reenactment of the U.S. Supreme Court cases *Ozawa v. United States* and *United States v. Thind*, which were held at his courthouse. The greater Chicago legal community celebrated the event that featured two seminal Supreme Court cases involving Asian American plaintiffs in the early 1900s.

NAPABA proudly supports Judge Sunil R. Harjani's nomination and urges swift confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Priya Purandare". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association  
Executive Director