

*The Justice Harry J. Elam Judicial Conference*

October 5, 2022

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

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

**RE: Nomination of the Honorable Myong Joun to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

As the President of the Justice Harry J. Elam Judicial Conference (an organization of judges of color in Massachusetts) and a retired Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, I am honored to have this opportunity to write in support of the nomination of the Honorable Myong Joun, to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. In offering these words of support for Judge Joun, I speak from my personal experience as well as my knowledge of his reputation as a lawyer and jurist. I can say without fear of contradiction that as a distinguished member of the bar, and now a highly-respected jurist, he is exceptionally well qualified for this honor. We congratulate the President on this outstanding nomination and trust that the Senate will confirm him at the earliest opportunity.

I first came to know Judge Joun in 1999 when we served together on the Individual Rights and Responsibilities Section of the Massachusetts Bar Association. Until I was appointed to the bench a few years later, our paths crossed often as civil rights practitioners. He impressed me then as an able and committed advocate in a field of law that carried no guarantee of fame or fortune. When Judge Joun was appointed to the Boston Municipal Court in 2014, I celebrated the Governor's choice because I knew the court would benefit from his long history of community service, commitment to equal justice and, of course, his deep knowledge of the law. By all accounts, Judge Joun has been an outstanding jurist both in the courtroom and beyond. He is highly regarded among members of the bar as a judge who is fair to the litigants and their advocates, and he is known as a judge who always strives to honor the dictates of the law in his decisions. Just as important, he enjoys a reputation as a judge who, without fail, is respectful of the dignity of the people who appear before him. I know of no one, in or out of the legal profession, who has called into question Judge Joun's personal or judicial integrity.

Senator Richard Durbin  
Senator Charles Grassley

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In recent years, I have reconnected with Judge Joun through our work as officers of the Justice Harry J. Elam Judicial Conference. In that capacity, he has demonstrated his commitment to insuring that our courts, however difficult the task may be, stay the course in the pursuit of equal justice under the law. To every effort in pursuit of that aspiration, Judge Joun has brought his knowledge and experience as a jurist to bear. His insights are highly valued and often sought by his colleagues, a testament I would say to his intellectual gifts and his esteem within the legal profession.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak on Judge Joun's behalf. If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Geraldine S. Hines  
Associate Justice, Massachusetts  
Supreme Judicial Court (Ret.)