



June 4, 2021

Senator Patty Murray  
Assistant Democratic Leader  
154 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Senator Murray:

I write in reference to Tan Lin's nomination to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington. Ms. Lin would be a tremendous asset to the well-regarded bench and the community it serves. I strongly support Ms. Lin's nomination.

In considering Ms. Lin's qualifications for the judiciary, I am mindful that the degree to which the public has confidence in the fairness and integrity of the justice system rests largely on their perception of individual judicial officers. As such, strong legal skills are only the beginning of the list of necessary qualifications. Beyond knowledge of substantive and procedural law, one must have an appreciation for the interplay between the law and its impact on the lives of the most vulnerable members of our society. One must have the empathy and life experiences to render decisions that are legally sound and also take into account the intricacies of the human experience. Judicial officers must possess a temperament that reflects integrity, fairness, sound judgment and equal respect for everyone who appears before them. Ms. Lin excels in each of these areas.

I have known Ms. Lin since approximately 1991, when she was a staff attorney with the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS). We continue to have contact through professional channels. Ms. Lin's legal practice at the Public Defender Service and her success as a trial attorney demonstrated strong skills in all of the law-related areas – research, writing, analysis and oral communications. Her experience in juvenile and misdemeanor cases, and then felony jury trials early in her career provided her with an excellent command of the courtroom, which her significant subsequent experience has only further honed. Her breadth of experience in both public and private legal sectors gives her an extraordinary knowledge of the law.

I know Ms. Lin to be a diligent, thorough attorney, who reliably brings sound judgment, solid research and thorough analysis to every situation. Equally importantly, she is an individual who deeply believes in fairness and justice. Her courteous and respectful demeanor is an important aspect of an appropriate judicial temperament. It is my pleasure to support Ms. Lin's nomination. I have no doubt that the Seattle community would benefit greatly by her addition to the federal bench.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jo-Ann Wallace".

Jo-Ann Wallace  
President & CEO

