

December 8, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chair, Judiciary Committee  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: In Support of Confirmation of Arun Subramanian for the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York

Dear Sens. Durbin and Grassley:

On behalf of the South Asian Bar Association of New York (“SABANY”), the Asian American Bar Association of New York (“AABANY”), and the South Asian Bar Association of North America (“SABANA”), we write to give our highest possible recommendation to Arun Subramanian for confirmation to serve as a United States District Court Judge on the Southern District of New York. Mr. Subramanian, a child of Indian immigrants and the first lawyer in his family, has repeatedly broken barriers in the South Asian community while demonstrating his commitment to the pursuit of equality and justice under the law. His appointment as the first South Asian judge ever to sit on the Southern District bench would be a celebrated and momentous occasion for the Asian American and Pacific Islander (“AAPI”) community both in New York and throughout North America.

Mr. Subramanian is a seasoned trial lawyer, a partner at Susman Godfrey LLP, and member of the firm’s Executive Committee. He has been appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States to serve on the Advisory Committee for the Federal Rules of Evidence.

Mr. Subramanian has been a trailblazer in the South Asian community in New York long before he became a trial lawyer at Susman Godfrey. After graduating from Columbia Law School, where he served as the Executive Articles Editor for the *Columbia Law Review*, Mr. Subramanian served as a law clerk for three of New York’s foremost jurists, Gerard E. Lynch during his tenure on the Southern District of New York, Dennis Jacobs on the Second Circuit, and the late Justice Ginsburg. And throughout the years, Mr. Subramanian has been active in mentoring law students and younger lawyers alike, at Susman Godfrey, his alma mater Columbia, and in SABANY, including in SABANY’s mentorship program for younger South Asian attorneys.

AAPI jurists are grossly underrepresented in the New York State judiciary. Despite Asians making up more than 9% of the state’s population according to the most recent U.S. Census data, AAPI judges comprise only 4% of the federal bench, according to a report by the Center of American Progress, an independent, nonpartisan policy institute (*see* “Center for American Progress,” *Examining the Demographic Compositions of U.S. Circuit and District Courts*, Feb. 13, 2020, available at <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/examining-demographic-compositions-u-s->

[circuit-district-courts/](#)). There are currently no Article III male judges of South Asian descent in the Second Circuit. The confirmation of Mr. Subramanian will thus make a historical change in the composition of the Southern District of New York and the Second Circuit. It will also advance the goal of creating a judiciary that is reflective of the community it serves.

For these reasons, the undersigned bar associations enthusiastically support the swift confirmation of Arun Subramanian to the Southern District of New York.

Sincerely,

South Asian Bar Association of New York



By: Megha Jain Narsimhamurthy, President

Asian American Bar Association of New York



By: William Ng, President

South Asian Bar Association of North America



By: Tara Mythri Raghavan, President