FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK CONGRATULATES DALE HO ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO BE A FEDERAL JUDGE IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

NEW YORK–June 20, 2023. The Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY) is proud to announce that its member Dale Ho was appointed on June 14 by the United States Senate as a Federal Judge in the Southern District of New York (SDNY).

Dale Ho’s appointment reflects an unwavering commitment to public service and his exceptional qualifications that have led to his ascension to the bench. After graduating Yale Law School in 2005, Mr. Ho served as a law clerk to the Hon. Barbara S. Jones in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and continued to serve as a law clerk in the New York State Court of Appeals for the Hon. Robert S. Smith. After two years in private practice as an associate at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP, Mr. Ho worked at the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund as Assistant Counsel. In this role, he litigated voting rights cases and other civil rights matters in federal and state courts. Mr. Ho represented the NAACP in successfully defending the constitutionality of a New York law ending the practice of gerrymandering. Before this appointment, Mr. Ho served as the Director of the Voting Rights Project at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), where he worked on voting rights issues through advocacy on a national level.

Judge Ho has been a champion of voting rights and his work in this area has been prolific. He brings over a decade of civil rights experience, including arguments before the United States Supreme Court challenging the Trump administration’s attempt to add a citizenship question in the 2020 Census.

As a child of immigrants from the Philippines, Judge Ho joins the ranks of the New York judiciary as one of the few AAPI judges in the Second Circuit. According to the results of the 2020 Census, Asian Americans comprise approximately 10.8% of the population of New York State and approximately 17.3% of the population of New York City. Asian Americans were the fastest growing minority group during the past decade in New York State and nationwide. Currently, New York State’s AAPI District Court judges make up 17.1% of all AAPI Article III District Courts Judges. Judge Ho’s appointment represents a step in the right direction in diversifying the Federal judiciary, but much work remains to be done in making New York’s judiciary more reflective of the community, especially at the higher levels, including the New York State Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court, neither of which has a single AAPI judge on the bench.

“AABANY congratulates Dale Ho on his appointment to be a United States District Judge in the Southern District of New York,” states AABANY President Karen Kim. “His work ethic, remarkable legal acumen and effectiveness in communicating complex legal issues are demonstrated by a distinguished list of publications, speaking engagements, and awards. AABANY commends Dale Ho’s appointment as another milestone in support of diversity.
equity, and inclusion in the judiciary. The combination of Judge Ho’s stellar credentials and experience as an accomplished attorney qualify him to serve as a Federal Judge. We look forward to seeing the contributions he will make to the administration of justice in the service of the public and the judicial system.”

For more information, please contact Yang Chen, AABANY Executive Director, at (646) 653-2168, or direct any inquiries to main@aabany.org.

The Asian American Bar Association of New York is a not-for-profit 501(c)(6) professional membership organization of attorneys concerned with issues affecting the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Incorporated in 1989, AABANY seeks not only to encourage the professional growth of its members but also to advocate for the AAPI community as a whole. AABANY is a New York regional affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA).

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