



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK JOINS AMICUS BRIEF
DEFENDING THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION**

NEW YORK – May 2, 2025 – The Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY) has joined 23 other bar associations and lawyer membership organizations in an amicus brief filed in *Susman Godfrey LLP v. Executive Office of the President*, Civil Action No. 1:25-cv-01107-LLA, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, filed on April 25, 2025.*

The amicus brief supports Susman Godfrey LLP's challenge to Executive Order No. 14246, which targets the firm for representing clients in voting rights advocacy perceived as contrary to the President's interests, including its representation of Dominion Voting Systems in a defamation lawsuit related to the 2020 election. The brief argues that the Executive Order undermines the independence of the legal profession by punishing firms for representing disfavored clients and causes, threatening the fundamental right to counsel, discouraging vigorous legal advocacy, and coercing law firms into political conformity. It emphasizes that an independent bar is essential to upholding the rule of law and preserving the judiciary's role in checking abuses of power. Drawing on both historical and international examples, the brief warns that government retaliation against lawyers weakens democratic institutions and paves the way toward authoritarianism.

For these reasons, AABANY proudly joins this coalition in support of the independence of the legal profession and the constitutional principles that sustain our democracy.

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

*AABANY joining this brief reflects only the views of the association and not that of any individual Board members, Committee Chairs, association members, or any of their employers or affiliated organizations.

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). AALFNY is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that has helped to fund the production of the documentary.

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