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## ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK CONGRATULATES SHERIDAN CHU AND EVE CHO GUILLERGAN ON PRIMARY WINS FOR QUEENS COUNTY CIVIL COURT

July 10, 2025 — New York, NY — The Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY) congratulates Sheridan Chu and Eve Cho Guillergan on securing the Democratic nominations for Judge of the New York City Civil Court in Queens County following the June 2025 primary elections. Their victories mark a significant step forward in the pursuit of greater representation of Asian Americans in the judiciary, especially in Queens, one of the most diverse counties in the nation.

Sheridan Chu is a seasoned attorney and founder of his own firm, the Law Office of Sheridan Chu, where he focused on tenant rights and criminal defense. Since 2017, he has served as a board member of the Chinese-American Planning Council and its Home Attendant Program, advocating for the rights of home care workers and their clients. A former court attorney and law clerk with extensive experience in both civil and criminal matters, Mr. Chu served for six years on Queens Community Board 6 and currently holds a position as a County Committee Member for the Queens Democratic Party. Mr. Chu received 58.88% of the vote in the Democratic primary to become the party's candidate for Judge of the Queens County Civil Court. If elected in November, Mr. Chu's election would contribute to increasing the representation of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) people on the Queens bench.

Eve Cho Guillergan, an immigration attorney and legal community leader, has spent over 30 years working on behalf of vulnerable immigrant populations. A seasoned arbitrator in Small Claims Court, she has a reputation for fairness, clarity, and efficiency in high-volume dockets. As the past Director of the Small Law Firm Center at the New York City Bar Association, past President of the Network of Bar Leaders, and a member of the Leadership Advisory Council for the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York, she has helped uplift voices from underrepresented communities. Ms. Guillergan received 57.70% of the vote in the Democratic primary to become the party's candidate for Judge of the Second Municipal Court District of the Queens County Civil Court. If elected in November, Ms. Guillergan would become the first Korean and the first female Filipino judge elected to the Queens Civil Court.

Although the results are still marked "unofficial," we anticipate that the final outcome will reflect the votes cast.

While Mr. Chu and Ms. Guillergan's primary victories are cause for celebration, it comes against a background of disproportionately low Asian American representation on the bench in New York. As of 2024, only 5% of New York State judges are of AAPI descent, despite AAPIs comprising approximately 9.8% of the state's population. In New York City, AAPIs make up 14.7% of the population but represent only about 11% of the judiciary. Most notably, no AAPI

jurist has ever been appointed to the New York Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, and there remains no AAPI representation in the Appellate Divisions of the First, Third, or Fourth Departments. In Queens County specifically, AAPIs accounted for 25.8% of the population but made up only 9.4% of the judiciary.

"AABANY has long advocated for a judiciary that reflects the diversity of New York," said Ben Hsing, AABANY President. "We are thrilled to see voters in Queens respond so positively to the qualifications and leadership of Sheridan Chu and Eve Cho Guillergan. Their election would not only strengthen our courts but brings us closer to a more representative and inclusive judiciary that truly reflects the communities it serves."

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

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