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STATEMENT OF THE ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK URGING GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL TO APPOINT THE HONORABLE JEFFREY K. OING TO BE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE NEW YORK STATE COURT OF APPEALS

NEW YORK – December 12, 2022 – The Asian American Bar Association of New York ("AABANY") strongly recommends that Governor Hochul appoint the Honorable Jeffrey K. Oing to be the Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals, the state's highest court. AABANY, with more than 1,700 active and paying members, is the largest affinity bar association in New York City, New York State, and the United States.

AABANY believes that Justice Oing is highly qualified, based on his three decades of public service, in various roles at executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government. He is deeply knowledgeable of the law, seeks to build consensus, and has served in New York's judiciary from the Civil Court to the Supreme Court and to the Appellate Division. He will be ready on day one to take the helm as Chief Judge, and we believe that he is the most qualified candidate for Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. In addition, his appointment will make history as the first Asian American Pacific Islander ("AAPI") judge to sit on and lead the Court of Appeals, adding to the diversity of that bench, and promoting diversity, equity and inclusion in the judiciary, in which AAPI jurists remain greatly under-represented.

Justice Oing's record of judicial service is both lengthy and distinguished. He was first elected to the New York City Civil Court in 2004 and appointed in 2009 as Supervising Judge of that court and an Acting Supreme Court Justice of the New York State Supreme Court. From 2009 to 2010, Justice Oing served as Supervising Judge of the Civil Court of the City of New York at 111 Centre Street. As Supervising Judge, he managed the day-to-day operations of one of the busiest courts in the State, in addition to handling his own docket. Justice Oing was then elected to the Supreme Court, New York County, and assigned to the Commercial Division. As a Commercial Division judge, Justice Oing presided over hundreds of complex business and financial cases. Since June 2017, Justice Oing has served as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department. As an appellate judge, Justice Oing has heard thousands of appeals. These appeals involve both civil and criminal cases, and matters originating from Surrogate's Court, Family Court and the Court of Claims.

Justice Oing earned the well-deserved reputation of being fair, thoughtful, intelligent, and hardworking, and deeply committed to the highest standards of jurisprudence and equal justice. Over the course of three decades, Justice Oing has demonstrated the experience, leadership, management ability, temperament, and intellect to serve as the Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals.

AABANY believes Justice Oing possesses the requisite breadth of experience, both judicial and non-judicial, as well as the essential experience as a judicial supervisor and administrator that will serve him well as a Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. Justice Oing's experience in different branches of government provide him with a unique perspective in understanding the Court's role as part of an overall well-functioning and successful government. Justice Oing's experience both as a trial and appellate judge, provide him with a deep understanding of how the court system functions at all different levels. His qualifications and experience in all these different facets are unmatched by the other candidates for this position. For all these reasons, AABANY's Judiciary Committee rated Justice Oing highly qualified to be Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.

AABANY respectfully urges the Governor to appoint the Honorable Jeffrey K. Oing as Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals.

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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