



ORGANIZATIONAL STATEMENT

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NFALA Congratulates Pelayo A. Llamas, Jr. on His Selection to Serve as a Court Commissioner in Alameda County Superior Court

The National Filipino American Lawyers Association (NFALA) congratulates Pelayo A. Llamas, Jr. who has been selected by the Alameda County Superior Court to serve as a Court Commissioner effective March 4, 2019. He will preside over traffic arraignments and trials in the Fremont courthouse.

Pelayo has been a Deputy City Attorney for Oakland since 1999, where he served in many assignments including prosecuting nuisance abatement and code enforcement actions, defending civil lawsuits brought against the City, advising the Police and Fire Retirement System Board, serving as counsel to the police department, and drafting legislation. His legal career began in 1992 as an associate with the Oakland firm Burnham Brown, where he handled construction defect and personal injury suits. From 1998-1999, he was an associate with Berding & Weil of Walnut Creek.

Before his appointment, Pelayo was the president-elect of the Alameda County Bar Association after serving five years on its Board of Directors. He is also executive committee Co-chair of the Judicial Branch's Bench Bar Coalition. He serves as an advisory board member of the Filipino Bar Association of Northern California and is a former co-chair of NFALA's Judicial and Executive Nominations and Appointments Committee (JENAC). He is in his 12th year with the Earl Warren American Inn of Court, where he served as its 2015-2016 president.

"We congratulate Pelayo on his appointment to serve the court and the people of Alameda County," said David Mesa, Immediate Past President of NFALA and co-chair of JENAC. "As Court Commissioners perform important judicial functions and duties to assist the court in the administration of justice, with primary responsibility for presiding over a daily court calendar and acting as a temporary judge in cases, Pelayo is indeed a critical addition to Alameda County, which is 5.5% Filipino and to date, has never had a single Filipino-American judge. This is certainly a big step in the right direction."

NFALA applauds the Alameda County Superior Court for selecting Pelayo and its commitment to creating a courthouse that is reflective of California's diverse population.

NFALA is the national voice for the Filipino-American legal profession. It advocates for justice, civil rights, and equal opportunity for the Filipino-American community. It cultivates high standards of integrity and professionalism among its members and strives for the advancement and success of Filipino-Americans within the profession. NFALA is a family, comprised of members throughout the United States, with the shared goal of increasing its national growth, impact, and visibility while also celebrating its members' cultural heritage.

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