



## ORGANIZATIONAL STATEMENT

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### **NFALA Urges the White House to Nominate Patrick J. Bumatay for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**

SEATTLE, WA — Today, a court spokesperson announced that Judge Carlos Bea of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit plans to take senior status upon the nomination and confirmation of his successor. In response to the impending vacancy on the Ninth Circuit, the National Filipino American Lawyers Association (NFALA) has sent a letter to the White House urging President Trump to nominate Patrick J. Bumatay to serve on the Ninth Circuit as Judge Bea's successor.

If nominated and confirmed, Patrick will be the first Filipino American judge to ever serve on a federal appeals court, the second openly LGBT federal circuit court judge, and the second Filipino American Article III judge in the history of the United States.

Patrick is an Assistant United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of California, where he is a member of the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Forces Section. He is currently detailed to the Office of the Attorney General, where he serves as Counselor to the Attorney General on various criminal issues, including the national opioid strategy and transnational organized crime. Patrick has demonstrated a strong commitment to public service, serving as a Department of Justice attorney during the administrations of George W. Bush, Barack Obama, and Donald Trump.

"We urge the White House to nominate Patrick to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit," said Eric de los Santos, president of NFALA. "Patrick's strong qualifications, including his breadth of experience as a federal prosecutor, a defense attorney, and a senior Department of Justice attorney make him ideal for the Ninth Circuit." De los Santos added: "Patrick is a proud first generation Filipino American, the son of Filipino immigrants to the United States, and if he is nominated and confirmed, we have no doubt he will serve the Ninth Circuit and the people of California, Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands with excellence, fairness, integrity, and intellect."

Patrick is a member of NFALA and two of NFALA's affiliates, the Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego (FALSD) and Filipino American Lawyers of Washington, D.C. (FALA DC). NFALA and its Judicial Executive Nominations and Appointments Committee (JENAC) have supported Patrick through the nomination process, both for the Ninth Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California, where his nomination is currently pending.

NFALA proudly supports Patrick and urges the White House to nominate him to serve on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

*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.*

To learn more about NFALA, visit [nfala.com](http://nfala.com), like us on [Facebook](#), and follow us on Twitter ([@NFALA1](#)) and Instagram ([@filamlawyers](#)).

