



For Immediate Release

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**NFALA APPLAUDS EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND
CALLS FOR ADVANCING RACIAL EQUITY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**

Chicago, IL – The National Filipino American Lawyers Association (NFALA) welcomes recent executive actions by President Biden to combat discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientationⁱ, preserve Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)ⁱⁱ, ensure an accurate censusⁱⁱⁱ, end the Muslim Ban^{iv}, and support our frontline healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic^v.

“We are encouraged by President Biden’s executive actions that address many of the issues NFALA has advocated for,” said NFALA President Kristy Gonowon. “There is much left to do, and we urge the Administration to prioritize measures that advance racial equity and justice^{vi}. We stand in solidarity with all directly impacted communities who have been harmed by the previous administration’s unjust policies.”

NFALA advocates for justice, civil rights, and equal opportunity for the Filipino American community, including recognition and support of Filipino World War II veterans, LGBTQ equality, and commonsense immigration reform.

NFALA and our affiliated bar associations opposed the Muslim Ban^{vii}, including signing on to amicus briefs in the Supreme Court^{viii}. NFALA supports the DACA program^{ix} and efforts to find a bipartisan solution for the status of the undocumented in the country. NFALA has stood with our frontline workers throughout the COVID-19 pandemic^x and spoken out against the previous administration’s attempts to include the citizenship question in the 2020 census^{xi}.

NFALA also congratulates President Biden and Vice President Harris on their historic inauguration.

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, like us on [Facebook](#), and follow us on Twitter ([@NFALA1](#)) and Instagram ([@filamlawyers](#)).

ⁱ EXECUTIVE ORDER ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF GENDER IDENTITY OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION (2021), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-preventing-and-combating-discrimination-on-basis-of-gender-identity-or-sexual-orientation/>.

ⁱⁱ PRESERVING AND FORTIFYING DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) (2021), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/preserving-and-fortifying-deferred-action-for-childhood-arrivals-daca/>.

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- iii EXECUTIVE ORDER ON ENSURING A LAWFUL AND ACCURATE ENUMERATION AND APPORTIONMENT PURSUANT TO THE DECENNIAL CENSUS (2021), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-ensuring-a-lawful-and-accurate-enumeration-and-apportionment-pursuant-to-decennial-census/>.
- iv PROCLAMATION ON ENDING DISCRIMINATORY BANS ON ENTRY TO THE UNITED STATES (2021), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/proclamation-ending-discriminatory-bans-on-entry-to-the-united-states/>.
- v EXECUTIVE ORDER ON IMPROVING AND EXPANDING ACCESS TO CARE AND TREATMENTS FOR COVID-19 (2021), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/21/executive-order-improving-and-expanding-access-to-care-and-treatments-for-covid-19/>.
- vi EXECUTIVE ORDER ON ADVANCING RACIAL EQUITY AND SUPPORT FOR UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (2021), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-advancing-racial-equity-and-support-for-underserved-communities-through-the-federal-government/>.
- vii NAPABA DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED IN U.S. SUPREME COURT'S DECISION IN MUSLIM BAN CASE (2018), https://www.napaba.org/page/618_muslim_ban.
- viii NFALA STATEMENT ON U.S. SUPREME COURT DECISION IN TRUMP V. HAWAII (2018), <https://nfala.com/resources/Documents/Advocacy/Organizational%20Statements%20-%202018/NFALA%20Statement%20on%20US%20Supreme%20Court%20Decision%20in%20Trump%20v%20Hawaii.pdf>.
- ix NFALA CELEBRATES SUPREME COURT DECISION REJECTING DHS' EFFORT TO RESCIND DACA (2020), <https://nfala.com/resources/Documents/Advocacy/Organizational%20Statements%20-%202020/NFALA%20Celebrates%20SCOTUS%20Decision%20Rejecting%20DHS%20Effort%20to%20Rescind%20DACA.pdf>.
- x NFALA THANKS AND SUPPORTS OUR FILIPINO FRONTLINERS (2020), <https://nfala.com/resources/Documents/Advocacy/Organizational%20Statements%20-%202020/05%2012%2020%20NFALA%20Statement%20Frontliners.pdf>.
- xi NFALA SUBMITS COMMENT IN OPPOSITION TO CITIZENSHIP QUESTION IN THE 2020 CENSUS (2018), <https://nfala.com/resources/Documents/Advocacy/Organizational%20Statements%20-%202018/NFALA%20Census.pdf>.

