



JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE / JACL

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PRESS RELEASE

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February 24, 2010
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JACL APPLAUDS NOMINATION OF GOODWIN H. LIU TO THE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

WASHINGTON - The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil and human rights organization, is pleased with President Barack Obama's nomination of University of California Berkeley School of Law Associate Dean and Professor Goodwin H. Liu's nomination to serve on the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

The son of immigrants from Taiwan, Professor Liu is an American success story. He was born in Augusta, Georgia, and grew up in Clewiston, Florida and Sacramento, California. He attended Stanford University, Oxford University, and Yale Law School, graduating with distinction. As a prominent constitutional scholar and education law expert, he has had a distinguished career, including clerkships on the D.C. Circuit and the United States Supreme Court, appellate practice at the law firm of O'Melveny & Myers, and public service in the U.S. Department of Education.

"Professor Liu is a superb nominee to the Ninth Circuit," said Floyd Mori, National Executive Director of the JACL. "There are currently no Asian Pacific Americans serving on the appellate level, and Professor Liu's excellent record as a former Supreme Court law clerk, public servant, and respected scholar will surely bring superior judgment and fairness to the Ninth Circuit."

Professor Liu's appointment to the Ninth Circuit is particularly significant for the Asian Pacific American community. If confirmed, he will only be the fifth Asian Pacific American federal appellate court judge in the history of the United States. He is the second Asian Pacific American nominated by President Obama to serve on the United States Court of Appeals, along with Denny Chin, nominee for the Second Circuit. Professor Liu's nomination enjoys broad bipartisan support, including former Republican Congressman Tom Campbell and Clint Bollick.

Professor Liu has been exceedingly active with many community and law-related organizations. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Pacific Islander, Asian, and Native American Law Students Association Alumni Award (Yale Law School); Asian American Alumni Award (Stanford University); and the Stanford Associates Governors' Award for Exemplary Volunteer Service.

The JACL congratulates Professor Liu on his historic nomination and thanks President Obama for nominating him. JACL also thanks Senators Feinstein and Boxer for their support of Professor Liu's nomination.

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