

Ashwath S. Trasi

(908) 930-0750 – Ashwath.Trasi@gmail.com

Candidate Statement for 2019-2020 APALA-NJ Secretary

Please accept this statement in support of my candidacy for Vice President of Membership of APALA-NJ for the 2019-2020 year.

I am a Legal Specialist at New Jersey's Department of Children and Families (DCF), serving as in-house counsel to the agency. I preside over Departmental discipline and grievance hearings, respond to discrimination claims filed with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and New Jersey's Division of Civil Rights (DCR), act as a liaison to New Jersey's Office of the Attorney General in employment litigation matters, and provide legal counsel and assistance to DCF in meeting its mission to ensure the safety, well-being, and success of New Jersey's children, youth, and families.

I have been an active member of APALA-NJ for two years and served as the Secretary for the 2018-2019 year. As Secretary I designed and distributed APALA-NJ's weekly announcements, posting information about APALA-NJ and other local and national bars events, as well as job opportunities. I planned and organized APALA-NJ's Holiday Party in December and attended numerous other events, including a Mock Interview Workshop, the Lunar Banquet, and APALA-NJ's special viewing and panel discussion of the documentary "Abacus: Small Enough to Jail". I also attended events held by State, County, and diversity bar organizations, as an APALA-NJ representative. Finally, I am serving on the Gala Committee to help plan and organize APALA-NJ's annual Gala for the second straight year.

I would be an honored to be APALA-NJ's VP of Membership of to continue furthering APALA-NJ's mission to promote the Asian-Pacific-American community locally and nationally. I have been proud to serve as a leader in our organization and have enjoyed working with APALA-NJ's brilliant, accomplished, and talented members. I hope to continue to help our valuable organization grow and succeed.