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Dear APALA-NJ Members,

Please accept this statement in support of my candidacy for the APALA-NJ Board of Director position.

By way of background, I currently work as an Associate at Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis, LLP. I focus my practice in litigation, with a particular concentration in the area of employment law. I also assist in the handling of matters involving claims of public entity liability. Prior to joining the firm, I was a Deputy Attorney General in the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, Division of Law. My experience includes claims related to violations of the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination (NJLAD), the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), and the Conscientious Employee Protection Act (CEPA).

As a law student, I had the privilege of working at the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) where I learned first-hand of the struggles faced by many Asian Americans ranging from issues related to immigration to the payment of fair wages. Working at AALDEF was one of the most fulfilling jobs of my career. It allowed me to use my legal skills to help members of my own community, the Asian American community.

I started to become involved in APALA-NJ in law school during which time I also served as Vice President of the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association. I quickly came to realize that APALA-NJ was an organization that strived to achieve greater representation in the bench and bar through various programs and annual events and endeavored to support the Asian American community at large. I have continued to attend various events organized and/or sponsored by APALA-NJ. At each event, I've managed to make professional connections and ultimately, friends. As a Director I look forward to working with the other directors to continue to organize events to continue to foster professional relationships, assist with community development efforts, and promote the general mission of APALA-NJ.

It would be my honor to serve as one of APALA-NJ's Board of Directors in the upcoming year.