

April 20, 2018

Re: **BALIF's Endorsements for the 2018 Trial Court Judge Judicial Elections**

Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom ("BALIF") is the oldest and largest bar association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex attorneys and legal professionals in the United States. BALIF represents approximately 600 San Francisco Bay Area judges, lawyers, law students, and legal workers. The organization takes action on questions of law and justice that affect the LGBTQI community and, within that larger mission, to promote the election and appointment of qualified LGBTQI attorneys and their allies to the judiciary.

BALIF's Board of Directors conducted a thorough vetting process by reviewing responses to BALIF's 2018 Judiciary Questionnaire, conducting personal interviews with the candidates, calling references, and convening a Special Board Meeting on these issues.

The organization endorses the following candidates in the 2018 Trial Court Judge Judicial Elections:

Alameda County

Tara Flanagan, Hon.

San Francisco County

Maria Evangelista, Esq.

Curtis Karnow, Hon.

Cynthia Ming-Mei Lee, Hon.

Niki Judith Solis, Esq.

BALIF wishes the foregoing candidates the best of luck and will make no further public comment about its judicial endorsements.

Sincerely,



Annick M. Persinger
BALIF Judiciary Chair



Peter Catalanotti
BALIF Chair