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For Immediate Release:

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## **California Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus Applauds Governor's Judicial Appointments**

Sacramento- Assemblymember Rob Bonta, Chair of the California Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus, issued the following statement to applaud Governor Brown's appointments of Elwood G. Lui as presiding justice of Division Two of the Second District Court of Appeal, Godofredo (O.G.) Magno to the Riverside County Superior Court, and Wesley L. Hsu to the Los Angeles County Superior Court.

"California's judiciary system has been strengthened by Governor Brown's exceptional appointments of Elwood G. Lui, Godofredo (O.G.) Magno and Wesley L. Hsu. The appointments of these outstanding individuals are a recognition of the great need for jurists with diverse experiences that are reflective of all Californians. Asian Americans are the fastest growing population in California and, for that reason, it is critical to have appropriate representation within the judiciary. The latest data shows the Asian and Pacific Islander population in Riverside County has more than doubled recently, however, the number of judges of Asian American or Pacific Islander descent has not kept pace. Appointing distinguished judges with diverse backgrounds, like Godofredo (O.G.) Magno to the Riverside County Superior Court, improves trust and elevates cultural awareness throughout our court system.

The Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus thanks Governor Brown for his efforts in making California's bench more inclusive. We look forward to our continued partnership with his administration in ensuring that qualified individuals with diverse perspectives and cultural understanding are considered. We congratulate these appointees and are confident that they will demonstrate the highest judicial standards as they evenhandedly interpret the law and fairly administer justice."

Biographical information provided by the Governor's office:

Elwood G. Lui, 76, of Los Angeles, has been appointed presiding justice, Division Two of the Second District Court of Appeal. Lui has served as an associate justice at the Second District Court of Appeal since 2015. He was of counsel at Jones Day from 2014 to 2015, where he was a partner from 1987 to 2013. Lui served as an associate justice at the Second District Court of Appeal from 1981 to 1987 and as a judge at the Los Angeles County Superior Court from 1980 to 1981 and at the Los Angeles Municipal Court from 1975 to 1980. He was a sole practitioner in 1975, an attorney at Mori and

Katayama from 1971 to 1975 and served as a deputy attorney general at the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General from 1969 to 1971. Lui earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of California, Los Angeles Graduate School of Business Administration, a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law and a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, Los Angeles. Lui fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Justice Roger W. Boren. This position requires confirmation by the Commission on Judicial Appointments. The Commission consists of Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye, Attorney General Xavier Becerra and Senior Presiding Justice Arthur Gilbert.

Godofredo (O.G.) Magno, 47, of Riverside, has been appointed to a judgeship in the Riverside County Superior Court. He has served as a supervising deputy public defender and unit lead attorney at the Riverside County Public Defender's Office since 2014, where he served as a deputy public defender from 1998 to 2014. Magno earned a Juris Doctor degree from Southwestern University Law School and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Irvine. He fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Michele D. Levine.

Wesley L. Hsu, 46, of Pasadena, has been appointed to a judgeship in the Los Angeles County Superior Court. He has served as Deputy U.S. Attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office, Central District of California since 2017, where he was an Assistant U.S. Attorney from 2000 to 2017. He was an associate at Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher LLP from 1997 to 2000 and served as a law clerk for the Honorable Mariana R. Pfaelzer at the U.S. District Court, Central District of California from 1996 to 1997. Hsu earned a Juris Doctor degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Yale University. He fills the vacancy created by the conversion of a court commissioner position on June 9, 2016.

*The California Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus represents and advocates for the interests of the diverse API communities throughout California. It seeks to increase Asian Pacific Islander participation and representation in all levels of government.*

Website of the California API Legislative Caucus: <http://apicaucus.legislature.ca.gov>

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