



The State Bar of California

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL NOMINEES EVALUATION

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November 6, 2020

SENT VIA EMAIL

Hon. Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice
California Supreme Court
350 McAllister Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Hon. Xavier Becerra, Attorney General
California Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA 94102

Hon. J. Anthony Kline, Senior Presiding Justice
California Court of Appeal for the First District
350 McAllister Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation Report –
Nomination of Honorable Justice Martin Jenkins (Ret.)
To the Office of Associate Justice, California Supreme Court**

Dear Members of the Commission on Judicial Appointments:

I am honored to present this report on behalf of the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation (JNE) to summarize the basis of the JNE Commission's rating of the Hon. Martin Jenkins for the office of associate justice of the California Supreme Court.

The JNE Commission conducted its evaluation of Justice Jenkins on November 6, 2020, finding him to be exceptionally well qualified for service on the California Supreme Court. According to JNE Commission rules, the rating reflects the

Commission's determination that Justice Jenkins possesses qualities and attributes of remarkable or extraordinary superiority that enable him to perform the appellate judicial function with distinction.

Justice Jenkins attended City College of San Francisco, earning an A.A. degree in 1973. Thereafter, he earned a football scholarship to Santa Clara University, where he obtained a B.A. degree, majoring in History, in 1976. After a brief stint in the NFL with the Seattle Seahawks, Justice Jenkins was admitted to the University of San Francisco School of Law and received his J.D. degree in 1980.

In his storied career, Justice Jenkins has worked as a trial attorney for the Alameda County District Attorney's Office and the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, as well as for Pacific Bell's legal department.

Appointed to the Alameda County Superior Court in 1989, Justice Jenkins served until 1997 when he was appointed to the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. While on the federal bench, he served on the Non-Appropriated Fund Committee, the Discipline Oversight Committee, the CARES Public Outreach Committee, and the Ninth Circuit Article III Judges' Education Committee. As a federal judge, Justice Jenkins presided over significant cases including *Dukes v. Walmart* – a nationwide class action suit against Walmart stores alleging sexual discrimination under Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. At that time, the case was the largest class action ever to be certified by an American court.

From 2008 to 2019, Justice Jenkins served as an associate justice of the California Court of Appeal, First Appellate District. During his tenure, he also served three times as justice pro tempore on the California Supreme Court.

From February 2019 to the present, Justice Jenkins has worked as the Senior Judicial Appointments Secretary, where he advises Governor Gavin Newsom on all state court judicial appointments.

Justice Jenkins' other public service contributions are extensive. He has served as a faculty member for the Center for Judicial Education and Research and for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy. He also serves on the boards of both Santa Clara University and the University of San Francisco. In addition, Justice Jenkins is a founding member of the Vincent Academy, a charter public school in West Oakland. Once every other month, he speaks to elementary, middle, and high school students in the Bay Area about the value of an education.

Justice Jenkins' impressive 30-year record of professional accomplishment is equally matched by his strength of character, compassion, and integrity. He is praised for his brilliant intellect, first-class temperament, and boundless humanity. Justice Jenkins embodies the qualities sought in a Supreme Court candidate: collegiality, writing ability, scholarship and distinction in the legal profession coupled with an unparalleled breadth of experience. Moreover, his

Commission on Judicial Appointments

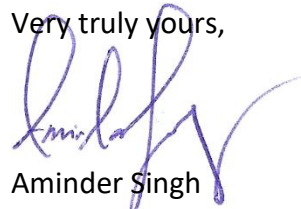
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compassion, humility, lifelong commitment to public service, and passion for justice make him a most deserving and worthy addition to the state's highest court. Accordingly, the JNE Commission found Justice Jenkins to be exceptionally well qualified for the office to which he was nominated, Associate Justice of the California Supreme Court.

As JNE Commission Chair, I will be pleased to appear for the confirmation hearing on November 10, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. at the headquarters of the Commission on Judicial Appointments to testify as to the JNE Commission evaluation.

Very truly yours,



Aminder Singh

2020 Chair, Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation

cc: Sarah L. Cohen
Attorney, State Bar of California