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Committee of 100 Supports Confirmation of Edward Chen to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

Committee of 100

**Seeking Common Ground
While Respecting Differences**

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(New York, NY, July 29, 2010)--The Committee of 100 (C-100) supports the confirmation of Edward Milton Chen to the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. President Barack Obama nominated Judge Chen in August 2009 and the nomination is presently awaiting confirmation by the United States Senate.

Consistent with its mission of advancing the participation of Chinese Americans in all aspects of public life in the U.S., C-100 supports federal judicial nominations of Chinese Americans when the American Bar Association (ABA) gives the nominee its highest rating. The ABA has given Judge Chen such a rating, indicated by a unanimous vote of well-qualified.

C-100 Chairman John Chen comments: "Judge Chen is a respected federal magistrate judge and has a record of fairness. C-100 urges the Senate to confirm Judge Chen. His appointment would embrace the diversity and inclusiveness of our judicial system."

We call on the Senate to confirm Judge Chen. If confirmed, Judge Chen would become the first Asian American "Article III" judge in the history of the Northern District of California, where Asian Americans represent approximately 35% of the population.

Judge Chen has a distinguished legal career and is eminently qualified to serve as a federal court judge. He has served as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of California for nine years. He has over 300 published opinions on a range of subjects, presided over 20 civil and criminal trials, and conducted over 500 settlement conferences. Prior to becoming a magistrate, he had over 20 years of litigation experience. He served judicial clerkships for two federal judges (U.S. District Judge Charles B. Renfrew for the Northern District of California and U.S. Circuit Judge James R. Browning of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit). From 1982 to 1985, he was an associate at the San Francisco firm of Coblenz, Cahen, McCabe & Breyer. Between 1985 and 2001, Judge Chen worked as a staff attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, Northern California Chapter.

C-100 is a national non-profit, non-partisan, membership organization that addresses issues concerning Sino-U.S. relations and affecting the Chinese American community. The Committee draws upon the collective experience, knowledge, and resources of our members—Chinese Americans who have achieved prominence in a variety of fields—to work in partnership towards a dual mission: (1) Promoting a constructive relationship between the peoples of the U.S. and Greater China; and (2) Promoting the full participation of Chinese Americans in all aspects of American life.

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