

## **BASF Supports Statement of Chief Justice John Roberts Affirming the Importance of an Independent Judiciary**

**November 26, 2018 – San Francisco, California** – The Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) supports Chief Justice John Roberts’ statement that the “independent judiciary is something we should all be thankful for.” The Chief Justice is right. We have three separate but equal branches of government. An independent judiciary serves as one of many check-and-balance safeguards to protect against anarchy and ensure a functional republic. Any rhetoric suggesting that the judicial branch can be controlled by the executive branch should be corrected and then swiftly extinguished.

BASF expresses its thanks for jurists who exercise independent judgment under the rule of law, who remain steadfast in their oath to “administer justice without respect to persons, and do equal right to the poor and to the rich,” and who “faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent” upon them as judges “under the Constitution and laws of the United States.”

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The Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) is a nonprofit voluntary membership organization of attorneys, law students, and legal professionals in the San Francisco Bay Area. Founded in 1872, BASF enjoys the support of more than 7,500 individuals, law firms, corporate legal departments, and law schools. Through its board of directors, its committees, and its volunteer legal services programs and other community efforts, BASF has worked actively to promote and achieve equal justice for all and oppose discrimination in all its forms, including, but not limited to, discrimination based on race, sex, disability, and sexual orientation. BASF provides a collective voice for public advocacy, advances professional growth and education, and attempts to elevate the standards of integrity, honor, and respect in the practice of law.