



Los Angeles County Bar Association

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LACBA President's Statement on Judicial Independence

For more than two centuries, an independent judiciary free from improper partisan influence has maintained the rights and liberties of the American people. The Framers of our Constitution recognized that, as Alexander Hamilton wrote in The Federalist No. 78, “[t]he complete independence of the courts of justice is particularly essential” to the separation of powers and to the proper functioning of our democracy. As Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., recently observed, “We do not have Obama judges or Trump judges, Bush judges or Clinton judges. What we have is an extraordinary group of dedicated judges doing their level best to do equal right to those appearing before them. That independent judiciary is something we should all be thankful for.”

The members of the Los Angeles County Bar Association are dedicated to preserving an independent, impartial judiciary free from outside political influence. We therefore reject efforts from any other branch of government to question the courts' motives, undermine the legitimacy of their decisions, diminish public confidence in their role, or otherwise hinder them in the discharge of their constitutional duties. We stand on the side of the rule of law and the constitutional independence of the judiciary, and we urge our political leaders, our fellow attorneys, and all our citizens to stand with us.

Ronald F. Brot
President
Los Angeles County Bar Association