

# Statement on Federal Judges, Attorneys and Civil Servants issued by the Los Angeles Chapter of the Federal Bar Association

## Wednesday, April 23, 2025

The Los Angeles Chapter of the Federal Bar Association (FBA-LA) joins with the recent Statement on an Independent Judiciary issued by the Federal Bar Association (National). We also join Chief Justice Roberts's recent statement regarding judicial decisions and impeachment, specifically that "impeachment is not an appropriate response to disagreement concerning a judicial decision." We reiterate our previously issued position on judicial independence, a copy of which is available <u>here</u>.

Our Chapter reminds everyone that all federal judges, attorneys and civil servants take oaths before beginning their public service. Those oaths, which underscore the fundamental nature of their duties, are as follows:

## Federal Judges Oath (28 U.S. Code § 453)

"I, \_\_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will administer justice without respect to persons, and do equal right to the poor and to the rich, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as \_\_\_\_ under the Constitution and laws of the United States. So help me God."

### Federal Attorney Oath (US Courts Form AO 153)

"I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that as an attorney and as a counselor of this court I will conduct myself uprightly and according to law, and that I will support the Constitution of the United States."

### Federal Civil Service Oath (5 U.S. Code § 3331)

"I, \_\_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

The Los Angeles Chapter of the Federal Bar Association issues this statement in its name only and not that of the Federal Bar Association, any judicial member of the Association, or any other member of the Association for whom participation in the formulation of the position may conflict with that member's official or other professional responsibilities.

This statement was authorized by the attorneys serving on the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. Members of the Judiciary and employees of the US Government, including the US Attorney's Office who serve on the Board, did not participate in the decision to issue this statement. The FBA LA Chapter seeks to promote the sound administration of justice and the integrity, quality and independence of the federal judiciary. See http://www.fbala.org/