

October 13, 2019

2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission
Applicant Review Panel
c/o California State Auditor's Office
621 Capitol Mall, Suite 1200
Sacramento, California, 95814

RE: Linda Akutagawa, Applicant ID 22971

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to personally recommend **Linda Akutagawa** for the 2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission. I have known Linda for over six years and can attest to her leadership, achievements, and contributions over these years.

Linda is the President & CEO of Leadership Education For Asian Pacifics (LEAP), a national nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles, CA with a mission to achieve full participation and equality for Asian and Pacific Islanders (APIs) through leadership, empowerment, and policy. She and I both serve on the Alliance for Board Diversity (ABD) which is a coalition of four major diversity-focused organizations whose mission is to improve the representation of women, African Americans, APIs, and Latinos on corporate boards. In 2018, she was elected as the Board Chair for the ABD where she currently serves today.

Linda is one of the most highly-respected Asian American leaders in the country who can bring important API and diversity-focused perspectives to the Commission. I can attest to her strong commitment to civic engagement, diversity & inclusion advocacy, and deep understanding of the issues impacting people of color in California and throughout the country. She is a collaborative leader who works very well with other leaders. She has excellent communications skills which, complimented with her leadership skills, could make a positive difference as she contributes her voice to the redistricting dialog.

As such, I ask that the Applicant Review Panel please give Linda Akutagawa consideration to be selected to the Commission. I am confident that she will make a positive difference on the Commission as she has done over her many years of community leadership. She would serve honorably to the benefit of the people of California.

If you have any questions regarding my recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Best regards,



Cid Wilson
President & CEO
Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility (HACR)
Member of the Alliance for Board Diversity (ABD)

Washington, DC 20005

Disclosure: This is a personal letter of recommendation and not an organizational or institutional endorsement.