

## Sapana Shah – Candidate Statement

I joined the Lynch Law Firm in Feb of 2009. I began my legal career in New Jersey Superior Court, Middlesex County, serving as a law clerk to the Honorable Jessica R. Mayer. Upon completion of my clerkship, I worked as a commercial litigator for a private law firm. In my capacity, I successfully prosecuted Creditor Rights claims, including but not limited to Insurance Premium Fraud, Consumer Fraud, Premium Collection, and Officer & Director Liability. I then joined the Staff Counsel office of American International Group, Inc (AIG) as an Associate Trial Attorney. I defended AIG and insureds in trials, arbitrations, and motions in matters related to bodily injury, personal injury protection, uninsured/underinsured claims, and property damage.

Prior to obtaining my law degree, I worked at Dun & Bradstreet Corporation as a Financial Analyst and at Johnson & Johnson as an Associate. As a Financial Analyst, I forecasted and managed department budget accounts totaling more than \$10 million. At Johnson & Johnson I was a participant of multi-tasked team responsible for \$200 million in sales and improved internal operating efficiency by 30%.

I have been an active member of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association since law school. At Albany Law School, I was elected Vice-President, then President of the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA). As President, I held a Lunar Banquet, coordinated an Immigration Seminar with professors of the law school, and promoted Asian-American awareness. Upon graduation from law school, I became an active member of the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey (APALA). I mentored Asian-American law students and have assisted the New Jersey Bar Association in celebrating Asian Heritage Month. Recently, I was appointed by the board of APALA to serve a two (2) year term on the New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on Women in the Courts. In addition to my APALA activities, I have been a barrister of the Joseph Halpern Inn of Court in Somerset, New Jersey. I believe that my experience in finance, law, APALSA, and APALA will make me an effective member of your leadership team.

As Treasurer, I hope that I can further APALA objectives in promoting Asian-American awareness and place more Asian-American judges on the bench.