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NFALA CELEBRATES SUPREME COURT DECISION REJECTING DHS' EFFORT TO RESCIND DACA

Los Angeles, California – The National Filipino American Lawyers Association celebrates the Supreme Court's decision in *Department of Homeland Security, et al. v. Regents of the University of California, et al.*, rejecting the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) decision to rescind the immigration relief program, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). In this critical decision for undocumented immigrants who came to America as children, known as Dreamers, the Supreme Court found that DHS' decision to rescind DACA was arbitrary and capricious under the Administrative Procedure Act.

As of December 31, 2019, over 600,000 Dreamers, including over 3,000 Filipino nationals, benefit from the DACA program.¹ Thanks to DACA, Dreamers have been able to pursue higher education, serve in the military, become community leaders, lawyers, and entrepreneurs, and even serve as frontliners in the COVID-19 response effort. The administration's effort to end the program meant that Dreamers risked being deported to countries many of them do not even remember.

"The Court's decision protected Dreamers from being deported out of the country that they have called 'home' since they were children," said Philip Nulud, President of NFALA. "While we celebrate the Court's decision, we recognize the work that still needs to be done. At its best, the DACA program serves only as a stopgap measure. We renew our call for the President and Congress to come together on fair and humane immigration reform that permanently resolves and protects the status of Dreamers. Until then, we continue to stand with Dreamers as they represent the resilience and determination that shapes America."

NFALA's policy resolution in support of commonsense immigration reform can be found at www.nfala.com/policy-resolutions.

NFALA is the national voice for the Filipino American legal profession. It advocates for justice, civil rights, and equal opportunity for the Filipino American community. It cultivates high standards of integrity and professionalism among its members and strives for the advancement and success of Filipino Americans within the profession. NFALA is a family, comprised of members throughout the United States, with the shared goal of increasing its national growth, impact, and visibility while also celebrating its members' cultural heritage.

To learn more about NFALA, visit <u>nfala.com</u>, like us on <u>Facebook</u>, and follow us on Twitter (<u>@NFALA1</u>) and Instagram (<u>@filamlawyers</u>).

¹ U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVS., APPROXIMATE ACTIVE DACA RECIPIENTS: As OF DECEMBER 31, 2019, https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Resources/Reports%20and%20Studies/Immigration%20Forms%20Data/A liw20Form%20Types/DACA/DACA_Population_Receipts_since_Injunction_Dec_31_2019.pdf (last visited on June 19, 2020).