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**CABL APPLAUDS GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN'S
NOMINATION OF LEONDRA R. KRUGER FOR
THE CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT**

Los Angeles, California, December 18, 2014 – The California Association of Black Lawyers (CABL) extends its full support of Governor Jerry Brown's nomination of Leondra R. Kruger as Associate Justice of the California Supreme Court.

CABL represents over 6,000 African-American judges, attorneys, law professors and law students throughout the State of California. Since its inception in 1977, CABL has been vigilant in advancing its goal of diversifying the judiciary throughout the State of California including for the California Supreme Court. To that end, CABL has consistently advocated for the appointment of an African-American to the California Supreme Court, including by expressing to the Governor's office its support of exceptionally well-qualified candidates.

Ms. Kruger is an extremely intelligent, capable and qualified candidate who is an excellent nominee to fill the vacancy on the California Supreme Court. Ms. Kruger's experience, accomplishments and education in the legal profession all clearly indicate that she would transition well and quickly become a well-respected member of the California Supreme Court.

Ms. Kruger has served as a Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the United States Department of Justice, Office of Legal Counsel since 2013. She also served as an Assistant to the Solicitor General and as Acting Principal Deputy Solicitor General in the United States Department of Justice, Office of the Solicitor General from 2007 to 2013. While serving in that office, she effectively and impressively argued 12 cases before the United States Supreme Court on behalf of the United States government. Ms. Kruger earned her Juris Doctor degree from Yale Law School, where she was Editor-in-Chief of the Yale Law Journal. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard University, where she graduated magna cum laude and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

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There is no question that Ms. Kruger is an outstanding nominee as she has distinguished herself as an extraordinarily talented attorney who is also highly respected, principled and effective. The fact that she has no prior judicial experience is of no consequence, just as the last two lawyers appointed to the California Supreme Court, both law professors, have proven to be capable jurists. Ms. Kruger is licensed to practice law in California and even though she has most recently practiced outside of California, she was born and raised in California and thus, she is one of our own.

CABL has the utmost confidence in Ms. Kruger. Her stellar career has prepared her to not only serve but also to excel as a member of the California Supreme Court. CABL applauds Governor Brown for selecting another brilliant young legal mind to serve on that esteemed Court, and it is especially thrilled that Ms. Kruger will add to the diversity of that Court. Indeed, if confirmed, she would be the first African-American appointed to the California Supreme Court since Justice Janice Rogers Brown's appointment in 1996.

CABL looks forward to continuing its support of Ms. Kruger and to continuing its mission of encouraging the appointment of diverse judicial candidates throughout the State of California.

Sincerely,



Lawrence C. Hinkle II
President

California Association of Black Lawyers