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Summary of Qualifications

As my career and life experience illustrates, I have been **challenged and awarded** with many unique employment opportunities ranging from creating and administering estate plans, working with foster youth, administering two highly scrutinized State competitive grant programs to **promoting and preserving tangible and intangible cultural and historic assets for all peoples. Most recently, I am working with other attorneys to defend small business owners located in a historically important cultural district from being evicted.**

I am not afraid to approach subject matters and tasks that are new and challenging, and am not afraid to admit when I do not know the answer to a question.

My legal background provides me with the strength to look for long term and equitable solutions for all people, particularly those who are forgotten and undervalued in the world of fast moving technology and non-human forms of communication.

I am fortunate to be appointed as the Liaison of the Historic Preservation Commission to coordinate and plan activities with other Commissions and Departments on matters of mutual concern and interest. Currently, I am working with the staff of the SF Planning Department on a Racial and Social Equity Plan that will have a true and meaningful impact for all San Franciscans.

Also, I have worked alongside Commissioners with the Small Business Commission and staff of the Office of Small Business to create a process where businesses and nonprofit organizations who have been nominated to the **Legacy Business Registry** be respectfully acknowledged for their many years of hard work and determination.

My volunteer involvement entails a world of **real life experiences ranging from creating protections to save intangible sites to documenting stories through visual presentations, oral histories and storytelling of cultural traditions passed down by elders.**

As a native San Franciscan, born in the Richmond District and now a two-decade resident of Japantown, I am deeply invested in making sure that San Francisco remains a City of inclusion for everyone.

Career Experience

- 2018-present **Staff Attorney**
Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach (APILO)-San Francisco
Current staff load includes working with small business owners in Japantown negotiate a rent repayment plan with their landlords.
- Other cases involve estate planning, particularly advice about the implementation of Proposition 19 on properties owned by senior residents.
- 2018-present **Director of Special Projects**
Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (Center)-San Francisco
Provide advice and guidance on areas of specific topics including preservation of archival work; promotion of Japanese cultural assets and traditions. Current work also involves serving as a liaison to the Japanese American senior community.
- 2012-2017 **Trustee-San Francisco**
Administration of trusts including real estate transactions, accounting, legal compliance and distribution of assets.
- 2008-2016 **Executive Director**
John Burton Foundation-San Francisco
Directed and administered a statewide, nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the lives of foster, former foster and homeless youth. Personally created, implemented and sought development funds to initiate direct service programs to meet the immediate needs of the foster youth.
- 2004-2008 **Executive Officer**
California Cultural and Historical Endowment-Sacramento
Appointed by a bipartisan Board to plan, implement and administer a new \$128 million competitive grant program to preserve and honor the State's invaluable cultural and historic sites with special emphasis and consideration highlighting stories and histories of underrepresented communities and under recognized venues.
- 1999-2004 **Program Director**
California Civil Liberties Public Education Program-Sacramento
Implemented and administered the first state funded competitive grant program supporting projects that educate and inform individuals about the Japanese American incarceration experience during World War II, and its linkages and parallels to other communities and experiences. This program offered grants to individuals as young as 15 and as experienced as 90 in all fields of art, history and education.
- Grants to express the Japanese American experience in artistic form were also provided to a number of established as well as newly created

groups and individuals including animation; weavings; quilts; live musical and dramatic performances; poetry; novels, documentaries and first person forms of expression from those incarcerated in the concentration camps.

1997-1998

**International Program Coordinator
California International Relations Foundation-Sacramento**

Implemented and administered Japan related exchange programs for state legislators and high school students. This was the first program created at the State level to formally create relations with the Prefecture of Osaka to conduct yearly activities of international exchange and mutual cooperation.

1992-1997

**Coordinator
Osaka International House Foundation-Osaka Japan**

Solely responsible for all external communication and interaction with foreign diplomats, programs, organizations and individuals and worked with planning department team to create international forums and conferences including an environmental protection program with the country of Senegal.

Community and Civic Experience

2009-Present

**Commissioner (Reappointed in 2021)
Historic Preservation Commission-San Francisco**

Serve as the public at large member to emphasize and support the preservation and public recognition of little known and under recognized communities, and appointed as Liaison to work with other Commissions and Department on like matters of interest and concern.

2010-Present

**Board Member
SF Japantown Foundation-San Francisco**

Responsible coordinating and implementing an annual fundraising event focusing on authentic and traditional Japanese new year traditions and culinary dishes so that the proceeds can be reinvested back into culturally and historically relevant projects in San Francisco Japantown.

Also conduct and administer the yearly competitive grants program open to applicants who promote and enhance SF Japantown.

2006-Present

**Secretary/Treasurer
The Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation-
San Francisco**

Provide guidance, organizational, financial and budgetary support to a family foundation whose focus is to educate the American public about Japanese and Japanese American history and culture across the US. Grant applicants include art and cultural institutions; museums; cultural centers, organizations producing documentaries and educational and historic organizations.

1997-Present **Cultural Tour Coordinator**
Japanese Cultural and Community Center of No CA-
San Francisco
Initiate, plan and implement yearly cultural tours to Japan
focusing on prefectures less traveled by foreign tourists.

2004-Present **Advisory Committee Member**
CA Civil Liberties Public Education Program-San Francisco

Education

Juris Doctorate Hastings College of the Law (Active Member of the State Bar)

Bachelor of Arts University of San Francisco
Majors: Sociology and Government

Study Abroad Sophia University-Tokyo Japan