

**TESTIMONY OF
KIPPEN DE ALBA CHU**

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 11, 2012
10:00 am

JC 7 – Paul B.K. Wong

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify **in strong support** to confirm Paul Wong to the District Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Paul for over 10 years, having retained him as my legal counsel in business transactions, personal affairs, and in my current capacity as the executive director of 'Iolani Palace.

During this time, I have always been impressed with Paul's even-handed demeanor and his ability to maintain a wide focus on the issue at hand. In essence, Paul possesses the perfect temperament to serve on the bench, along with the competency and intellect to rule fairly and with foresight.

Paul is eminently qualified and will be an excellent jurist. I respectfully urge you to recommend him for confirmation by the full Senate.

Mahalo.

April 10, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee
Chairman
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Legislature
Honolulu HI 96813

RE: Measure JC7, Hearing 4/11/12, 10:00 a.m.
Judicial Nominee Paul Wong, Esq.

Dear Senator Hee and Members of the Committee:

I had the privilege to work closely with Judicial Nominee, Paul Wong, at the Department of Prosecuting Attorney, when I supervised him from 1996 to 2000. During much of this period, he served as supervisor of the dedicated Sexual Assault Team.

Paul Wong would be a definite asset to the judiciary. He is highly intelligent; he is decisive and can readily identify what is at issue. He has a tremendous work ethic. He has tried a number of complex, sexual assault cases, and his decisions on how to handle some extremely problematic cases were always sound.

Paul Wong is a team player. Despite a high case load, he was always ready and willing to help others at a moment's notice. In the year 2000, I adopted a baby. I was unprepared, and had to drop everything to pick up my baby with less than 24 hours notice. Paul stepped up to the plate and offered to take one of my jury trials which was set to commence on the next day.

Paul Wong is a gentleman and a fine human being. He treats everyone with whom he comes into contact with compassion and respect. These are skills that would translate well for the position that he is seeking.

Since entering private practice, Paul Wong has represented the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) pro bono. This has involved an extensive commitment on his part for which he has not received any monetary compensation. His volunteer legal work with SATC is demonstrative of his commitment to victims and to the public.

**TESTIMONY OF
KIPPEN DE ALBA CHU**

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 11, 2012
10:00 am

JC 7 – Paul B.K. Wong

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify **in strong support** to confirm Paul Wong to the District Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Paul for over 10 years, having retained him as my legal counsel in business transactions, personal affairs, and in my current capacity as the executive director of 'Iolani Palace.

During this time, I have always been impressed with Paul's even-handed demeanor and his ability to maintain a wide focus on the issue at hand. In essence, Paul possesses the perfect temperament to serve on the bench, along with the competency and intellect to rule fairly and with foresight.

Paul is eminently qualified and will be an excellent jurist. I respectfully urge you to recommend him for confirmation by the full Senate.

Mahalo.

April 10, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee
Chairman
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Legislature
Honolulu HI 96813

RE: Measure JC7, Hearing 4/11/12, 10:00 a.m.
Judicial Nominee Paul Wong, Esq.

Dear Senator Hee and Members of the Committee:

I had the privilege to work closely with Judicial Nominee, Paul Wong, at the Department of Prosecuting Attorney, when I supervised him from 1996 to 2000. During much of this period, he served as supervisor of the dedicated Sexual Assault Team.

Paul Wong would be a definite asset to the judiciary. He is highly intelligent; he is decisive and can readily identify what is at issue. He has a tremendous work ethic. He has tried a number of complex, sexual assault cases, and his decisions on how to handle some extremely problematic cases were always sound.

Paul Wong is a team player. Despite a high case load, he was always ready and willing to help others at a moment's notice. In the year 2000, I adopted a baby. I was unprepared, and had to drop everything to pick up my baby with less than 24 hours notice. Paul stepped up to the plate and offered to take one of my jury trials which was set to commence on the next day.

Paul Wong is a gentleman and a fine human being. He treats everyone with whom he comes into contact with compassion and respect. These are skills that would translate well for the position that he is seeking.

Since entering private practice, Paul Wong has represented the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) pro bono. This has involved an extensive commitment on his part for which he has not received any monetary compensation. His volunteer legal work with SATC is demonstrative of his commitment to victims and to the public.

Senator Hee
April 10, 2012
Page 2

I genuinely believe that anyone who would appear before nominee Paul Wong would sense his humanity, his compassion and his respect for others.

I highly recommend Mr. Wong's candidacy.

Very truly yours,

Thalia B.P. Murphy

April 10, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Measure JC7: Consideration of Paul Wong for District Court, First Circuit
Hearing Date: April 11, 2012, 10:00 a.m.

Dear Senator Hee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter in support of Paul Wong's consideration for the District Court of the First Circuit. I first had the privilege of working with Mr. Wong at the Prosecutor's Office when we both first began our legal careers. Mr. Wong and I worked together on two high publicity cases, one involving a double homicide committed by a defendant who was extradited from Japan (State v. Fukusaku) and another involving the Mililani serial rapist (State v. Thompson). These were but two of the many complex cases that Mr. Wong tried as a deputy prosecutor. Mr. Wong was also my supervisor when I was assigned to the Sexual Assault Branch. He always provided insightful trial strategies and guidance on many legal issues, and was unselfish with his time and knowledge.

Although Mr. Wong left the Prosecutors Office to pursue a successful civil litigation practice, he continued to occasionally handle criminal defense cases. As the supervising prosecuting attorney for the District Court matters, I continued to have opportunities to interact with Mr. Wong as opposing counsel. He was always prepared, forthright, and dedicated. I have always respected him as one who is able to analyze complex legal issues as well as understand and appreciate divergent points of view. Mr. Wong is a very highly skilled attorney with an outstanding work ethic.

Most importantly, I have respected and admired Mr. Wong as a dear friend. I trust him completely and without hesitation. His talent comes not only from his mind, but also his heart. Simply put, he cares. Through our many discussions over the years, and as demonstrated by his track record and work experience, it is absolutely clear that he is committed to seeking justice and serving the community.

Mr. Wong is an intelligent, articulate, kind, and compassionate person. He has the rare perfect balance of mind and heart which makes him an excellent candidate for judge. He is dedicated and highly skilled, will perform his duties fairly and efficiently, and is committed to serving the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 768-5111.

Very truly yours,

Renee R. Sonobe Hong

April 10, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee
Chairman
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Legislature
Honolulu HI 96813

RE: Measure JC7, Hearing 4/11/12, 10:00 a.m.
Judicial Nominee Paul Wong, Esq.

Dear Senator Hee and Members of the Committee:

I had the privilege to work closely with Judicial Nominee, Paul Wong, at the Department of Prosecuting Attorney, when I supervised him from 1996 to 2000. During much of this period, he served as supervisor of the dedicated Sexual Assault Team.

Paul Wong would be a definite asset to the judiciary. He is highly intelligent; he is decisive and can readily identify what is at issue. He has a tremendous work ethic. He has tried a number of complex, sexual assault cases, and his decisions on how to handle some extremely problematic cases were always sound.

Paul Wong is a team player. Despite a high case load, he was always ready and willing to help others at a moment's notice. In the year 2000, I adopted a baby. I was unprepared, and had to drop everything to pick up my baby with less than 24 hours notice. Paul stepped up to the plate and offered to take one of my jury trials which was set to commence on the next day.

Paul Wong is a gentleman and a fine human being. He treats everyone with whom he comes into contact with compassion and respect. These are skills that would translate well for the position that he is seeking.

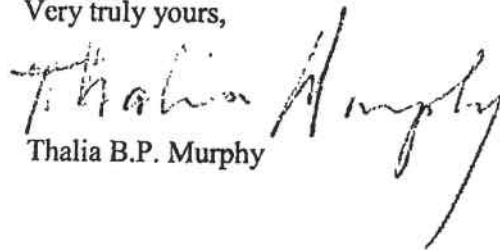
Since entering private practice, Paul Wong has represented the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) pro bono. This has involved an extensive commitment on his part for which he has not received any monetary compensation. His volunteer legal work with SATC is demonstrative of his commitment to victims and to the public.

Scnator Hce
April 10, 2012
Page 2

I genuinely believe that anyone who would appear before nominee Paul Wong would sense his humanity, his compassion and his respect for others.

I highly recommend Mr. Wong's candidacy.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thalia B.P. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the "y".

Thalia B.P. Murphy