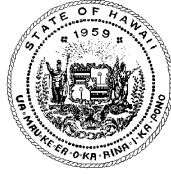


**GM580**



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

**WRITTEN ONLY**

Testimony on GM 580  
Confirmation of Michael D. Wilson  
Associate Justice, Hawaii Supreme Court

Governor Neil Abercrombie

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

March 6, 2014  
10:00 a.m. Room 016

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Committee:

I am pleased to express strong support for the confirmation of Judge Michael D. Wilson to the Supreme Court as Associate Justice.

As I stated when I announced his appointment on February 18, 2014:

*"Judge Wilson is a well-respected leader, [who] brings a wealth of experience, having served as an attorney and Circuit Court judge. The Constitution and our kuleana responsibilities to it will be in good hands."*

When asked how he would see himself in the role as a justice, Judge Wilson's reply has my wholehearted agreement:

*"The Supreme Court is our public conscience."*

In looking at his background and extensive work experience Judge Wilson has demonstrated a multitude of skills that will serve him well as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. He not only brings his private practice experience, but he has advocated on behalf of community groups, has served as a Director of a state department, and was the lead party in regulatory proceedings to protect consumers' interests. He has also served as chairperson of the Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources, chair of the Commission on Water Resource Management, and commissioner for the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission. These are all different skill-sets and ensure that he will bring these valuable perspectives on the Supreme Court.

He has been serving as a judge in the Circuit Court since 2000, presiding over the felony criminal trials calendar, drug court, and mental health court. He has also been assigned to the Supreme Court and the Intermediate Court of Appeals. I have complete confidence that he will excel as Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

It is for these reasons that I am confident that our Constitution and our responsibilities to it are in good hands with Judge Wilson. His confirmation to the State's highest court will benefit the lives of the people of Hawai'i. I encourage you to confirm Judge Wilson to the Supreme Court as Associate Justice.



Testimony of the  
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
relating to the nomination of

**MICHAEL D. WILSON**  
**Associate Justice for the Hawaii Supreme Court**

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations  
The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair  
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair

From: Gregory K. Markham, President-Elect, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Thursday, March 6, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 016  
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association appreciates the opportunity to comment on the qualifications of Michael D. Wilson for the position of Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

The HSBA Board has established criteria for determining the qualifications of judicial appointments generally utilizing the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. The HSBA uses the following criteria in its deliberations: integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been nominated. The HSBA Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "unqualified."

As part of its procedures for evaluating and taking positions on judicial appointments, the HSBA Board utilizes a subcommittee of the HSBA Board to review materials presented by the nominee and input from members. The subcommittee is also tasked with checking references and contacting others who have knowledge of the nominee's experience and qualifications. The full Board reviews the materials prepared by this subcommittee, the materials submitted by the nominee and members, and conducts an interview of the nominee.

Taking into consideration all of the information presented by and about the nominee and an interview with the nominee, the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association finds Michael D. Wilson to be unqualified for the position of Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Patricia Mau-Shimizu

**From:** [Jim Duffy](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Nomination of Michael D. Wilson to Hawaii Supreme Court  
**Date:** Monday, March 03, 2014 6:20:00 PM

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Chairman Clayton Hee and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I write to you in strong support of the nomination of Michael D. Wilson for the position of Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. I have known Mike for over 25 years, initially meeting him when he was a young lawyer practicing criminal law with Brook Hart and Peter Wolff. When he later practiced civil litigation as a partner with the firm of Pavey, Wilson and Glickstein, my firm had many cases with Mike. I continued to see Mike when he was the Director of DNLR and the Consumer Advocate. While I was a member of the Judiciary, I had many interactions with Mike, including his sitting on the Supreme Court on several occasions upon a Justice's recusal, and attending his Drug Court graduation ceremonies. Our relationship has continued since my retirement. Based on my long-time relationship with Mike, I unequivocally can attest to his integrity, moral courage, legal ability, and commitment to our community. Mike's passion for life, compassion, love of the law and its role in our society, and love of our people and environment, are attributes I have long admired. He genuinely cares about the people he comes in contact with, and the land we are privileged to live in.

As a lawyer, public servant, and circuit court judge, Mike has demonstrated his commitment to equal justice under the law, regardless of position or social status. I can personally attest to Mike's intelligence, legal ability, diligence and good judicial temperament. When he sat with us on the Supreme Court, Mike was extremely well prepared, asked thoughtful questions of counsel, was respectful to all, and congenially participated in our decision-making discussions. In summary, I believe Mike will be an excellent Justice on the Supreme Court.

Please contact me if additional

information is desired.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Justice Jim Duffy (Ret.)

Senator Clayton Hee, Chairman, and Members of the Senate Judiciary & Labor Committee:

It is my privilege to submit this testimony in full support of Judge Michael Wilson's nomination to the Hawaii Supreme Court. I have known Judge Wilson for almost 20 years – first, as a member of the Cayetano administration cabinet and second, as a fellow Circuit Court Judge.

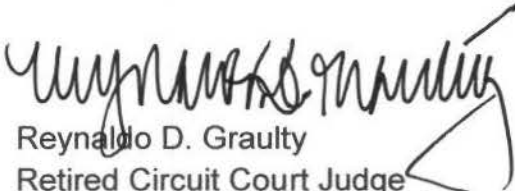
Judge Wilson is a person of unquestioned integrity. (As a former golfing buddy of his, I can attest to this important character trait. You learn a lot about a person on the golf course, they say, and I have never known him to cheat on his handicap or his score.)

Judge Wilson's abiding interest in constitutional, criminal and environmental law has taken him to many parts of the world. His efforts on the Sandy Beach Initiative have been well-documented. He has clerked for Judge Frank Padgett, who was a very demanding appeals court justice. He has served two terms on the criminal calendar.

Judge Wilson has traveled to England, India, Africa, Australia, the Philippines, and other parts of the world, to learn about, and share his wide knowledge and experience with others in these areas of law. If confirmed by the Senate, I am confident he will make significant contributions to the jurisprudence in these areas and others.

Judge Wilson's keen intellect is surpassed only by his exceptional caring for the people and State of Hawaii. I know he will be keenly sensitive to our unique heritage, our culture and our history. His confirmation will be a credit to us all.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important nomination.



Reynaldo D. Gaulty  
Retired Circuit Court Judge  
& Former Senate Judiciary Chair,

**From:** [Mike Town](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 580: Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee MICHAEL D. WILSON, for a term to expire in ten years.  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 04, 2014 10:54:55 AM

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Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

Aloha. I write in strong support of Judge Michael D. Wilson's confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. I have known Judge Wilson for well over 20 years and we served together in the Circuit Court for the 12 years he was a judge, until I retired in 2010 after over 30 years of judicial service. We had chambers on the same floor, attended judicial trainings and meetings, and discussed our regular and thorough judicial evaluations every 2 years. As judges we also met regularly, at times daily, to discuss the law, individual cases and the wise exercise of judicial discretion particularly as it was impacted by the state and federal Constitutions, the jury trial process, due process, balanced sentences, public safety compassion and individual justice. We were often confused notwithstanding Judge Wilson is younger, taller and speaks so clearly.

Judge Wilson in my considerate view is a wise and thoughtful judge and person. He will make an outstanding Associate Justice. He is a careful student of the law and has written several published appellate opinions, both concurrences and dissents, while a substitute judge or justice with the ICA or the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Aside from his 12 years of judicial experience, he brings to the bench years of successful civil and criminal trial practice as a private attorney, years of administrative experience as Director of DLNR and his life growing up in Hawai'i including graduation from Kailua High School. Attending Antioch Law school, an innovative inner city law school in Washington D.C., is illustrative of his commitment to justice. He is an avid outdoorsman and knows our entire state well. He has volunteered to mentor children at risk via volunteering with Na Kama Kai, an ocean awareness program for at risk youth, where we teach culture, safety and ocean sports. He also has mentored a child of an incarcerated parent for over 5 years who really appreciates his "uncle Mike". My four children, fairly skeptical judges of character, regard him as an "uncle" which is far more than an honorific. They call on him for counsel, to emcee an event or more. In our island culture, he has become family to them, no easy task.

Finally and at bottom, Judge Wilson has such a good heart and strong character. At times he is his own harshest critic which requires a large measure of humility. He has a "growth mindset" and is a life long learner. That is such a valuable quality for any judge, particularly a Supreme Court justice

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. I wish you the best in your deliberations.

--

Mike Town  
([judgemiketown.com](http://judgemiketown.com))

March 6, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawaii State Senate  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: In Support of Gubernatorial Nominee Michael D. Wilson as Associate Justice  
to the Hawaii Supreme Court

Dear Senator Hee and members of the Committee,

It is a pleasure to express my strong support for the confirmation of Judge Michael Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I first met Mike over twenty-five years ago, when we both shared a common goal of protecting the natural beauty of Mount Olomana. Mike was extremely well-respected and well-liked by the members of the nonprofit group Save Mount Olomana Association.

Over the years, our paths continued to cross. In 2000, while I co-chaired the Senate Judiciary Committee with Avery Chumbley, Mike was nominated as a Judge to the Circuit Court. Avery and I, with the assistance of our able committee staff, performed our due diligence as to whether Mike possessed the requisite qualities to be a judge (i.e., (1) integrity and moral courage, (2) legal ability and experience, (3) intelligence and wisdom, (4) compassion and fairness, (5) diligence and decisiveness and (6) judicial temperament). Our conclusion and subsequent recommendation to the Judiciary Committee and full Senate, which was made only after deep reflection and careful deliberation, was that he did. The Senate unanimously confirmed Mike.

Although I have never appeared before Judge Wilson in his courtroom, I have gotten to know him much better through numerous discussions. I have also gained insights into Mike's character through many conversations with his father, Don Wilson.

To me, two of those essential judicial qualities stand paramount for Mike. First and foremost is a rigorous intellect, or an ability to hone in on the key issues and provide clear answers to complex legal questions. Second is an understanding that a judge's job is to interpret, not make, law (i.e., to approach decisions without any particular ideology or agenda, but rather a commitment to impartial justice; and a determination to faithfully apply the law to the facts at hand). In other words, Mike is smart and fair.



Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
March 6, 2014  
Page 2



These two qualities are essential for anyone who would sit on our State's highest court. And yet, these qualities alone are insufficient. As President Obama once said, "The life of the law has not been logic; it has been experience. Experience being tested by obstacles and barriers, by hardship and misfortune; experience insisting, persisting, and ultimately overcoming those barriers. It is experience that can give a person a common touch and a sense of compassion; an understanding of how the world works and how ordinary people live. And that is why it is a necessary ingredient in the kind of justice we need on the Supreme Court."

I believe it is Mike's many and diverse life experiences, as well as his intellect and understanding of a judge's role, that give him that common touch and sense of compassion, that make him very well qualified to be an outstanding Supreme Court Justice.

Sincerely,

SCHLACK ITO  
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW COMPANY

  
Matthew M. Matsunaga

MMM:ab



## Office of the Federal Public Defender District of Hawaii

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Assistant Federal Defender  
peter\_wolff@fd.org

300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 7-104  
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March 4, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Nomination of Michael D. Wilson  
Associate Justice, Hawaii Supreme Court

Dear Senator Hee:

I am writing to express my view that Michael D. Wilson would make an excellent Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. I have known Mr. Wilson professionally for over 30 years.

Mr. Wilson is a graduate of Kailua High School, the University of Wisconsin, and Antioch Law School. He worked for my former law firm, Hart & Wolff, AAL, ALC, during the 1980s, first as an associate and later as a partner. Early in his career, Mr. Wilson served as a law clerk to the Honorable Frank Padgett, then a Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals and later an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. During those years, Mr. Wilson established a reputation for diligence, sound legal analysis and work, and a commitment to seeking justice for those he represented.

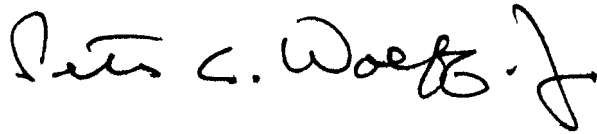
In addition to his work as a litigator, Mr. Wilson has broad experience. He has served as a judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit for over ten years. He served in the Executive branch of state government, first as Director of DLNR, and later as the Consumer Advocate. He has also been deeply involved in working with the community and community organizations on issues of concern to him, including funding for education and many environmental matters. There cannot be any doubt about Mr. Wilson's commitment to and long record of public service.

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
March 4, 2014  
Page Two

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With respect to his personal qualities, Mr. Wilson is level-headed and has good judgment. As a circuit court judge he has earned a reputation for integrity and fairness. He has demonstrated the ability to grasp the essence of a legal matter and analyze it properly. I am confident that if confirmed to the position of Associate Justice, Michael Wilson will continue to demonstrate the commitment to fairness, equality, and the rule of law that is exemplified by his legal career to date.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Peter C. Wolff, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

PETER C. WOLFF, JR.  
Federal Public Defender  
District of Hawaii

Testimony of Jacquelyn T. Esser, Deputy Public Defender State of Hawai'i to the Senate  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

**March 4, 2014**

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on  
Judiciary and Labor  
State Capital  
417 S. King Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**RE: GM 580 – Submitting for the consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i  
Supreme Court as Associate Justice, Gubernatorial Nominee Michael D. Wilson**

Dear Chairman Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am submitting this written testimony in strong support of the nomination of the  
Honorable Michael D. Wilson to the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

I am an attorney with the Office of the Public Defender of the State of Hawai'i. Prior to  
my work as a public defender, I had the privilege and honor to serve as Judge Wilson's law  
clerk. As such, I can attest to his composed judicial temperament. He has at all times  
maintained a professional demeanor in and outside of the courtroom - even when challenged. To  
his staff, attorneys, and defendants who appear in his courtroom, he treats everyone fairly and  
with respect.

I recommend Judge Wilson for confirmation without qualification. The people of  
Hawai'i will be well served with him as a member of our Supreme Court.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Jacquelyn T. Esser

# DAVIS · LEVIN LIVINGSTON

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Hawai'i: 326-3200

Kaua'i: 245-6100

March 3, 2014

[JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

**GM580:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawai`i Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee MICHAEL D. WILSON, for a term to expire in ten years.

## **SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION OF MICHAEL D. WILSON AS ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT**

I am very pleased to provide my energetic support for the nomination of the Honorable Michael D. Wilson for the position of Associate Justice of the Hawai`i Supreme Court. I am proud to have known Judge Wilson for close to 30 years as an attorney, a member of state government, and a circuit court judge. I have little question that he will be an extraordinary justice and a welcomed collegial addition to the Hawai`i Supreme Court. He unquestionably has exhibited both the judicial temperament and the appropriate scholarship to qualify him for this position and perhaps more than any other factor, he understands the appropriate role of the Supreme Court in formulating the decisions that impact the values of our community. Judge Wilson is an individual who has always maintained extraordinary respect among members of the Bar and his addition to the Supreme Court will serve to add to the institution's respect among the attorneys who practice in front of it. It is with the greatest enthusiasm that I encourage this committee and the Senate to confirm the nomination of Judge Michael Wilson.

Respectfully Submitted,

**DAVIS LEVIN LIVINGSTON**

  
MARK S. DAVIS

MSD:ala

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March 4, 2014

**Via Facsimile: 808-586-7334**

**Via E-Mail: [JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)**

Senator Clayton Hee  
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: GM 580 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to the Supreme Court, State of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, MICHAEL D. WILSON, for a term of ten years**

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

I would like to respectfully support the nomination of Michael D. Wilson to be the Associate Justice to the Supreme Court, State of Hawai'i. I am a senior partner in the Honolulu law firm Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel, LLP and have known Michael for over 45 years.

Judge Wilson is an extraordinary leader, going all the way back to his high school days, where he was Student Body President, including his seminal role in organizing and leading the "Save Sandy Beach Coalition" effort which resulted in the preservation that pristine coastline, and continuing throughout his professional career. His work style is collaborative; he works well with others, but does not hesitate to make tough decisions when circumstances dictate.

Michael is one of the calmest, cool and collected individuals I have ever met. He does not get flustered or hot-tempered, even in the face of severe provocation and under the most trying circumstances. He has always treated everyone he encounters with respect and the dignity he believes we all deserve as human beings. He does not take criticism or attacks personally; his professional demeanor and judicial temperament are unwavering and of the highest quality.

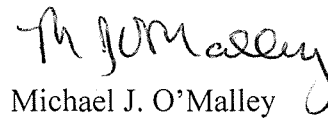
Judge Wilson enjoys an unsullied reputation in the legal and wider community, and certainly with me, as an honest, hard-working, caring and compassionate judge, lawyer, and person. He is a person of the highest moral character and integrity. I trust him unequivocally and would not hesitate to put my life and affairs in his hands if need be.

Senator Clayton Hee  
March 4, 2014  
Page 2

There are many fine attorneys and judges in our State. I know and have worked with many personally. There is absolutely none that I would rank superior to Judge Wilson as a capable, even-tempered, hard-working, compassionate and gifted professional. I know without reservation that he would be an absolutely terrific Associate Justice if selected.

Accordingly, I respectfully and strongly support Michael D. Wilson's nomination to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. I know that Michael's qualifications and his integrity and character place him among the finest lawyers and judges in Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Michael J. O'Malley

# Chee Markham & Feldman

Attorneys At Law

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Joely A. A. Chung  
Devon I. Peterson  
Mari L. Tsukayama

March 4, 2014

Senate Judiciary Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: Nomination of the Honorable Michael Wilson  
for Supreme Court Justice, State of Hawaii**

Dear Gentlepeople:

This letter is in support of the nomination of the Honorable Michael Wilson for the Supreme Court Justice position in the State of Hawaii.

I am an attorney in private practice and member of Bar for the State of Hawaii. My practice emphasizes litigation and alternative dispute resolution.

I have known Judge Wilson since the 1960's. We were youth tennis players, competing both against and then with each other in the various tennis competitions. I became his doubles partner for a short time. During that time, we became close and had many interactions, both competitively and socially. He was always humble, trustworthy, and "above board." After college and law school, our paths once again crossed, when we were both in private practice. He and I had various interactions with each other and I specifically recall a case with Michael wherein our respective clients had, at times, diverging interests. Despite our divergent interests, he was always forthright, honest and trustworthy. I was highly impressed with his intellect, legal skills and judgment.

I have complete confidence that Judge Wilson will be an effective, respected Supreme Court Justice and I highly recommend him for the position.

Yours very truly,

CHEE MARKHAM & FELDMAN



KEVIN S. W. CHEE



# TAKAHASHI AND COVERT

Herbert R. Takahashi (A Law Corporation) | Rebecca L. Covert | Davina W. Lam  
**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

March 4, 2014

The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
The Senate  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by  
Herbert Takahashi, Esq.

Governor's Message 580  
Regarding Gubernatorial Nominee  
MICHAEL D. WILSON as  
Associated Justice of  
the Hawaii Supreme Court

As a practicing attorney in Hawaii since September 1970 I urge your favorable consideration and confirmation of Michael D. Wilson as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. For more than forty years I've represented private and public sector unions for the purpose of collective bargaining in Hawaii, in addition to handling personal injury and work injury cases.

I've known Michael Wilson as a civil practitioner, a candidate for mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and as a circuit court judge. There has even been an occasion where we were on opposite sides of disputes. However, he always conducted himself in a professional and objective manner. His experience in the judicial, executive, and political branches is invaluable.

He will undoubtedly make a significant contribution to our highest court and will serve with distinction in the public interest.

Accordingly, I wish to submit this written testimony in support of Michael D. Wilson.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Herbert Takahashi

Law Offices of  
**BROOK HART**  
A LAW CORPORATION  
333 Queen Street, Suite 610  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TEL: (808) 526-0811

brookhartlaw@gmail.com

FAX: (808) 531-2677

---

DELIVERED BY E-MAIL

March 4, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee  
Chairman, Committee on Judiciary & Labor  
Hawaii State Senate  
c/o Committee Clerk, Room 407  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: The Honorable Michael Davis Wilson

Dear Chairman Hee and Committee Members:

After serving as Law Clerk to Chief United States District Judge Martin Pence in 1967, I have practiced primarily criminal and constitutional law in Hawaii since 1968. I also serve as a Lecturer in Law at the University of Hawaii's William S. Richardson School of Law, where since 2005, I co-teach the Hawaii Innocence Project seminars. This written testimony expresses my very strong support for confirmation of First Circuit Court Judge Michael Davis Wilson as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. I will also be testifying in person at your committee's hearing on the nomination of Judge Wilson, set to commence in Conference Room 016 at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 6, 2014.

I first met Michael in the late 1970s, when he was a work-study program law student employed at my former law firm of Hart, Leavitt, Hall & Hunt. In 1978, he became a law clerk at my firm, after concluding his service as an extern for United States District Judge Samuel P. King. Subsequently, Michael became an associate at my former law firm of Hart & Wolff, and he then became a name partner at that law firm in 1981. In total, Michael and I worked together in the practice of law between 1978 and 1986, during which I had extensive interaction with him in both professional and personal settings. While he was working at my law firm, Michael generally handled civil cases, including personal injury matters, but he also gained substantial experience in criminal law as my "second chair" in numerous criminal cases.

In the years since we worked together at the same law firm, I have maintained close professional and social contacts with Michael. I have followed with interest his impressive career as an attorney in private practice, as a public official in various positions in the Hawaii state government's executive branch, and, since 2000, as a First Circuit Court Judge. I hold in especially high regard Judge Wilson's dedication, resourcefulness and competence in presiding over effective and specialized criminal justice programs such as Domestic Violence Court, Mental Health Court, and Drug Court.

I particularly admire Judge Wilson's well-known expertise in environmental matters and his longstanding commitment to environmental preservation and protection, which would be highly valuable assets during service on the Hawaii Supreme Court. Before becoming a judge in 2000, Michael represented the public interest in preserving and protecting Hawaii's natural resources with "pro bono" environmental litigation for approximately ten years.

Rule 10 of the Hawaii Judicial Selection Commission Rules sets forth the most important qualities for evaluation of judges and judicial nominees:

"Integrity and Moral Courage"

Judge Wilson meets the highest standards of integrity and he certainly exhibits moral courage.

"Legal Ability and Experience"

In my opinion, Judge Wilson's legal abilities are superlative. He clearly possesses the type of varied and well-balanced legal experience that is especially valuable for service as an appellate jurist.

"Intelligence and Wisdom"

Judge Wilson is a very intelligent jurist. He possesses both judicial wisdom and general intellectual wisdom, and he also effectively utilizes "real life" common sense.

"Compassion and Fairness"

His compassion, sensitivity and fairness to everyone are salient characteristics of Judge Wilson, in both his professional life and personal life.

"Diligence and Decisiveness"

In my experience, Judge Wilson has been both diligent and decisive during his judicial career.

"Judicial Temperament"

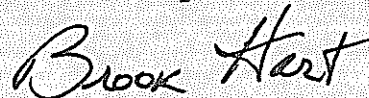
Judge Wilson's excellent judicial temperament is one of his best qualities. He remains calm and equanimous -- while firmly in control of his courtroom -- even in situations that others would consider pressured and stressful.

Thus, the combination of Judge Michael Wilson's professional qualifications, the caliber of his many years of outstanding service on the First Circuit Court bench, and his personal characteristics definitely warrant his promotion to an Associate Justice position on the Hawaii Supreme Court. Indeed, Judge Wilson already has significant "hands on" experience as an appellate judge, having served in more than forty matters as a replacement jurist on the Hawaii Supreme Court and the Hawaii Intermediate Court of Appeals. Those matters have included both criminal cases and civil cases. See, e.g., State v. Gonzalez, 128 Hawaii 314, 288 P.3d 788 (2012); Marvin v. Pflueger, 127 Hawaii 490, 280 P.3d 88 (2012); Steigman v. Outrigger Enterprises, Inc., 126 Hawaii 133, 267 P.3d 1238 (2011); Ray v. Kapiolani Medical Specialists, 125 Hawaii 253, 259 P.3d 569 (2011); State v. Kikuta, 125 Hawaii 78, 253 P.3d 639 (2011); Weinberg v. Dickson-Weinberg, 123 Hawaii 68, 229 P.3d 1133 (2010).

In light of all of the foregoing, I urge the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee to unanimously vote in favor of confirming Judge Michael Wilson to serve as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Very truly yours,

LAW OFFICES OF BROOK HART  
A Law Corporation



BROOK HART

DAVIS · LEVIN  
LIVINGSTON

ATTORNEYS

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MICHAEL K. LIVINGSTON  
mlivingston@DavisLevin.com

NEIGHBOR ISLANDS  
Maui: 877-7500  
Hawai'i: 326-3200  
Kaua'i: 245-6100

March 4, 2014

[JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

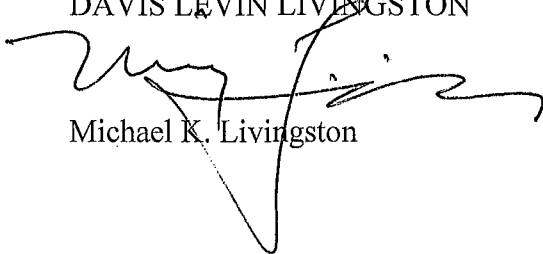
**GM580:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee MICHAEL D. WILSON, for a term to expire in ten years.

**SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION OF MICHAEL D. WILSON AS ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT**

I write in enthusiastic support of the nomination of Circuit Court Judge Michael Wilson to become an Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Throughout his professional life, Judge Wilson has demonstrated a deep commitment to both public interest law and public service. He has been a champion of environmental protection, civil liberties, and consumer protection. His extensive experience as a trial attorney in both criminal and civil practice, as a public servant in the Executive Branch, and as a Circuit Court Judge, provides a rare breadth of perspective and understanding. In short, Judge Wilson will bring to the Supreme Court a keen intellect, a unique range of experience, and a superb judicial temperament. He is unquestionably well qualified for this important position, and I respectfully offer my strong support for his confirmation.

Sincerely,

DAVIS LEVIN LIVINGSTON



Michael K. Livingston

MKL:ala

# VAN BUREN CAMPBELL & SHIMIZU LLP

*A Hawaii Limited Liability Law Partnership*

March 4, 2014

Via Email

Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Hee and Members of the Committee:

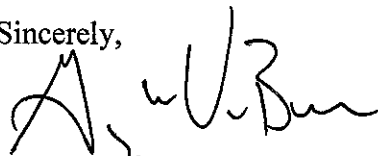
Re: GM 580; Appointment of Michael D. Wilson; March 6, 2014 at 10 a.m.

I am writing in support of the appointment of Michael D. Wilson to the Supreme Court.

I have known Michael for over twenty years both personally and professionally. Michael is smart, dedicated, patient, and fair. As a private attorney, he was a respected advocate. As a Circuit Court Judge, he has shown great judicial temperament. While Michael is a man of strong principles, he is careful to follow the law. Michael, through hard work and dedication, has proven himself to be a fine member of the judiciary.

As a private citizen, he has a deep commitment to the land and the people of Hawaii. As I drive by Sandy Beach every weekend, I often remember Michael as a young man standing in the sun demonstrating to all how horrible it would have been to spoil the Ka Iwi shoreline. I have no hesitation in supporting the appointment of Michael Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. W. Van Buren". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and "W".

George W. Van Buren, Esq.

4 March 2014

Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Senator Clayton Hee, chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

**CONFIRMATION AS ASSOCIATE JUSTICE TO THE HAWAII SUPREME COURT  
MICHAEL D WILSON**

By way of introduction, I provide to you the following background:

1. I hold a law degree from The George Washington University Law School – 1979.
2. I was a member of the Hawaii Bar from 1979 to 1982. My professional affiliations during that time included the law firm Damon Key Char and Bocken (now Damon Key Leong Kupchak Hastert), and the land use organization Hawaii's Thousand Friends.
3. In 1984 I was admitted to the North Carolina Bar.
4. Since 2002, I am a barrister and solicitor in New Zealand. My practice is largely in the area of commercial law, with particular emphasis on business structures, trusts, asset protection, and intellectual property.
5. I continue to visit Hawaii regularly to visit family and friends.

By way of this letter, I submit to you my unequivocal support for the confirmation of Michael Wilson as an Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I have known Michael since 1979 when we were both young lawyers in Honolulu. As the chairperson of the Board of Hawaii's Thousand Friends, Michael recruited me to be that organization's first staff lawyer, and I participated with Michael in many discussions regarding the appropriate land use management for Hawaii. What I observed about Michael at that time became his well-known, long-standing trademarks: an energetic passion for Hawaii, a considered commitment to being a good steward of Hawaii's natural resources balanced with an appreciation for business vitality, a respect for Hawaii's laws, people and heritage, and an unwavering advocacy for meritorious issues.

Throughout the years, my early impressions of Michael have been affirmed many times over. I have seen that he studies seriously, he considers deeply, he engages in candid dialogue with all sectors, he challenges himself to gain knowledge, he asks hard questions, and he dares to be a discerning, critical thinker and advocate even when his opinion or position is not popular. He has strength, both personal and professional, and his actions have repeatedly confirmed that he is a person of the greatest integrity.

On a personal level, I know Michael to be generous, kind, compassionate. He listens to others; he is a loyal friend. I have seen him encourage aspiring young law students, and I have watched him inspire by example.

Webb Ross McNab Kilpatrick Ltd.

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Private Bag 9012  
Whangarei 0148  
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f 09 470 2469

109 Victoria Street  
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[www.wrmk.co.nz](http://www.wrmk.co.nz)

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Lawyers

Rosemary Allen  
Judith Collins  
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Emma Smith  
Andrew Neill  
Tessa Baker

While I can well appreciate that Michael will feel honoured to be an Associate on the Supreme Court, from my point of view it is the people of Hawaii who will be lucky to have a person of Michael's calibre sitting on the Supreme Court bench.

I offer you my wholehearted, unreserved endorsement of Michael Wilson.

All the best in your confirmation process.

Yours faithfully

**WEBB ROSS MCNAB KILPATRICK LIMITED**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Beck', is centered on the page.

**Consultant**

Direct dial: 64 9 470 2567  
Email: [Barbara.beck@wrmk.co.nz](mailto:Barbara.beck@wrmk.co.nz)  
Website: <http://www.wrmk.co.nz/>



TESTIMONY OF BRIAN J. DE LIMA

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR  
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

Thursday, March 6, 2014  
10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 016  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY ON GM 580 RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF JUDGE MICHAEL D.  
WILSON AS AN ASSOCIATE JUSTICE TO THE HAWAII SUPREME COURT

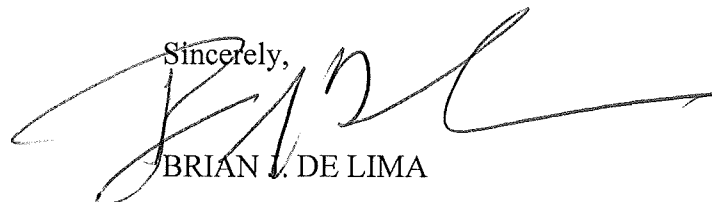
Chair Hee and members of the committee, thank you for giving me this opportunity to appear before you today and add my support for the confirmation of Judge Michael D. Wilson as an Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Judge Wilson's myriad of life experience has served him well as a Circuit Court Judge and will continue to be of benefit in his role as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. My personal experience with Judge Wilson is that he is a gentleman that is concerned about the welfare of the individual. His inclination is to ensure that there is an acknowledgment and understanding of process, and to guide individuals that require a better understanding of what needs to be done.

Judge Wilson is highly intelligent, fair, possess an excellent judicial temperament, and honest. His life's work establishes that he is diligent, thoughtful, of good character, and of unquestioned integrity.

I am certain that the committee will find that Judge Wilson is qualified for the position for which he has been nominated and urge the committee to recommend that the Senate consent to his nomination.

Sincerely,



BRIAN J. DE LIMA

March 5, 2014

*Via E-mail*

Senator Clayton Hee  
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawaii State Legislature  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: Michael D. Wilson Nomination for Hawaii Supreme Court**

Dear Chairman Hee and Members of the Committee:

I am a member of the Hawaii bar and submit this letter regarding the candidacy of Judge Michael D. Wilson as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. In brief, I believe that Judge Wilson is a perfect choice for the Court and I strongly urge the Senate Committee to support this nomination and to recommend Judge Wilson's approval by the full Senate.

Judge Wilson has served Hawaii well as an effective, innovative and dedicated Circuit Court Judge for the last 14 years. He enthusiastically embraced assignments as the presiding judge in the felony trial court, the mental health court and the drug court, and he has received very high marks from the bar for his judicial temperament, legal knowledge and accomplishments. He also has performed well in his temporary assignments to the appellate courts, demonstrating outstanding legal analysis and superb opinion writing skills.

Judge Wilson also has a broad civil and criminal legal background from his earlier private law practice, in which he represented a wide variety of individual and corporate clients. At the same time, he took very seriously the Hawaii bar requirements to provide *pro bono* services to our community and, among other things, he advocated effectively for recognition of native Hawaiian rights, enforcement of Hawaii's land use and environmental laws, and equal access to the courts. He has always demonstrated a keen appreciation of Hawaii's unique culture and special natural resources. He was an accomplished Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources and adroitly handled many difficult issues as Chairman of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known Judge Wilson personally and professionally for approximately 25 years and have always been impressed by his high level of integrity, strong character traits and impeccable professional ethics. He carefully listens to and respects the opinions of all segments of the Hawaii community. He is passionate about the law and is dedicated to serving the public interest

in Hawaii through his judicial positions. He is balanced and reasonable in his approach to legal issues and can be counted on to faithfully apply the law to the facts of particular cases.

In sum, I believe that Judge Wilson is an outstanding choice for this Associate Justice position. He has the intelligence, the professional track record, the broad civil and criminal legal background, the judicial temperament, the dedication and the enthusiasm that will make him a terrific Justice. Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any further information.

Sincerely,



Paul P. "Skip" Spaulding, III

PPS:jl

**Cronin, Fried, Sekiya, Kekina & Fairbanks**  
*Attorneys at Law, A Law Corporation*

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Gerald Y. Sekiya  
Wayne K. Kekina  
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Sylvia J. Luka  
Darise K. H. Kawatachi  
Howard C. McPherson  
Brian T. Tania  
Gregory Y. P. Tam  
Deborah A. Johnson  
Michael A. Ragsdale

March 5, 2014

VIA FACSIMILE #1-800-586-6659

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

Re: Consideration and Confirmation to Supreme Court as Associate Justice,  
Governatorial Nominee MICHAEL D. WILSON, for a term of ten years  
Committee : Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing : Thursday, March 6, 2014  
Time : 10:00 a.m.  
Place : Conference Room 016

Dear Chairman Hee and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I write in support of the consideration and confirmation of Circuit Court Judge Michael D. Wilson for the position of Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. I am an attorney licensed in Hawaii since 1968, concentrating on litigation matters. I first met Judge Wilson when he was in private practice handling litigation matters. He was an excellent trial lawyer. I also had occasion to consider his potential for judicial office when he applied for the position of Circuit Court Judge, First Circuit, while I was serving on the Judicial Selection Commission (1995-2001). After his appointment to the bench, I generally followed his progress and growth as a trial judge on the First Circuit Court. While he brought significant civil trial experience to the bench, the vast majority of cases he has handled while a circuit court judge are criminal cases. Judge Wilson has become an excellent trial judge and extremely knowledgeable in all facets and phases of criminal law.

Judge Wilson is qualified, competent, and a very able jurist. To my knowledge, he is dedicated, diligent, and has served the judiciary well. I believe he would be an excellent member

The Honorable Clayton Hee  
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
March 5, 2014  
Page 2

of the Hawaii Supreme Court. His intellect, legal ability, scholarship, character and judicial demeanor are of the highest levels.

Judge Wilson brings the experience of a civil trial attorney and a trial judge (mostly criminal cases) to our highest court. He is a student of the law and will bring high intellect, legal ability, and practical experience to the Court. In my opinion, he would be a welcome addition to the Court.

Thank you for your consideration of my support for the confirmation of Governor Abercrombie's nomination of Judge Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Very truly yours,

  
David L. Fairbanks

DLF:jj

**Sovereign Councils**  
of the



**Hawaiian Homelands**  
**Assembly**

PO Box 2881  
Waianae, HI 96792  
Ph: 808.620.9070  
Fax: 1.877.651.8177

Executive Leadership

**Kamaki Kanahale**  
*Chair, O'ahu*  
**Kammy Purdy**  
*Vice-Chair, Molokai*  
**Lorraine Rapozo**  
*Secretary, Kauai*  
**Mike Hodson**  
*Treasurer, Hawai'i*  
**Jared Aiwohi**  
*Executive Officer, Maui*  
**Mike Kahikina**  
*Legislative Affairs, Chair*  
**Robin Danner**  
*Public Policy, Chair*  
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*Finance Officer*  
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*Kahu*

Committee Chairs

**Kali Watson**  
*Economic Develop & Housing*  
**Myron Brumaghin**  
**Dr. Margie Maaka**  
*Education*  
**Helen O' Connor**  
*Health*  
**Puni Kekauoha**  
*Youth Leadership*  
**Al Harrington**  
*Tourism & Visitor Industry*  
**Ivan Lui Kwan**  
*Renewable Energy*  
**Vacant**  
*Farming & Ranching*  
**Branscom Richmond**  
*Film & Media Industry*

Administration

**Annie Au Hoon**  
Administrator

March 3, 2014

To: **Senator Clayton Hee, Chair**  
**Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair & Members of the Senate**  
**Committee on Judiciary and Labor**

From: **Kali Watson**  
**Chairman of Statewide Economic/Housing Development**  
**SCHHA**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii 96792**

Re: **Hearing on Appointment of Michael Wilson to Hawaii Supreme Court**  
**GM 580**  
March 6, 2014 at 10:00 am  
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 016

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominee Michael Wilson for consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court under GM 580.

We are in favor of the appointment of Michael Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court. Mr. Wilson has been very active in our Hawaiian communities. During his tenure as the chairman of DLNR, while I was the chairman of DHHL, he assisted in DLNR land transfers to DHHL to make its land trust whole. We had the opportunity to visit and assist Mac Poepoe of Molokai in establishing community based rules for fishing based on Hawaiian cultural practices at Hoolehua Homestead for Moomomi Bay. He also commissioned an individual to do the curriculum to train Hawaiian youth for entry level positions in the various state agencies. He provided legal assistance to the Hawaiians who took over Halawa Valley. And he helped Mapuana DeSilva protect Kawainui Marsh as a cultural site for the Hawaiian community and her hula halau. He has shown a sensitivity and understanding of the importance of the aina and Hawaiian cultural values.

The Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Homelands Assembly, formerly the State Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations was founded more than 25 years ago to unite homestead communities and to advocate for the beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1921. The SCHHA is the oldest statewide advocacy organization representing the interests of more than 30,000 beneficiaries and families residing in the communities of the Hawaiian Home Land Trust. Its mission is to promote the self determination of native Hawaiians and the well-being of homestead communities. As Chairman of Economic/Housing /Committee, I can appreciate the importance of having a person on the Hawaii Supreme Court that is educated and sensitive to the concerns and impact of laws that affect Hawaiians and their legal rights. Mr. Wilson is that person.

I respectfully urge you to pass GM 580 and submit to the full Senate for the confirmation of Michael Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Sincerely,

Kali Watson  
Chairman of Housing/Economic Development



## **HAWAII DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER**

1132 Bishop Street, Suite 2102, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone/TTY: (808) 949-2922 Toll Free: 1-800-882-1057 Fax: (808) 949-2928

E-mail: [info@hawaiidisabilityrights.org](mailto:info@hawaiidisabilityrights.org) Website: [www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org](http://www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org)

### **THE SENATE THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2014**

#### **Committee on Judiciary and Labor**

#### **Testimony of Louis Erteschik, Executive Director in Support of GM 580 Nomination of Michael Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court**

**Thursday, March 6, 2014, 10:00 A.M.  
Conference Room 016**

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Disability Rights Center testifies in support of this nomination. We are very pleased to see that Judge Wilson was selected to serve on the Supreme Court. We have dealt with him on several occasions in his capacity as the Judge of the Mental Health Court. This is a wonderful program that appropriately focuses on providing treatment to individuals, rather than incarcerating them. Judge Wilson demonstrated a strong ability to effectively and compassionately carry out his duties as a Judge and we have no doubt that he will be a credit to the Governor for having selected him as the nominee.

I urge the Committee and the Senate to consent to his nomination and confirm him as a Justice on the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this nomination.



HAWAI'I FRIENDS OF CIVIL RIGHTS  
3071 Felix St. Honolulu, Hi 996816

March 6, 2012

TO: Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro and members  
Judiciary and Labor Committee

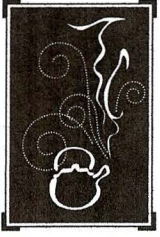
FROM: Faye Kennedy, Co-chair

RE: GM 580: Michael Wilson

I am representing the Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights (HF CR) in support of the nomination of Michael Wilson to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. HF CR supports policies, programs and individuals who are committed to state and federal laws relating to equal rights and non-discrimination. Mr. Wilson appreciates and understands our multicultural island state, has a strong track record of service to the community, and extensive experience in private practice as well as being a judge. The Supreme Court is a very important branch of government because it has the responsibility for interpreting and enforcing our laws that impact individuals as well as impacting policies and our collective future. I am confident that Mr. Wilson will be an excellent member of the Supreme Court.

I am a long-time personal friend of Mr. Wilson and know him to be a person of integrity. He is independent, thoughtful and willing to listen carefully to all parties. I respectfully urge you to support his nomination.





T H E  
**TEA  
CHEST**

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96807-1324

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www.teachest.com  
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Senator Hee, Chair  
Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Judiciary Committee Members

Aloha Senators,

RE: CONFIRM MICHAEL D. WILSON TO THE HAWAII SUPREME COURT

I am writing to you in strong support of Michael Wilson for Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

The road to adulthood and responsible citizenship has never been less clear to our young people. 20-somethings are often knocked for being non-committal and irresponsible. As a business owner, I see the pattern in the marketplace with entry level employees often holding numerous jobs by 25 years of age but not staying employed longer than 6 months in any one job.

To make a positive impact, myself and two other adults organized an 8 week class for 20-somethings at our church, New Hope Diamond Head. We met once a week at 5 am in the morning and we brought in speakers to share some of their greatest lessons learned. Mike Wilson, without hesitation, accepted our invitation to speak to this group.

Although adept at legal matters and knowing few if any in the group aspired to be an attorney, Mike chose to speak about finding one's passion and reverence for the 'aina or place that sustains us.

Since that introduction, Mike has become a friend and one of the wisest men I know. He demonstrates nothing short of high integrity and passion for Hawaii's long term future. Mike's body of work proves he is competent to uphold the law. Mike's sincere love of Hawai'i and its people should prove he is more than competent to shape the laws of our land for the generations to come.

Please join with me to strongly support the confirmation of Michael Wilson for the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Aloha pumehana,



Byron Goo  
CEO

John Leong  
3752 B Manini Way  
Honolulu, HI 96816

February 26, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 407  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha e Senator Hee,

I am writing this letter with regard to Judge Mike Wilson's nomination for Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Let it be known that I am in strong support of Judge Wilson's appointment, for I am certain that his outstanding leadership will benefit the United States judicial system and surrounding communities within the State of Hawai'i.

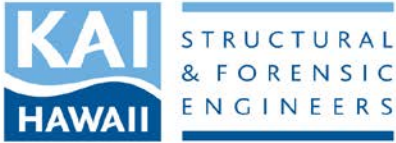
I have had the pleasure of knowing Judge Mike Wilson since 1996, during his era with the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources. Ever since our initial acquaintance, he has served as an inspiration and mentor for me, both professionally and personally. As he progressed into a State of Hawai'i Judge presiding over the drug and mental health courts, I continually found myself impressed by his strength and integrity. Despite facing immensely difficult situations and decisions, he has repeatedly displayed true leadership by upholding righteousness and sound judgement in our state and truly caring for those he presides over and leads. The improvements he has made for Hawai'i and the US will only increase by serving on the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Please consider my support that Judge Michael Wilson be appointed to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Judge Mike Wilson is truly a *pono* leader, a champion for our communities, and the exemplary candidate for Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Humbly and sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Leong', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the left.

John Leong  
President & CEO, Pono Pacific Land Management  
Executive Director, Kupu



Ken Hayashida, P.E. | *President*  
Michael Hunnemann, P.E. | *Vice President*

March 4, 2014

**Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor**

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair; Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Subject: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT of GM 580, Hawaii Supreme Court- Michael D. Wilson

Hearing: Thursday March 6, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting testimony in support of the confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee MICHAEL D. WILSON.

I am a practicing engineer in the State of Hawaii and have known nominee for the past eighteen years. I know him both professionally during his service to our State at the Department of Land and Natural Resources and personally as member of a Market Place Leaders group. He has shown the highest integrity and concern for the people of Hawaii, especially those less privilege and needing our support.

Judge Wilson will bring a wealth of experience and impartiality to the court. Given his steadfast commitment to enforcing the rule of law and protecting the roles of the courts, the executive branch, and the state, Judge Wilkins will be an objective, thoughtful, and impartial voice on the court. I urge you to vote in favor of his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Ken K. Hayashida, President  
KAI Hawaii, Inc.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [thirr33@gmail.com](mailto:thirr33@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM580 on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Friday, February 28, 2014 5:02:04 PM

---

**GM580**

Submitted on: 2/28/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Arvid Tadao Youngquist	The Mestizo Association	Support	Yes

Comments: Chair, Sen. Clayton Hee Vice Chair, Sen. Maile S. Shimabukuro The Right Honorable Members of the Senate Judiciary & Labor (JDL) Committee We support GM 580 Relating to the Confirmation (Advise & Consent) of the Appointment of Justice Michael David Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court as the Associate Justice succeeding Associate Justice Simeon Acoba. Baring the change to the retirement age by a piece of legislation under scrutiny during this session, and considering that there are no better qualified female candidates provided by the Commission to the Governor, we believe from our previous experience working with Mr. Wilson while serving as a resource person with the State Legislative Committee and the Capitol City Task Force of the AARP in the late 1999-early 2000, his previous experience as a justice, Chair of the DLNR, the State Consumer Advocate, and a lawyer in private practice with multiple partners, we are hoping for a fruitful vetting and hearing process for Mr. Wilson. Mahalo for scheduling this hearing this morning. We wish to stand on our testimony in support of the appointment of Michael David Wilson, Esq. and Justice, to the Associate Justice anticipated vacancy on the Hawaii Supreme Court. Arvid Tadao Youngquist Registered Voter, CD1 Congressional District Kalihi Valley Resident

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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VICE CHANCELLOR

**Professor Dr. C. Raj Kumar**

*LL.B. (Delhi), B.C.L. (Oxford), LL.M. (Harvard), S.J.D. (Hong Kong)*

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2 March 2014

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, Hawaii State Legislature

Dear Madam/Sir,

**Sub: Testimony in support of Judge Mr. Michael Wilson in relation to the consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.**

My name is C. Raj Kumar and I am writing this testimony as the Professor & Dean of Jindal Global Law School and the President (Vice Chancellor) of O.P. Jindal Global University in India. I am also an Attorney admitted to the Bar of the State of New York, USA and the Bar Council of Delhi, India. In addition, I have received law degrees from four common law jurisdictions: *India, United Kingdom, United States of America and Hong Kong*. These law degrees were obtained from the University of Oxford, UK as a Rhodes Scholar; Harvard Law School, USA as a Landon Gammon Fellow; University of Delhi, India and the University of Hong Kong.

I have known Judge Michael Wilson in the last few years, both from our visit to Hawaii as well as through an opportunity to spend substantial time with him during his visit to India. Judge Wilson has extraordinary qualities of a distinguished jurist and is eminently suited to be appointed as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. I have had the opportunity to engage and interact with Judge Wilson on a range of legal issues. I was always struck by his sharp intellect, profound knowledge and understanding of legal principles and deep commitment to fairness and access to justice in all its dimensions. During my interactions with Judge Wilson, I have discussed many issues relating to law and justice and immensely benefitted by his deep and pervasive understanding of constitutional law and its impact on American society.

During his visit to India, we had the opportunity to meet and interact with several judges of the Supreme Court of India and other high courts. During these interactions with the Indian judges and law academics, Judge Wilson demonstrated not only his intellectual rigor and understanding of the jurisprudential foundations of law, but also his personal commitment to access to justice. In my view, Judge Wilson is deeply committed to the need for recognizing law as an instrument of social change. He is also committed to achieving a delicate, but important balance on contentious legal issues, particularly when reasonable people can disagree and have different perspectives. The heart of adjudication is the need for achieving this critical balance, while ensuring the protection of the rule of law and the delivery of justice.

I believe that Judge Wilson maintains the highest standards of honesty, integrity and rectitude. He is independent and forthright in his views, but has in abundance an important quality of an outstanding judge, which is the ability to listen and to ask the right questions. His characteristic humility and graceful demeanor with an equal degree of wit and humor will make him an extraordinary judge of the Hawaii Supreme Court. Judge Wilson is deeply committed to the pluralistic nature of the society in Hawaii. He is sensitive and reflective, both qualities essential for a distinguished judge. It is an honor and a privilege for me to know Judge Wilson. Judge Wilson's lectures and seminars delivered to our students and faculty at our Law School were reflective of his personal commitment and dedication to the cherished values of the legal profession and the judicial fraternity around the world. His inspiring vision for global justice blends well with the social and multicultural milieu of Hawaiian society and makes him most suitable for appointment as a judge of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Yours Sincerely,

March 3, 2014

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawaii State Legislature

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Sub: Testimony in support of Judge Mr. Michael Wilson in relation to the consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court**

I am writing this testimony in my capacity as the Partner and Head of Delhi office of Nishith Desai Associates, an Indian law firm with global legal practice. I am a dually qualified lawyer -admitted to practice in New York and India. I have done my LL.B. from University of Delhi, my BCL from Oxford University and my LL.M. from Harvard Law School. I have practiced in New York, Tokyo and Hong Kong with Sullivan & Cromwell LLP and in Hong Kong with Skadden Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. I have been an in-house counsel with Goldman Sachs in India and taught for a year in a Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

I was first introduced to Judge Michael Wilson in 2011 by a friend-Prof. Michael Davis, while I was visiting Hawaii with my family. What impressed in my first meeting with Judge Wilson was his inquisitiveness about India, its culture, concerns of its people, especially the poverty that affects millions. During our short stay in Hawaii, we saw the respect that the legal community in Hawaii has for Judge Wilson and his legal and intellectual acumen.

During his visit to India, I requested Judge Wilson to address the young lawyers in my firm. He chose to speak on Ethics in law as he believes that a strong foundation in ethics is fundamental to good lawyering. His lecture was extremely inspiring and thought provoking for members of my firm as learning about ethical standards from a judge who has himself upheld the highest standards of ethics and integrity in the legal profession was a rare exposure.

During his visit to India, Judge Wilson stayed with us for a few days and I was deeply impressed by his compassion and commitment to wildlife. We had several long conversations on the subject and I was amazed by the work he has done for conservation of wildlife in Hawaii and his passion for such preservation of the environment globally.

While in India, he also immersed himself in helping people working with street children in India and remains committed to that cause. It is rare to find a human being that works not only for the upliftment of his society but also feels and acts for upliftment of a society he has only visited once.

Judge Wilson is a kindred soul, a compassionate environmentalist, a technically supreme lawyer and a true friend. It is my privilege to have the opportunity to write this testimonial for him for the position of Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme court. I believe he would be a great asset to any organization and society he belongs to.

Best Regards,



Pratibha Jain



**From:** [Franklin Tokioka](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 580 Testimony - Hearing on March 6, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.  
**Date:** Monday, March 03, 2014 4:07:26 PM

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GM 580 - Confirmation of Michael D. Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court

-  
DATE OF HEARING: Thursday, March 6, 2014

TIME OF HEARING: 10:00 a.m.

To the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I would like you to give favorable consideration of Nominee Michael D. Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I've known Judge Michael Wilson for many years and found him to be very honorable and compassionate to everyone he has met. He has been extremely kind and diligent in his work and found him to be reasonable and fair with the public.

I sincerely hope my recommendation of Michael D. Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court is approved by your Committee.

Mahalo & Aloha,

Franklin M. Tokioka  
Chairman  
Tradewind Capital Group, Inc.

FRANKLIN M. TOKIOKA  
TRADEWIND CAPITAL GROUP, INC.  
P.O. BOX 1520  
HONOLULU, HI 96806  
Ph. (808) 564-8183  
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4 March 2014

Aloha Chairman Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee.

Thank you for considering my testimony on behalf of Judge Michael D. Wilson, Gubernatorial Nominee to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

May I share my unique perspective of the Nominee?

Our beloved Judge Michael Town introduced us over 8 years ago, and since then, Judge Wilson is a member in good standing at our church at New Hope Diamond Head. He participated in Saturday morning Men's Ministry and is active in a serious and healthy small group. Mike and I have met together, one on one for three years now for devotions and bible study. I can attest that Mike has a sincere, walking, active faith.

We have worked together in the taro patch for Keoki "kalo man" Fukumitsu when Keoki needed surgery on both hips. With his small group, Mike has fed homeless in Waikiki, served at Next step shelter, encouraged youth at-risk from of Mayor Wright Housing, Halawa Housing, Kuhio Park Terrace, Kamehameha IV, Ka`ahumanu and Palolo Homes. He has volunteered at Duane DeSoto's non-profit Na Kama Kai Ocean Clinics, and mentored children of incarcerated at Camp Agape.

You may not know is that for many years now, Mike is a "Big" to a "Little Brother" Isaiah. Isaiah has lived through the harshest of life: prostitute mother, incarcerated father, living on the street, etc. Isaiah is not easy to be around, but Judge Wilson has compassion and grace that matches his ability to give truth and set boundaries. It has been the hallmark of his courtroom.





So while many can speak to the Nominee's superior legal knowledge and judicial temperament; and others can write about how he has protected our `aina and kai, or that he is a proven and trusted spokesperson for the public conscience, I submit to you today that the man I know as Michael D. Wilson is a faithful, correctable, humble servant of God and man.

I recommend Judge Wilson to you without reservation, and I support your confirmation of him as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Me ke Akua pu

**Reverend William Kihapi`ilani Pimental, Jr.**

**Church Health Coach**

**Hawaii District of Foursquare Churches**

4211 Waialae Avenue, Suite 1030

Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

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1436 Young Street, Suite 303, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814, United States of America  
E-mail: [guillaume@locoboutique.com](mailto:guillaume@locoboutique.com), Tel: (808) 952-6000 • Fax: (808) 952-6011

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawaii State Senate  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

*Re: In Support of Gubernatorial Nominee Michael D. Wilson as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court*

Dear Senator Hee and members of the Committee,

It is an honor to express my strong support for the confirmation of Judge Michael Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

For most of my career I have been running a swimwear manufacturing and retail multi-national corporation based in Hawaii; I do not work in the legal field so I have not been able to witness Judge Wilson in his professional capacities. I am confident many of his colleagues will support him as a former attorney and judge. The emphasis of my recommendation is based on the observations I made as a friend of his and his father Don, whom I see on a daily basis.

I first met Michael Wilson over twenty-six years ago. At the time I was right out of college and managing a small windsurfing business in Kailua. Michael came often as a customer and was always very approachable, personable and respectful. Since he shared with me he was a lawyer and I just moved to the US from France, I had the chance to strike several conversations with him about the differences of legal systems. I remember not only his knowledge and passion for his career in law but also his strong belief in the precision and fairness of the US legal system. Michael talked about his commitment to his career with integrity and strong ethics.

Few years went by and we were re-introduced by mutual friends in our Health Club. Since Michael and I shared common interests in world travel, business practices in Hawaii and involvement in the community among others, we became friends very quickly. I was able to observe many of his qualities as a kind, elegant, considerate and intelligent person with great judgment. But of all those qualities, what I admire the most is his strong family values and his dedication to his father. Michael is a devoted and an exemplary son.

Lately, Michael and I have had many discussions about travel, cultural diversity and how it relates to his personal life. I learned from these conversations that Michael's experiences has helped him build character and an open-minded attitude allowing him to apply a well-rounded, fair and pragmatic perspective to his judicial responsibility.

I believe Michael Wilson will be an outstanding Supreme Court justice and an asset to our community. Therefore, I will be happy to provide further information if necessary.

Aloha,

Guillaume Maman

**DAPHNE E. BARBEE**

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
CENTURY SQUARE, SUITE 1909  
1188 BISHOP STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF JUDGE MICHAEL J. WILSON FOR  
HAWAII SUPREME JUSTICE**

HAWAII SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE :  
To Senator Clayton Hee, Senator Judiciary Chair, and Committee Members

From: Daphne E. Barbee, Attorney at Law

RE: JUDGE MICHAEL J. WILSON'S NOMINATION AS HAWAII SUPREME JUSTICE

Dear Honorable Senator Hee and Judiciary Committee Members:

I am writing this testimony in support of Judge Michael Wilson becoming a Supreme Court Justice. I have appeared before Judge Wilson on a number of cases. He has always been fair, patient and compassionate. He takes his time to research and review cases and listens to the arguments of both sides before rendering a decision. He was never hostile to any of the attorneys who appeared before him. He has grown to be an excellent Judge and he will no doubt become an excellent Hawaii Supreme Court Justice.

Judge Wilson became a Judge after practicing law in a small law firm. In the historical composition of the Hawaii Supreme Court, there are few Justices who practiced in a small law firms litigating civil rights and criminal defense. Judge Wilson's appointment brings needed hands on experience in this area of law.

Judge Wilson is also very well rounded and has traveled throughout the world experiencing different cultures and further educating himself. Please vote to have him on the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Sincerely,

Daphne E. Barbee  
Attorney at Law

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [toddhairgrove@hotmail.com](mailto:toddhairgrove@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM580 on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM\*  
**Date:** Friday, February 28, 2014 4:32:26 PM

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**GM580**

Submitted on: 2/28/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Todd Hairgrove	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jasen.takei@gmail.com](mailto:jasen.takei@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM580 on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Sunday, March 02, 2014 7:13:14 PM

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**GM580**

Submitted on: 3/2/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jasen Takei	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have known Judge Wilson for 15 years. He is a man of integrity, kindness and generosity. I fully support his confirmation to the Hawaii State Supreme Court. Respectfully, Jasen Takei

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**CHRISTOPHER J. YUEN**  
**ATTORNEY AT LAW**

P.O. Box 5  
Ninole, HI 96773  
Telephone: (808)963-6966  
e-mail: [chrisyuenz@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisyuenz@hotmail.com)

March 2, 2014

Re: Nomination of Judge Michael D. Wilson to Hawai'i State Supreme Court

Dear Sen. Hee and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Please vote to confirm Judge Michael D. Wilson as an associate justice of the Hawai'i State Supreme Court. He is an outstanding choice with a long and varied background in public service, following a successful career as a trial attorney.

I served on the Board of Land and Natural Resources while Judge Wilson was director of the DLNR from 1994-1998. During that time I attended over 100 public hearings and other meetings that he chaired, some lasting all day and into the evening, and covering land, water, environment, wildlife, native Hawaiian rights, traditional and customary practices—issues that arouse passionate feelings, and sometimes extremely passionate testimony and behavior. In all of these meetings, Judge Wilson treated the public with unfailing courtesy, patience, and respect. I don't think anyone could have done a better job to make sure that people attending these meetings had been listened to, even if not everyone could be satisfied with the final decision. He always managed to bring the meetings back to the subject and moving forward. In our deliberations, he was thorough, thoughtful, and decisive.

Judge Wilson worked well as the leader of the board, establishing consensus whenever possible. He created a climate where board members could discuss issues and sometimes disagree, while remaining collegial and friendly. This ability is important in a justice on an appellate court, where you must think for yourself but also try to make decisions that can win the support of a majority.

He worked very hard as DLNR director, and no task was beneath him. I can still remember him carrying a garbage bag and picking up broken glass at a beach clean-up in Kona.

Later, I watched Judge Wilson while he presided over Mental Health Court. The defendants generally have serious mental health issues, and many would, if not in a treatment program, be among the people who spend their nights sleeping on cardboard on sidewalks and in parks, people on the lowest end of society. Judge Wilson would greet each one warmly as his or her case was heard, and listen to their issues and requests with obvious empathy. He was deeply committed to this alternative to traditional criminal sentencing.

Since statehood, Hawaii has been blessed with a number of appellate court justices whose rulings have made ours a better and fairer society. If confirmed, Judge Wilson will continue in this tradition.

Yours truly,

Chris Yuen

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jsraffetto@aol.com](mailto:jsraffetto@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM580 on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Sunday, March 02, 2014 10:19:57 PM

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**GM580**

Submitted on: 3/2/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shackley F. Raffetto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chairperson and Committee Members: I highly recommend Judge Michael D. Wilson in his appointment as Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. I served as Chief Judge of the Second Circuit for many years and got to know Judge Wilson well. We shared a special interest in the improvement and effectiveness of our Drug Courts, Hope Probation and other programs for rehabilitation for our citizen/offenders. Over the years we had many discussions about how to effectively rehabilitate and return our citizen offenders from mainland prisons, returning them to productive life in our communities. I can share with you that he is highly concerned and dedicated to bettering the lives of the people of Hawaii, both as a fellow citizen and in his role as trial judge. He is an excellent trial judge and very dedicated to the betterment of our State. Based upon his obvious concern for the people of Hawaii, his superior judicial expertise and experience; and, his extensive leadership and other public service experience, I believe that he will be an outstanding Associate Justice. I highly recommend his appointment for favorable consideration by your Committee. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance to you. Sincerely, Shackley F. Raffetto Chief Judge, Second Circuit (Ret.)

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Noelie M. Rodriguez, Ph.D.  
Department of Sociology  
Hawai'i Community College  
200 W. Kawili St.  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

March 2, 2014

Testimony Supporting Judge Michael D. Wilson for Hawai'i State Supreme Court

Dear Committee Chair Hee and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the confirmation of Judge Mike Wilson as a new associate justice of the Hawai'i State Supreme Court. I am a Professor of Sociology at the Hawai'i Community College, and I met Judge Wilson about 25 years ago when I was the coordinator of the Earth Day Fair sponsored annually at HCC. We brought him to Hilo to speak because of his work with the movement to save Sandy Beach. He gave inspiring speeches about the power of volunteer community service. He came several times later as director of the DLNR and spoke to hundreds of young people about the environment and the role of the state in protecting Hawai'i's natural resources and environment.

Over the years, we've had many long discussions, especially about issues involving justice for women, which are especially important to me. I was co-director of the Women's Center at UH-Hilo in the early 1990's, and I was impressed by his understanding of the special issues that women face. This wasn't just talk. He'd represented women in cases involving sexual harassment and other kinds of workplace discrimination, and he understood how demoralizing these kinds of incidents can be. He really "got it."

We've remained friends for over 20 years and during that entire time he's shown the same unwavering idealism and commitment to public service. He still has the basic values that guided him to work for community groups like Hawai'i's Thousand Friends and the Save Sandy Beach organization, as director of DLNR, and later, as a judge. When listening to him talk about his experiences as a judge, I'm always struck by his basic optimism and belief that he can make a difference in the lives of those who come into his courtroom.

Judge Wilson will be a great addition to the Hawai'i State Supreme Court. Please vote to confirm his nomination.

Yours truly,

Noelie M. Rodriguez



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jbickel15@yahoo.com](mailto:jbickel15@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM580 on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, March 03, 2014 11:17:51 AM

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**GM580**

Submitted on: 3/3/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Bickel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have known Mr. Wilson since he ran for mayor in 1992. I have had a few-- but admittedly not many--occasions to interact with him over the years. While I cannot testify to his knowledge of the detail of the law, I can testify that I have always known him to put the public interest first. In my mind, he would add a strong voice for ethics and honesty to the court. Please give him your favorable consideration.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: Susie Murphy [[susiegoodbodymurphy@gmail.com](mailto:susiegoodbodymurphy@gmail.com)]  
Sent: Monday, March 03, 2014 6:43 AM  
To: Sen. Clayton Hee  
Subject: Fwd: Michael Wilson

Dear Senator Hee and Members of the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee:

I am writing to wholeheartedly support confirmation of Judge Michael Wilson to the Hawai'i State Supreme Court.

Through his years as an attorney, Director of the Hawai'i State Department of Land and Natural Resources, and Circuit Court Judge, Judge Wilson has clearly exhibited the qualities necessary for the highest court in Hawai'i. He is intelligent, ethical, has appropriate experience and education, is an outstanding communicator, contributes to the community both professionally and personally, and has shown respect and love for our precious 'aina. I do not need to provide examples of the above for this committee as they are well documented.

I would like to comment on his outstanding character, perhaps the most important quality necessary for serving on the Supreme Court. My brother, Matthew S. Goodbody, was Supreme Court Staff Attorney in the 1980's and interacted with many of Hawaii's attorneys, and spoke highly of Judge Wilson. I was working in politics at the time, for Senator Daniel K. Inouye and the Honolulu City Council, Office of Council Services. My every interaction with Judge Wilson was honorable and I came away with only respect.

On a personal level, we were not friends but I was fortunate to have encountered him late one night at St. Francis Hospice when he was visiting his step-mother and I, my father. We shared compassion and vulnerability and I came away with added respect for someone I already trusted and believed to be a person with the highest integrity.

Today, I ask you to approve the appointment of Judge Michael Wilson to the State Supreme Court, The State of Hawai'i will be better for his appointment.

Mahalo,

Susan Goodbody Murphy  
[808-223-6528](tel:808-223-6528)<tel:[808-223-6528](tel:808-223-6528)>  
3623 Manamana Place  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

PS I would be at the hearing but I am in San Francisco.

---

From: Jocelyn Fujii [[jocelyn.fujii@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:jocelyn.fujii@hawaiiintel.net)]  
Sent: Monday, March 03, 2014 6:43 AM  
To: Sen. Clayton Hee  
Subject: Confirmation of Michael Wilson

March 3, 2014

Dear Senator Clayton Hee and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I have known Judge Michael Wilson since the 1980s and have the utmost respect for his character, judicial wisdom and sense of fairness, both personal and professional. Those of us who have known him and worked with him can attest to his commitment to justice, and to serving this community with honor.

He is also unwaveringly fair, of unimpeachable integrity, and possesses wide experience and knowledge in the application of the law. I am confident that these qualities, and his unblemished character, equip him well to serve as a Hawai'i Supreme Court justice.

I worked with Mike as a volunteer in the Save Sandy Beach Coalition in the 1980s and have known him ever since. He was a sterling community worker who was fair, spiritually poised and even-handed in his interactions with all segments of the community. He has also demonstrated these qualities in his private practice as an attorney at law.

During his tenure as director of the Department of Land & Natural Resources, he administered the programs fairly and with an unwavering understanding of his responsibilities, even under extreme pressure. As a Circuit Court judge, he makes difficult decisions with wisdom and a moral sensibility that is always informed by his knowledge of the law.

I know he will fulfill his responsibilities as a Hawai'i Supreme Court justice with the same sense of fairness and integrity that has been his benchmark throughout his many years serving our community.

It would be to the benefit of every citizen of Hawai'i that you confirm Michael Wilson as our next Hawai'i Supreme Court Justice.

Many thanks for this opportunity to be heard.

Respectfully submitted,

Jocelyn Fujii  
1615 Wilder Ave.  
Apt. 606  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
Phone: 808-947-6470  
Mobile: 808-754-9870

**From:** [Henry Eng](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Confirmation of Michael Wilson's Appointment to the Hawaii Supreme Court  
**Date:** Monday, March 03, 2014 12:12:07 PM

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Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair and Members  
Senate Committee on the Judiciary and Labor  
Conference Room 016  
Hawaii State Capitol

Dear Chair Hee and Committee Members:

Re: GM 580 Appointment of Michael D Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court

I am writing to strongly endorse Michael Wilson's appointment to the Hawaii Supreme Court. He is a person characterized by integrity, competence and dignity with a keen perspective of public service.

His resume includes broad experience in government, and the public and private sector which will serve him well on the bench.

I urge your confirmation of Michael Wilson for appointment to the Hawaii Supreme Court. Mahalo for your consideration.

**From:** [Judith A. Pavay](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Florence Pajardo](#)  
**Subject:** Judy Pavay's testimony in support of Judge Michael Wilson's confirmation to the Hawaii Supreme Court  
**Date:** Monday, March 03, 2014 12:38:08 PM

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Dear Senator Hee and your fellow Senators:

I'm submitting this testimony in support of Judge Michael Wilson's nomination and hopefully confirmation as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. I have known Mike for over 35 years. He was my boyfriend for about 8 years, then we were law partners for many years until he was appointed to head the DLNR, after which he became a full-time public servant, including as a Circuit Court Judge. We have remained close friends over the years. I know him and his family well and am also aware of his fine reputation in our community.

I have seen first-hand his very real and working respect for people of all backgrounds and from all walks of life, from our staff at our law firm to a neighbor to our families and friends to opponents in lawsuits to the prisoners in the Drug Court. I have never seen Mike even raise his voice in anger or impatience in situations where the average person (including me) would have done so. He is remarkably calm and judicious. He brings out the best in other people. He is a kind, generous, intellectually energetic and optimistic person. His appreciation of divergent viewpoints is genuine. I've never known anyone with a better ability to bring people together to achieve common consensus. His integrity is unimpeachable and he has never been driven by a desire for power or personal aggrandizement.

In his public positions there have been those rare situations where someone who for their own personal reasons sought, unfairly, to damage his reputation in order to undermine him but he has never stooped to their level. He has a good, solid moral core. He has never shied away from controversy in his work, some of which was necessarily contentious, so there are those who have disagreed with his positions, but there has never been a legitimate question about his honesty or integrity. There would never be a concern that his decision making was subject to political or other improper influence. He has a deep and abiding respect for the law and the judiciary's limited but important role in our democracy. He loves being a Judge. He is humbled by the responsibility and takes his job very seriously. Even when Mike isn't on the bench or at the office he's working because the law is not a chore to him. Being a lawyer and a Judge is who and what Mike is. I'm sure you know other such dedicated public servants but they are rare and, to me, inspiring...Mike is in that category. I don't believe there could be a better nominee for this position.

I have practiced law in Hawaii since 1977. I have always been a litigator, primarily plaintiffs' personal injury law but also as a prosecutor intern in law school, criminal defense during my first 10 years of practice and limited commercial and other litigation during the past 5 years or so. As a litigator representing primarily individuals in our judicial system my interest in the integrity and quality of our trial and appellate judges could not be more serious. It is essential to my clients that they have access to a level playing field in Court with the certainty that Hawaii law will be fairly and equitably applied by Judges who are knowledgeable, well-prepared, and who are free of political or other improper personal bias. Mike fits that description. He would never succumb to improper influence and is dedicated to preserving constitutional and other legal rights as established by the Legislature. He is an avid legal scholar, is an excellent legal writer, and recognizes the importance of precedent to the stability of our society and, on a micro level, to our advice as lawyers to our clients.

I also believe that a real world understanding of the broader impact on society of appellate decisions is critical to the development of our case law. Of all the candidates who made the list for this important position, Mike stood head and shoulders above in terms of the breadth of his experience in both the public and private sectors and that range of experience is invaluable at the appellate court level. He was a law clerk for Federal Judge Samuel King and Intermediate Court of Appeals Judge Frank Padgett and a well-respected litigator on important consumer and individual rights cases. He worked on legislation to preserve the rights of victims of sexual harassment. He has been a Circuit Court Judge with various assignments including presiding over the Drug Court and substituting on the Hawaii Supreme Court. He served as the consumer advocate, worked with community groups to preserve the Kaiwi Coastline and Kawainui Marsh, and his commitment to and respect for the Hawaiian culture and Hawaiian rights has always been a force in both his public and private work. Mike has also contributed time to various non-profits over the years, most recently working with disadvantaged youths. That wide range of experience and public service would be a invaluable contribution to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Mike is one of the finest people I have ever known. He has a deep aloha for Hawaii. His appointment and confirmation would serve Hawaii well. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I will also be at the hearing and available to respond to questions.

Aloha,

Judy Pavey

Judith A. Pavey  
Attorney at Law

Starn O'Toole Marcus & Fisher  
A Law Corporation  
Pacific Guardian Center, Makai Tower  
733 Bishop Street, Suite 1900  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Email: [JPavey@starnlaw.com](mailto:JPavey@starnlaw.com)  
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**From:** [Florence Pajardo](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in favor of Judge Michael Wilson as Associate Justice  
**Date:** Monday, March 03, 2014 12:58:24 PM

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Dear Senate Committee,

I had the opportunity to work with the Honorable Michael Wilson from 1987 to 1994 while he was an attorney in private practice, and prior to his appointment as the Director of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources. He has always had a strong sense of justice and yet he was down to earth, fair, and genuinely caring. He always represented his clients to the best of his ability and within the limits of the law.

In 2008, I appeared in Judge Wilson's courtroom and sat as a juror for a criminal trial. I saw his judicial skills firsthand. He was impartial and never displayed any prejudice to either side. He was personable and respectful to the potential jurors, greeted each of them individually and made them feel comfortable and as well as important. He ensured that the trial had no undue delays so that there was no waste in taxpayer's time and money.

In 2011, despite an undoubtedly extremely busy schedule and the myriad pressing deadlines on his mind, Judge Wilson married my current husband and I in his chamber while conveying a spirit of true caring and compassion that made our few moments of his day incredibly unique and special. His empathy, benevolent decorum, and presence transformed a common civil ceremony into a memory that my husband and I will cherish for the rest of our lives. I would not trade those moments for anything on this earth.

He is a true leader who leaves an impression on the people he touches. His character is in his inherent dignity, honor, exceptional leadership qualities; it is manifested through his genuine and deep level of personal caring and charisma.

I am absolutely certain that Judge Wilson is and will continue to be an exceptional steward justice and compassion. His actions emphatically demonstrated that when he gave of himself so freely for two people, and from which he could gain nothing. He spontaneously and unassumingly demonstrated that he intuitively understands the nuance of people and circumstance and how to best present and exercise necessary and appropriate authority...and in so doing, touched and enhanced my husband Ernie Barroga, Jr.'s and my life forever.

Judge Wilson personifies what is best in a society that strives to function based on the rule-of-law: honor, dignity, and decorum grounded in sense of service and compassion without any hint of entitlement or self-importance. For this citizen, there could simply be no better selection for the Hawaii State Supreme Court than Judge Wilson. He is what the people of Hawaii need and deserve.

Flo Pajardo-Barroga

Florence Pajardo  
Paralegal

Starn O'Toole Marcus & Fisher



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Email: [FPajardo@starnlaw.com](mailto:FPajardo@starnlaw.com)  
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\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** [Roger Fonseca](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 580: Confirmation of Michael D. Wilson  
**Date:** Monday, March 03, 2014 1:08:24 PM

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This testimony is submitted in favor of the confirmation of Michael D. Wilson as Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. My name is Roger W. Fonseca. I am a tax and employee benefits attorney with the Cades Schutte law firm (and before that, with Torkildson, Katz, Fonseca, Moore & Heatherington). In that capacity, I have known Mike Wilson for nearly 30 years. In my opinion, he is an intelligent, fair, honest, caring, hard-working and diligent attorney. Moreover, he has a deep love for the land and people of Hawaii. I can think of no one who would better serve this State on the Supreme Court.

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999 Bishop Street  
Suite 1600  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

March 3, 2014

Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Re: Michael D. Wilson, nominee for Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court  
Hearing: Thursday, March 6, 2014  
Time: 11 am  
Place: Conference Room 016, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Dear Senator Hee,

I am writing to submit testimony in support of Michael D. Wilson as Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. I am a partner in the law firm of Goodsill, Anderson, Quinn & Stifel and was admitted to the Hawaii Bar in 1984. Mike was among the first attorneys I met when I moved to Honolulu in 1984.

Mike has demonstrated a consistent long term commitment to the land and people of Hawaii. His work as a Circuit Court Judge, Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Executive Director of the State Division of Consumer Advocacy, and in private practice have provided him with a wide breadth of experience and leadership positions. He seems to enjoy most his work as a public servant for the citizens of Hawaii.

I have found Mike to be dedicated and passionate about his work. He is even tempered and a thoughtful listener. Mike is honest and holds himself to the highest ethical standards.

I support Governor Abercrombie's nomination and respectfully request the Committee on Judiciary and Labor to confirm Michael Wilson as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Sincerely,



Patricia M. NaPier

March 3, 2014

The following will be the testimony of Edmund Burke regarding the Supreme Court nomination of Michael Wilson.

My wife Martha Burke and I first meet Michael while Martha was the president of the Kalaheo High School, PTSA. Michael volunteered a great deal of time in assisting the PTSA with school projects. Michael attended school meetings and was a great assistance even though he did not have a child in the school. He was much too young!

As a civil trial lawyer, I did not have the experience of being an adversary to Michael while he was still in private practice. However he was always very friendly to me and inquiring how everything was going when we would meet from time to time.

As a trial attorney for the past 50 years, I have known a great number of judges. This makes me confident Michael will be a great asset to the Hawaii Supreme Court because of his innate interest in people and his ability to influence others.

Respectfully submitted,

Edmund Burke

*Noa Emmett Aluli, M.D. / Davianna Pōmaika'i McGregor, PhD*  
*P.O. Box 39*  
*Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748*

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Thursday, March 6, 2014  
10:00 am  
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

By  
Noa Emmett Aluli, M.D.  
and Davianna Pōmaika'i McGregor

**IN SUPPORT OF GM 580**

Chair Clayton Hee, Vice-Chair Maile Shimabukuro, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, aloha kākou. We are testifying to you in support of the nomination of Judge Michael D. Wilson for Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Respectfully, as Native Hawaiians, we would like to share our perspective with you about why Judge Wilson would be an outstanding and uniquely suitable member of the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

We first met Judge Wilson when he served as the Chairperson of the Hawai'i State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). As the Chairperson of DLNR he served on the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). Dr. Aluli is a founding member of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana and served as the chairperson of the KIRC during the tenure of Judge Wilson on the commission and Dr. McGregor is a long time member of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana. As residents of Moloka'i, we also worked with Judge Wilson in his capacity as Chairperson of DLNR to support the designation of Mo'omomi and Kawa'aloa Bays on the northwest coast of the island as the first community-based subsistence fishing management area.

With regard to Kaho'olawe, we were very impressed with Judge Wilson's understanding of and support for Native Hawaiian subsistence, cultural and religious customs and practices as protected by the Hawai'i State Constitution (Article XII, Section 7). He also demonstrated a deep respect for the knowledge of Native Hawaiian kūpuna (elders) and cultural practitioners. This proved significant in the final adoption by the KIRC of a Kaho'olawe Use Plan and administrative rules and regulations which protected the natural resources of the island and its surrounding waters, while recognizing Native Hawaiian rights. Through this experience, we feel that Judge Wilson demonstrated an understanding of both the spirit and the letter of Hawaiian law and judicial precedents which uphold Native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, while protecting the island's precious natural resources.

The establishment of a community-based subsistence fishing management area for Mo'omomi and Kawa'aloa bays on the island of Moloka'i presented a greater challenge for Judge Wilson in his tenure as the chair of DLNR. Through the course of his work on this issue, Judge Wilson demonstrated his capacity to judiciously balance the interests of the various stakeholders - Moloka'i Hawaiian Homesteaders; commercial fishermen; recreational users; coastal landowners and the general public. He successfully facilitated the drafting of a set of rules with the various stakeholders for the management of the area, although his successor did not persist in the promulgation of those rules.

While these are the two examples where we have had direct experience with Judge Wilson with regard to his understanding of and respect for Native Hawaiian rights, concerns and social issues we are also aware of his record of proven courage, intelligence and integrity with regard to other Hawaiian communities. As an attorney, he successfully represented the communities who allied together to protect Sandy Beach on the East O'ahu coastline from development. In his tenure as Chairperson of DLNR, Judge Wilson further demonstrated his understanding and acknowledgement of the role of Native Hawaiians as stewards of the land in working with Native Hawaiian communities to protect Kawainui Marsh on O'ahu, Honokohau on Hawai'i Island, and the Napali Coast on Kaua'i. He established the Native Hawaiian Youth Conservation Corps to train the next generation of Native Hawaiian stewards of the lands managed by DLNR. As chair of DLNR, serving on the Water Commission, Judge Wilson was instrumental in the final determination of the reallocation of water to Ko'olauloa on O'ahu in the Waiahole Water Case.

As Native Hawaiians, we feel that it is important to have someone with the understanding and experience of Judge Wilson, with regard to the Native Hawaiian community, serve as a member of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Respectfully, we ask for you to please confirm Governor Neil Abercrombie's nomination of Judge Michael Wilson as the new Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Mahalo nui loa.

GM 580 - Confirmation of Michael D. Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court

DATE OF HEARING: Thursday, March 6, 2014

TIME OF HEARING: 10:00 a.m.

To the Committee on Judiciary and Labor :

I would like to speak in favor of Nominee Michael D. Wilson to the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

I've known Judge Michael Wilson for numerous years and have always found him to be thoughtful, fair, honorable and compassionate to everyone. He has been extremely kind and diligent in his work. These are the traits that I believe are critical for a representative of Hawai'i's highest court.

I sincerely hope the nomination of Michael D. Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court is approved by your Committee.

Mahalo for your time,

Dana M. Tokioka  
Account Executive  
Atlas Insurance Agency

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407

State Capitol

415 South Beretania St.

Honolulu, HI 96813

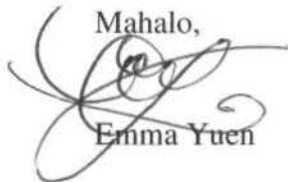
Re: Support for appointment of Michael D. Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court

Aloha Committee Members,

I support appointing Michael D. Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court. His decades of public service reflect his life-long dedication to serve Hawaii's people and natural resources. Mirroring his career in public service is his leadership and involvement in myriad causes to help children in poverty, stop violence, improve education, and preserve Hawaii's most precious natural areas.

I have always admired Michael's commitment to others and to the environment. His pono (righteous) service to the community is a testament to his dedication to justice. In turn, his appointment to this important post would be pono for Hawaii.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emma Yuen', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Emma Yuen

1350 Ala Moana Blvd. Apt. 1209

Honolulu, HI 96814



March 2, 2014

Louise Giuseffi  
2752 Kahoaloha Ln. #303  
Honolulu, HI 96826

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

Please pass GM 580 to appoint Michael Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court. He should be commended for his decades of community service to make Hawaii a better place. Mahalo.

Two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The first signature on the left is highly stylized and appears to be 'Louise Giuseffi'. The second signature on the right is also highly stylized and appears to be 'Michael Wilson'.

TO: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Maile S. L. Shimabukurio, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Andrew Gray and Stacey Fineran  
3065 Lanikaula St.  
Honolulu, HI 96822

SUBJECT: Support for GM 580: Confirmation of Michael Wilson as Associate  
Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court

Dear Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

We are writing to express support for Michael Wilson to the State Supreme Court. In particular, we would like to mention Michael Wilson's leadership to protect Hawaii's coastlines and oceans. He has sought protection for Hawaii's resources throughout his career as well as by volunteering for Na Kama Kai to connect youth with the ocean.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is for Stacey Fineran, and the bottom signature is for Andrew Gray. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

3/2/14

**Chris Godwin**  
57-451 Honokawela Drive  
Kahuku, Hawaii 96731  
Tel. No. 293-9087  
[godwinc@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:godwinc@hawaii.rr.com)

March 4, 2014

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 407  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing regarding Committee Measure GM 580. I oppose the appointment of Michael Wilson to the Hawaii State Supreme Court for the following reason. He is a part owner of an oceanfront property that has operated as an illegal vacation rental since 1989. The property is located at Kawela Bay, 57-421 Honokawela Drive and further identified as TMK 5-7-003-037. See attachment #1 for a listing of current owners. The property is currently advertised on the internet with a daily rate and a minimum stay of 10 days (see attachments #2 & 3). The current internet listings say the property is not available until Christmas 2014. It is unknown if this lengthy blackout period, which is unknown to have occurred before, is related to Mr. Wilson's nomination. The internet advertisements do not identify the address of the property but the exterior pictures show it to be 57-421 Honokawela Drive. I have reported the apparent illegal rentals to the City & County, DPP since 2003 and the owners have been cited four times in the past (see attachment #4). DPP has not responded to recent complaints. It is purported that renters have recently been required to sign a 30 day rental agreement although they do not stay that long or pay that much rent.

It is believed that State transient accommodations taxes are collected (see attachment #5, pg. 2) and excise tax returns are filed reporting the transient rental income further evidencing that the rentals are for less than 30 days.

I previously reported the apparent illegal rental activity to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel (see attachment #6). Subsequent correspondence from ODC indicated that my letter raised legal rather than ethical issues that were not under their purview.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns. If you have any questions, I can be reached at the contact information shown above.

Regards,



Chris Godwin

| CONTACT US | HELP

City and County > State



Home Property Search

Search for: Tax Year: ANY

Results 1 - 8 of 8

Parcel ID	Owner Name	Parcel Address
570030370000	CROSIER,DOUGLAS A	57-421 HONOKAWELA DR
570030370000	CROSIER,JEAN K	57-421 HONOKAWELA DR
570030370000	FDT LLC	57-421 HONOKAWELA DR
570030370000	FMT KAWELA LLC	57-421 HONOKAWELA DR
570030370000	KAWELA BAY PROPERTIES LLC	57-421 HONOKAWELA DR
570030370000	SCHWINN,MICHAEL F	57-421 HONOKAWELA DR
570030370000	SCHWINN,VIEN N	57-421 HONOKAWELA DR
570030370000	WILSON,MICHAEL D	57-421 HONOKAWELA DR

Print All

Data Last Updated : 02 Mar 2014

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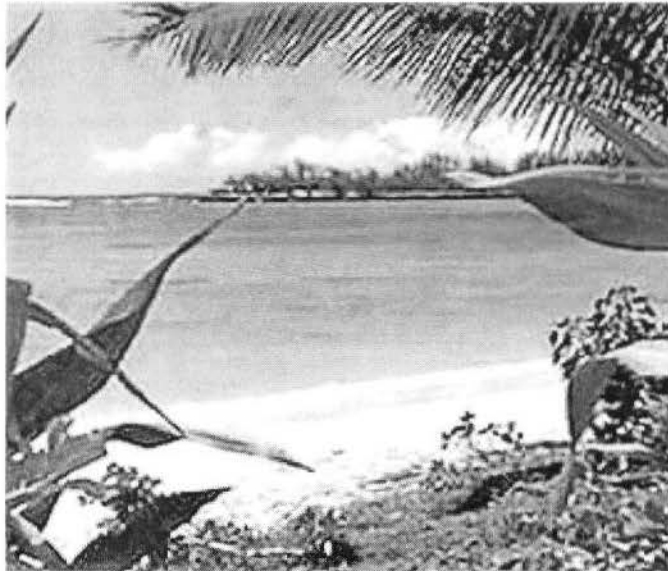
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## KAWELA BAY - BEACHFRONT, JACUZZI, 3 BEDROOMS



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## KAWELA BAY - BEACHFRONT, JACUZZI, 3 BEDROOMS

Kawela House Rental Photos and Description

House, 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, (Sleeps 6)


**\*THIS HOME WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL CHRISTMAS 2014\***

Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home on the sand at Kawela Bay!

The two story home features three bedrooms, two bathrooms, dining area, complete kitchen, outdoor hot and cold shower, beachside Jacuzzi, and beachside covered balcony with a barbecue grill and picnic table - fabulous for families. The beachside

#2

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**Nearest Golf**  
3 Miles  
Turtle Bay Resort

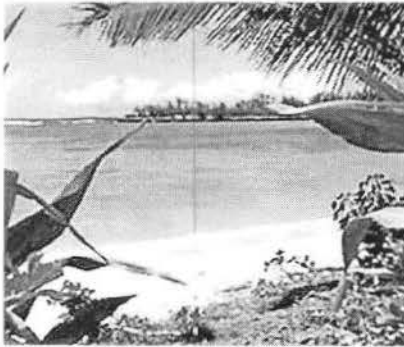
**Nearest Restaurant**  
3 Miles  
Turtle Bay Resort

Car: necessary

Located on the beach on Kawela Bay, this home is within a short drive of the famous Pipeline, Sunset, and Waimea surf breaks and 5 minutes to Turtle Bay Resort with golf, horseback riding, bar and restaurants.

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### Photos



Spectacular Kawela Bay



Beachfront Kawela Bay home

(/)

[Rental Guarantee](http://guarantee.homeaway.com/vrbo/) (<http://guarantee.homeaway.com/vrbo/>) [Advantages](http://www.vrbo.com/global/advantages.htm) (<http://www.vrbo.com/global/advantages.htm>) [Community](http://vacationrentals.vrbo.com/owner-community) (<http://vacationrentals.vrbo.com/owner-community>) [Luxury](http://luxury.homeaway.com/?utm_source=vrbo&utm_medium=cross-brand&utm_content=hp&utm_campaign=vrbo-hp-lux) ([http://luxury.homeaway.com/?utm\\_source=vrbo&utm\\_medium=cross-brand&utm\\_content=hp&utm\\_campaign=vrbo-hp-lux](http://luxury.homeaway.com/?utm_source=vrbo&utm_medium=cross-brand&utm_content=hp&utm_campaign=vrbo-hp-lux)) [Help](http://help.vrbo.com) (<http://help.vrbo.com>)

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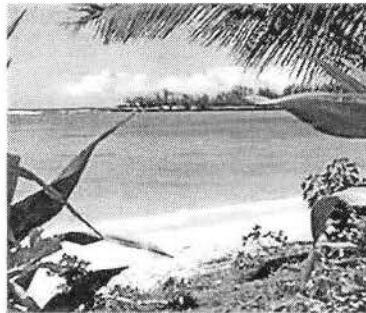
[North Shore Oahu](http://www.vrbo.com/vacation-rentals/usa/hawaii/oahu/north-shore) (<http://www.vrbo.com/vacation-rentals/usa/hawaii/oahu/north-shore>)

[Kawela](http://www.vrbo.com/vacation-rentals/usa/hawaii/oahu/north-shore/kawela) (<http://www.vrbo.com/vacation-rentals/usa/hawaii/oahu/north-shore/kawela>) VRBO Listing #29511

Like

## Kawela Bay - Beachfront, Jacuzzi, 3 Bedrooms

[Photos](#) [Map](#) [Calendar](#)



Spectacular Kawela Bay



[Overview](#) [Reviews](#) [Rates](#) [Calendar](#) [Location](#) [ManagerInfo](#) [Photos](#)

**Minimum stay:** 10 nights **Pets considered:** No  
**Internet:** Yes **Wheel chair accessible:** No

### Kawela house description

\*THIS HOME WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL CHRISTMAS 2014\*

Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home on the sand at Kawela Bay!

Save to my favorites

**\$795**

per night (USD)

0

3 Bedroom / 2 Bathroom  
Sleeps 6

View calendar: Updated 01/15/14

**Minimum stay:** 10 nights

Arrival  Departure

[Get an instant quote](#)

[Email manager](#)

Speaks: english, german, spanish

This manager accepts HomeAway Payments. Always use this free service to protect your payment up to \$10,000 against fraud while keeping your financial information private.

**Add vacation protection services to your booking**

Three services to protect your trip:

Protect your payments in case you need to cancel.

Guarantee the rental meets your expectations.

Ensure you're prepared in case of accidental damage.

[Feedback](#)

#3

**Activities**

Mountain Biking	Wind-Surfing	Restaurants
Surf Fishing	Fishing	Luaus
Water Skiing	Surfing	Beachcombing
Kayaking	Cycling	Hospital
Swimming	Tennis	Groceries
Mountain Climbing	Sailing	Laundromat
Equestrian Events	Deepsea Fishing	Medical Services
Pier Fishing	Walking	Massage Therapist
Snorkeling	Scenic Drives	Shelling
Scuba Diving Or Snorkeling	Whale Watching	Sight Seeing
Hiking	Boating	Shopping
Golf	Horseback Riding	ATM/Bank
Parasailing	Health/Beauty Spa	Fitness Center
Snorkeling/Diving	Churches	

**Other Activities**

Located on the beach on Kawela Bay, this home is within a short drive of the famous Pipeline, Sunset, and Waimea surf breaks and 5 minutes to Turtle Bay Resort with golf, horseback riding, bar and restaurants.

**Reviews**

[Write a review \(http://www.vrbo.com/29511/reviews/write\)](http://www.vrbo.com/29511/reviews/write)

This property does not have any reviews yet.

[Be the first to write a review for this listing... \(http://www.vrbo.com/29511/reviews/write\)](http://www.vrbo.com/29511/reviews/write)

**Rates**

[Currency Conversion](#)

Rental basis: Per property

Rental rates quoted in: **USD** ▼

Dates	Nightly	Weekend Night	Weekly	Monthly *	Event
<b>Christmas 2014</b> Dec 13 - Jan 18, 2015 10 night min stay	\$795				

**Additional information about rental rates**

Rates are subject to change without notice. Please contact to confirm.

**Fees:**

Taxes Not included

**This manager accepts HomeAway payments.**

Always use this free service to protect your payments up to \$10,000 against fraud while keeping your financial information private. With HomeAway Payments, your credit card information is not seen by the owner or manager. **NEVER** pay by cash or instant money transfer services such as Western Union or MoneyGram. Call the owner to confirm booking request.

**Don't forget your vacation protection!** [Get protected now \(http://www.vacationprotection.com?utm\\_source=vrbo&utm\\_medium=cross%20brand&utm\\_content=pdprates&utm\\_campaign=vpcmxs\)](http://www.vacationprotection.com?utm_source=vrbo&utm_medium=cross%20brand&utm_content=pdprates&utm_campaign=vpcmxs)

Adding our Vacation Protection services can make sure your getaway goes smoothly, no matter what. We offer Cancellation Protection, Carefree Rental Guarantee, and Damage Protection so you can truly relax.

[Feedback](#)





**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**  
**Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP)**

Aloha. We provide services and information on building permits, development projects, and planning activities for the City and County of Honolulu.

[Permitting](#) [Searching](#) [DPP Home](#) [Sign In](#)

**Tax Map Key**

Details	Warnings	Building/Sign Permits	Subdivision Permits	Other Permits	Owners	History	Assessments	Str Setbacks	Parcel Info
	<b>Permit Type</b> Notice of Violation	<b>Permit No.</b> 2003/NOV-05-182	<b>Description</b> HC 57-421 HONOKAWELA DRIVE VACATION RENTAL		<b>Status</b> NOV File Closed	<b>Created Date</b> May 22, 2003	<b>Issue Date</b> mmm dd, yyyy		
	Notice of Violation	2005/NOV-07-239	HC 57-421 Honokawela Dr., Kaili Watson/Judith Pavey et al - Illegal transient vacation unit		NOV File Closed	Jul 27, 2005	mmm dd, yyyy		
	Notice of Violation	2006/NOV-04-129	HC 57-421 Honokawela Dr., FDT, LLC/Kali Watson - Illegal Transient Vacation Unit (Rec Vio)		NOV File Closed	Apr 20, 2006	mmm dd, yyyy		
	Notice of Violation	2006/NOV-09-036	HC 57-421 Honokawela Dr., Kaili Watson et al - Illegal Transient Vacation Unit (Rec Vio)		NOV File Closed	Sep 7, 2006	mmm dd, yyyy		

[Submit](#) [Cancel](#)

City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning & Permitting  
 650 So. King St., Honolulu, HI 96813 • Fax: (808) 768-6743  
 email: [info@honolulu.dpp.org](mailto:info@honolulu.dpp.org)

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Screen ID: 750040

#4

# Vacation Rentals .com™

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North Shore Hawaii Vacation Rentals Presents

57-421 Honokawela Dr

TMK: 5-7-3-37

## Beachfront 3 Bedroom Home on Kawela Bay

Single Family w/ 3 Bedrooms - 2 Bathrooms - Sleeps 6 w/ Jacuzzi



**More Photos Of This Vacation Rental Below!!!!**

[✉ Email this listing to a friend](#)

### Vacation Rental Owner/Manager

Name: Toby and Debbie Morris  
Phone: 877-254-8554 / 808-263-0707

[Click Here To Send Email](#)

### Vacation Rental Description

This lovely three bedroom home is located behind gates on the white sands of Kawela Bay. Recently painted and carpeted, this home sparkles. Two bedrooms and one bathroom are located downstairs, one bedroom has two twin beds and the other a queen size bed. The living and dining rooms overlook the spectacular crescent bay. Upstairs is the master bedroom with king size bed and ensuite bathroom. Just nine homes have the privilege of being beachfront. This home is the last of the nine, neighboring miles and miles of coastline and nature. The Jacuzzi sits on the oceanside of the home not far from the hot and cold outdoor shower. Within minutes are the world-class surfing spots of Pipeline, Sunset, and Waimea, the

#5

new spa and restaurants of the renovated Turtle Bay Resort, and spectacular hiking and biking trails. It's North Shore Paradise!

### **Vacation Rental Amenities**

Beachfront Jacuzzi  
Outdoor hot/cold shower  
Fully equipped kitchen  
Washer and dryer  
Dishwasher  
Coffee maker  
Beach towels and linens  
Cable Television with HBO

### **Activities and Attractions**

Snorkeling  
Swimming  
Hiking  
Biking  
Kayaking  
Nearby Turtle Bay Resort includes spa, restaurants, tennis and golf  
Surfing lessons  
Nearby healing arts center  
Gliding  
Horseback riding  
Sightseeing  
Polynesian Cultural Center  
Kualoa Ranch

### **Vacation Rental Rates**

Nightly Rate from \$425-485  
Hawaii State taxes 11.416% (GE 4.166% and TA 7.25%)  
Cleaning Fee \$225  
Security Deposit \$500 (refundable without damages, excessive cleaning, or telephone use)



### North Shore Hawaii Vacation Rentals

Page Views	
390	this month.
675	this year.
3403	since listed.

Vacation

VacationRentals.com is quickly becoming one of the largest and most useful specialized travel site on the internet for finding vacation rental homes. With its intelligent search engine, VacationRentals.com is the easiest place for travelers to find and rent unique vacation rentals including cabins, beach house, villas, bed and breakfasts and other vacation lodging. VacationRentals.com is the most efficient means for owners to promote their rental properties.

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Chris Godwin  
57-451 Honokawela Drive  
Kahuku, Hawaii 96731  
Email: godwind001@hawaii.rr.com  
(808) 293-9087

September 19, 2006

Office of Disciplinary Counsel, Ethics Complaint  
1132 Bishop Street, Suite 300  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Disciplinary Counsel:

I am writing to report the following three attorneys who, along with others, own the dwelling at 57-421 Honokawela Drive, Kahuku, Hawaii 96731 (TMK: 5-7-3-37) that is being operated as an illegal vacation rental.

Judith Ann Pavey  
Douglas A. Crosier  
Michael D. Wilson

It is believed that Ms. Pavey is directly involved in the rental of the property and that the other two are primarily investors who benefit financially from the illegal activity and who may have knowledge of it. The rental of their property for less than 30 days is a violation of the revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990 (Land Use Ordinance), Section 21-4.110-1. It is believed that they were first informed of the illegality of their activity by a notice of violation mailed to them in May 2003 by the City & County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP). However the illegal rental has continued to date. I believe that since 2003 additional notices of violation have been issued and fines assessed. Mr. Todd Labang (Tel. # 527-5850) is the current DPP inspector assigned and is believed to have had several contacts with Ms. Pavey regarding this matter.

Recently Ms. Pavey may be using subterfuge in an attempt to conceal her illegal activity. It is believed she is having renters sign a 30-day rental agreement even though they are staying for less than 30 days. The Internet ad was recently changed to indicate that the minimum rental period is 30 days. It is also believed she may be telling renters to say that they are related to her and are her non-paying guests.

I have a complete record of the arrival and departure dates of the renters and their license plate numbers. I also have information to identify the maid that cleans after each departure. It is believed that Ms. Pavey files State excise tax returns that disclose the gross income received as "transient accommodations rentals," the category used for rentals of less than 30 days.

If I can be of any assistance in this matter please contact me via any of the means disclosed in the letterhead. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly,

#6

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From: Curt Sanburn [[jcstwo@comcast.net](mailto:jcstwo@comcast.net)]  
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2014 1:51 PM  
To: Sen. Clayton Hee  
Subject: Testimony HSC nomination of Hon. Mike Wilson

Chairman Clayton Hee  
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol, rm. 407  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairman Hee,

I understand Governor Abercrombie has nominated my old friend state Circuit Judge Michael Wilson to serve as an Associate Justice on the Hawaii Supreme Court, and I urge your committee to consider his consistently high level of achievement and leadership as a citizen -- and servant -- of the State of Hawaii when his nomination comes before you.

I know Mr. Wilson best from our days together as young, fresh-faced organizers of the Sandy Beach Initiative Coalition back in the late 1980s/early 1990s. He worked hard because he believed, as did we all, that the public was not being served by its representatives in the matter of additional development along the now-cherished and still-wild Ka Iwi coastline of southeast Oahu. Mr. Wilson often served as a spokesman for the grassroots group, which included environmentalists, students, surfers, tour-bus operators, hotel workers, retirees, and over 40,000 petition signers. He was always level-headed and clear-eyed in his legal explanations to the public. As a leader he was creative and kind. He was always there for sign-waving chores, petition-gathering, door-to-door campaigning, and weekly meetings. He knows the public well. Later, after the HSC ill-advisedly excised land-use initiative voting rights from the charters of each of the four counties in 1989, Mr. Wilson worked doggedly with the Coalition for three years to convince the state legislature to restore those rights, but we failed.

I had the pleasure of writing a profile about Mr. Wilson for the Honolulu Weekly newspaper when he was appointed chairman of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources by Governor Cayetano. Imagine: An environmental activist is chosen to head DLNR! It was

news.

Now he's a circuit judge, a position that calls for rigorous yet heartfelt reasoning and hard decision-making. It's a job that must bring with it daily immersion in the urgent difficulties of real people in the state. All I can observe his experience on the bench is that Mr. Wilson is an even kinder, humbler man than he was 25 years ago. (And back then, I remember observing how remarkable it was that Mr. Wilson never said a bad word about anyone. Ever.)

Yes, Mr. Wilson is an environmentalist. So should we all be. Aloha Aina. In addition to Sandy Beach, he personally worked to defend Mt. Olomana in Kailua from over-development. He ran for mayor of Honolulu on a green platform.

But he is a uniquely reasonable environmentalist, the kind Hawaii desperately needs. Mr. Wilson's track record shows a deep commitment to his home and his fellow citizens.

Hawaii needs Mr. Wilson on its highest court, and I urge you to think about the effects that his long-term service there might have on our future and to approve his nomination.

Sincerely,

Curt Sanburn  
7700 Geary Blvd. #110  
San Francisco, CA 94121

**From:** [Florence Pajardo](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of Judge Michael Wilson as Associate Justice  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 04, 2014 4:05:26 PM

---

Dear Senator Hee,

I interned for Judge Wilson for 10 weeks during the summer of 2012. During my time working in his courtroom, Judge Wilson treated everyone he interacted with—including his staff, the lawyers, the jurors, and those on trial—with the upmost respect. He would always take the time to hear both sides of the issue, intently listening to what people had to say and responding appropriately and genuinely when necessary. He was kind to everyone and people could immediately see that, which is why people respected him and how he was always able to maintain control of his courtroom. He was a great boss and would take time at the end of each day to sit down with me and the other externs, asking us questions about the day's events and explaining things we didn't fully understand. Judge Wilson is a great judge and a great person, which is why I think it would do Hawaii a lot of good to have him on our supreme court.

Sincerely,

Nainoa Watson

---

NOTICE TO RECIPIENT: THIS E-MAIL IS MEANT FOR ONLY THE INTENDED RECIPIENT(S) OF THE TRANSMISSION, AND MAY BE A CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION PRIVILEGED AND/OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED BY LAW. UNLESS AN ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT IS SIGNED BY OUR FIRM AND THE RECIPIENT, THIS E-MAIL SHALL NOT CREATE AN ATTORNEY CLIENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR FIRM AND THE RECIPIENT. IF YOU RECEIVED THIS E-MAIL IN ERROR, ANY REVIEW, USE, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THIS E-MAIL IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY OF THE ERROR BY RETURN E-MAIL AND PLEASE DELETE THIS MESSAGE AND ANY COPIES THEREOF. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

\*\*\*\*\*  
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**From:** [Michael Levine](#)  
**To:** [JDL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** On the nomination of Michael Wilson to be a judge on the Supreme Court of Hawaii  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 04, 2014 4:43:27 PM

---

To the Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I write to urge the Committee to approve the nomination of Michael Wilson to be a judge on the Supreme Court of Hawaii. I have known Michael for more than 30 years--from the day I first arrived in Hawaii as its first Federal Public Defender. I held that position from 1982-1990. During those wonderful years and up until the present day, I have been impressed by the breadth of Michael's intellect, by his dedication to the law, and by his tireless passion for justice. I am convinced that Michael Wilson will make a superb justice on the Supreme Court of Hawaii.

Please do not hesitate to write or call if I can be of further assistance.

Very truly yours,

Michael R. Levine

Michael R. Levine

LEVINE & MCHENRY  
1001 S.W. Fifth Avenue, Suite 1414  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
Phone: 503-546-3927  
[www.levinemchenry.com](http://www.levinemchenry.com)

e-mail: [michael@levinemchenry.com](mailto:michael@levinemchenry.com)  
Admitted in Oregon , California, and Hawaii  
Author "171 Easy Mitigating Factors"  
Super Lawyer 2006-2012  
Best Lawyers in America 2014

Douglas S. Chin  
2423 Lana'i Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

VIA E-MAIL (JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair  
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

March 4, 2014

Subject: **Hon. Michael D. Wilson – Associate Justice Nominee**

Aloha, Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Senators:

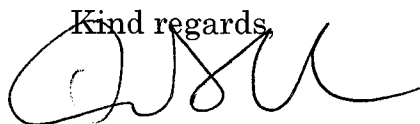
I write in support of Judge Michael D. Wilson's nomination as an Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

I am currently a partner at Carlsmith Ball LLP in Honolulu. Prior to this, I was a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu from 1998-2004 and its First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney from 2006 through 2010. As a trial prosecutor, I appeared before Judge Wilson on multiple occasions. As memory serves me, when Judge Wilson was first appointed to the bench, I was the prosecutor in his very first jury trial, and I conducted several jury trials in his courtroom.

Judge Wilson's greatest strengths are his pleasant and neutral demeanor coupled with a commitment to fairness. You always knew you would get a fair shake and consideration from Judge Wilson no matter which side you were on. It was obvious that he always did his homework thoroughly and he was prepared to handle every issue before him no matter its level of difficulty or controversy. Aside from trials, I am impressed with his commitment to specialty courts such as Mental Health and Drug Court, and his prior experience in the state department of natural resources as its director.

I am delighted to recommend Judge Wilson. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,



Doug Chin

Testimony to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
on GM 580,  
Nomination of Michael D. Wilson to the Hawai'i Supreme Court  
March 6, 2014 10:00am

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee,

I am testifying in support of Michael Wilson's nomination to the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

I first met Mike Wilson in 1987 when we both became deeply involved in the Save Sandy Beach Initiative. For five years we worked closely and determinedly to ensure that the overwhelming mandate voters gave in 1988 for open space along the Ka Iwi Coast would be honored.

In 1987 when dozens of people were subpoenaed for having signed the Save Sandy Beach Initiative petition, our group approached major law firms in Honolulu asking for pro bono assistance in defending their right to petition their government. None of the firms offered assistance, so Mike took up the petitioners' defense in court and the subpoenas were quashed. As time went by, I came to view this episode as typical of Mike's willingness to stand up for people who need assistance.

After the Sandy Beach campaign Mike went on to serve as Chairman of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, as State Consumer Advocate, and as a Circuit Court Judge. I was not surprised that such confidence and faith in Mike's abilities were honored with these posts, because I know how dedicated Mike is to Hawai'i and its people. Mike is one of Hawai'i's outstanding public servants.

Mike is honest, ethical, fair, compassionate, respectful of others and their opinions, and unafraid to tackle difficult issues. He has the temperament, values and experience of someone we would want to serve all of Hawai'i's people on the Supreme Court.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Phil Estermann  
967 Wainiha Street  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
227-9390

March 4, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Shimabukaro, Vice Chair

**In support of Michael D. Wilson for Supreme Court Justice**

Honorable Senators Hee and Shimabukaro, and Members of the Justice and Labor Committee:

My association with Michael D. Wilson began in Brook Hart's office in the 1970s. I was there as Chair of the ad hoc Committee for Kawainui on behalf of the Lani-Kailua branch of The Outdoor Circle. We were striving to protect Kailua's Kawainui Marsh from both the City and County of Honolulu's proposed "active park" plan for the whole marshland, and from Dillingham's proposed "death- by-shopping center" planned for Kawainui's mauka 250 acres (along the Pali Highway). We had learned from a dependable informant that the Department of Public Works actually wanted to use the wetlands for a presumed twenty-five to fifty-year span for Honolulu garbage, or until the crater was filled. Their dishonest "park" proposal was less than honest. If ever, it could not occur until decades after the stench dissipated and Kailua was a depopulated ghost town. We sought pro bono advice on how to deal with Honolulu's Department of Public Works' employees who confronted us with caustic attitudes and a lot of lip. Brooke introduced us to Mike. It was refreshing to hear Mike's intelligent questions and his courteous demeanor, in marked contrast to City bureaucrats. In turn, he became intrigued by our growing Kailua citizen efforts to protect 250 of Kawainui's mauka acres, former location of the 450 acre fishpond. Kailua wanted no shopping center, either. His advice was sterling, as neither of those plans came to fruition.

Like most of Hawai'i's offspring in those days, Mike knew little of Hawaiian culture: the heritage of the indigenous culture carried little weight within any level of government, save for the Kamehameha Day parade, the hula and Hawaiian music. Our citizen groups had already found the Constitution of our State, so recently written, was full of protective language for native rights of access for worship, plant gathering, fishing grounds and other traditions. Indeed, one of the first Hawaiian organizations to identify with our ad hoc Committee for Kawainui was the Wai`anae Hawaiian Civic Club, soon followed by Queen Emma Hawaiian Civic Club and the Congress of the Hawaiian People, all three located on O`ahu's leeward side. Every branch office of the Outdoor Circle was supporting our effort, in addition to its mother organization. The environmental community was quick to follow: Sierra Club and Life of the Land.

Mike's involvement with our Hawaiian/environmental ad hoc Committee whetted his interest in our claim that Hawaiians had written their history on the land, with Hawaiian names of navigators and chiefs, gods and goddesses, other heroes, and in the wealth of literature of their own scribes, such as Kamakau and Malo. Intrigued, his advice was always pragmatic, helpful and supportive.

Our Kawainui work may have inspired him to become more involved in land issues of cultural consequence as the Hawaiian renaissance grew. He became a leader at Sandy Beach in Hawai`i Kai as well as at Kawainui. When Councilwoman Marilyn Bornhorst suggested formation of a Hawai`i version of Thousand Friends of Oregon (led by Portland attorney Henry Richmond), he became a founding member, sharing our belief that unique Island resources

merit informed environmental and cultural support, while seeking agreement between government and governed, especially on land use issues. Time has proven he was right.

As an attorney, he promulgated legal means for justice on behalf of weak and downtrodden people, exalting the heart of law, as well as its force, on behalf of a free people. We appreciated his considerable legal intelligence, used for the benefit of men and women seeking legal representation (often pro bono) during his workday, and hours more given to the efforts of citizen groups for places called "home." He has encouraged Hawaii's commitment to its Constitution on land and water issues and, in his work as a District Court Judge, he has shared his splendidly informed experience and sound judgement, leading the Governor to make this nomination as Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. I, along with a legion of his admirers, urge your strong support, and approval. Mike loves the law, our fragile lands, and our rainbow of cultures. He will serve Hawai'i well. Mahalo!

Me ka ha`aha`a,  
Muriel B. Seto

March 4<sup>th</sup> 2014

To the honorable Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Re: Support for consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee MICHAEL D. WILSON, for a term to expire in ten years.

I write this testimony on behalf of Michael D Wilson. My intention of this testimony is to express my support for Michael D Wilson as an Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Laka Preis Carpenter  
P.O Box 12040  
Honolulu, HI 96828

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laka Preis Carpenter', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patricia A. Lee  
94-429 Lanikuhana Place, #1106  
Mililani, Hawai'i 96789  
Phone: (808) 330-0153

March 3, 2014

Honorable Chair Clayton Hee and Members of the Committee,

Re: Recommendation for Michael D. Wilson for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court

I have known Michael D. Wilson for fourteen (14) years. I was his Judicial Assistant for his first ten (10) year term as Judge of the First Circuit Court, 6<sup>th</sup> Division. During those years I got to know him very well.

Judge Wilson treated his staff, attorneys and defendants with respect and was respected in turn.

Judge Wilson has a deep passion for the land and people of our State as evidenced through his work with the Save Sandy Beach Coalition and work with disadvantaged youth through Angel Tree and Na Kama Kai.

I believe that Judge Wilson has the judicial temperament for Supreme Court.

Aloha,

Patricia A. Lee



Testimony of Okechukwu Amadi  
to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

March 4, 2014

**RE: GM 580 - CONFIRMATION OF GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE MICHAEL D. WILSON AS ASSOCIATE JUSTICE TO THE HAWAII SUPREME COURT**

Senator Hee, Senator Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

I write in support of the confirmation of MICHAEL D. WILSON as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I had the honor of serving as Judge Michael D. Wilson's judicial law clerk and bailiff from October 2005 to September 2006. Currently, I have the privilege of appearing before his court as a Deputy Public Defender for the State of Hawaii. It is from these two perspectives that I write this testimony in support of Judge Michael D. Wilson's confirmation.

Judge Wilson makes legal rulings and decisions based on research and careful analysis of case law. When necessary, he is not afraid to seek out advice from fellow judges as part of his decision-making process. He makes tough decisions and stands behind his rulings. He demonstrates compassion and understanding for victims and the accused.

Judge Wilson treats everyone in his courtroom with dignity and respect. There is no greater example of this than his service as the presiding judge of the State's Mental Health Court. He is patient and attentive as he listens to defendants with mental health issues address the court during hearings. He is genuinely concerned about their welfare, legal rights, and mental health treatment.

Judge Wilson possesses good judicial temperament. He is fair and balanced in his treatment of prosecuting and defense attorneys. He does not belittle attorneys. He does not presume that defendants appearing before him are guilty of the crime for which they are accused. He understands with all the power which comes with being a judge, there is a tremendous responsibility to exercise it properly. He understands every ruling and decision he makes has a great impact on the lives of victims, the accused, our community, and our State.

Judge Wilson is more than capable of handling the responsibility of being an Associate Justice to the Hawaii State Supreme Court.

I support Judge Michael D. Wilson's confirmation and ask the same of our Legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important confirmation.

From: [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
To: [JDLTestimony](#)  
Cc: [michaelreilly000@gmail.com](mailto:michaelreilly000@gmail.com)  
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM580 on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM  
Date: Tuesday, March 04, 2014 10:16:37 PM

---

### **GM580**

Submitted on: 3/4/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Reilly	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am very honored to write a testimony on behalf of the appointment of Judge Wilson as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court. As an Intern I have only had the opportunity to work at Mental Health court for a short period of six months. During that time I have been inspired by Judge Wilson's intelligence, compassion, wisdom, openness and commitment to service and excellence. Judge Wilson presides over the courtroom in a manner that not only expresses authority but a blend of humility. I have been impressed by the way he respects the opinions of the entire treatment team while discussing cases and forming a course for the best possible outcome. He always appears to be open to an idea that may help improve a client's growth and well being. Judge Wilson is a tremendously gifted Judge with a deep passion for facilitating and exploring human potential. His empathy, interest, positivity and enthusiasm provide an important dialectical counterpoint to his clients' disillusionment when they are experiencing difficulty. He has provided faith and support to a population that does not usually receive support in the community. I have seen Judge Wilson believe in clients at times when they have temporarily lost faith in themselves. In response to Judge Wilson's support and openness to work with them and hear their concerns, the people he presides over respond with their loyalty and a newfound interest in bettering themselves. Judge Wilson has given people second chances, his warmth and attunement to the phenomenology of his clients provide them a rare opportunity to find hope and discover their potential. I believe he has often seen these second chances rewarded with the client's renewed effort and progress in complying with the terms and conditions of their probation. I have also seen Judge Wilson enact consequences, it is my opinion that he does this not in terms of retribution for what they have done, but in terms of rehabilitation. Often the client's understand Judge Wilson's intentions and accept these consequences as a fair and just repercussion. This is because they know the type of man that Judge Wilson is. Judge Wilson is the patriarchal figure of Mental Health Court and his presence will be deeply missed by all parties involved. However, it also would come with great satisfaction knowing that a man of such high esteem is holding one of the foremost Judiciary offices in the State of Hawaii. I do not know much about Judge Wilson's political beliefs, but I have seen the type of man he is, and as a citizen of the state of Hawaii I would be honored to know that such a man was defending our constitutional rights and promoting justice, fairness and well being

to the people our government serves.

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**TESTIMONY BY**  
T. 'AULANI WILHELM

**IN SUPPORT OF GM 580**  
**APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL D. WILSON**  
**AS AN ASSOCIATE JUSTICE TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I**  
**FOR A TERM OF TEN YEARS**

**BEFORE THE**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR**

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

**March 6, 2014**

Aloha Chairman Hee and members of the Committee. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in strong **support** of Governor Abercrombie's nomination of JUDGE MICHAEL D. WILSON to serve as an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai'i.

I have known Judge Wilson for 19 years. He hired me as the Public Information Officer for the Department of Land and Natural Resources when he served as Director of the department and Chairperson of the State Land Board. In both these capacities and others I have witnessed since, Judge Wilson has consistently demonstrated the professional qualifications, strong ethical character, appropriate disposition, and discernment necessary to make an outstanding Associate Justice for the people of Hawai'i.

Like few other people I know, Judge Wilson possesses extraordinary thoughtfulness and ability to comprehend and synthesize information across a broad spectrum of disciplines. He is able to bring them together skillfully and intelligently for quality decision-making. He has keen observation and analytical abilities and treats people fairly and with objectivity. He also deeply understands and values public service and is deeply committed to Hawai'i and her people.

In summary, I believe Judge Wilson is an outstanding choice for this critical judicial position. He possesses the record of service, the credentials, the values and the strong character required to be an exceptional Supreme Court Justice. As he has done throughout his career, I have no doubt he will serve our State honorably.

Without reservation, I support JUDGE MICHAEL D. WILSON to serve as an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai'i. Mahalo for the consideration of my thoughts.

Submitted by: T. 'Aulani Wilhelm (online)

**Denise Antolini**  
59-463 Alapi‘o Road Pūpūkea, O‘ahu 96712  
(808) 554-7215 antolinid@gmail.com

**Hearing on GM580 – Confirmation of  
Associate Justice to the Hawai‘i Supreme Court  
Michael D. Wilson**  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing: Mar. 6, 2014, 10:00 am Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members:

I am testifying in my capacity as a private citizen and member of Hawai‘i’s legal community.

I am honored to write in strong support of the confirmation of Circuit Court Judge Michael D. Wilson as Associate Justice of the Hawai‘i Supreme Court. Mike’s unwavering personal and professional commitment to public service throughout his career provides him an exemplary background to be an excellent Supreme Court Justice. His genuine passion for fairness and justice -- in his private practice years, extensive community work, and years on the bench – will allow him to contribute actively to our Court’s already outstanding tradition of leading jurisprudence in many key areas of law.

I have known Mike for twenty-five years as a friend and a colleague. When I arrived in Hawai‘i in 1990 to work in the field of public interest environmental law, Mike was one of the first people I met in the legal community, and his leadership and courageous engagement in social and environmental issues was both admirable and inspirational to my own career and dedication to public service.

Over the years, I have watched and appreciated Mike’s service to our state at many levels, including as an attorney working to protect the rights of employees, as Director of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, and as a Circuit Court Judge with very challenging cases. In each setting, Mike has both honored the law and effectively strengthened the core values that make Hawai‘i Hawai‘i – individual rights, social justice, Native Hawaiian rights, and environmental protection. Even though he could have chosen a much more lucrative or self-interested career pathway, Mike has spent enormous time and energy throughout his life “giving back” to his community and offering his talents for state leadership positions that are neither easy nor without powerful critics.

Throughout the years, when we have had the opportunity to catch up on current policy issues and our careers, I am always been impressed by Mike’s optimism, energy, innovative yet balanced approaches to law and policy, his careful adherence to the role (and rule) of law as a stable source of social governance, and his unrelenting passion for making Hawai‘i a better community -- for everyone, particularly those less fortunate and empowered in our society. Mike has the vision, intelligence, and compassion to be a very fine Associate Justice.

I hope you will support his confirmation to the Hawai‘i Supreme Court.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [stupidjak@hotmail.com](mailto:stupidjak@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM580 on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 05, 2014 12:03:06 AM

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**GM580**

Submitted on: 3/5/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jesse Owens	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Governor Abercrombie's nomination of Mike Wilson to the State Supreme Court is a wise choice. He has given so much to this community. He has demonstrated incredible character. He is highly experienced. I urge the Senate to confirm him. - Jesse Owens, Kakaako, Oahu

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To: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Fawn Jade Koopman, Esq.

Date: March 4, 2014

Re: Testimony in support of the confirmation of Hon. Michael D. Wilson as Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court, for a term to expire in ten years

Chair, Vice Chair, and other Distinguished Members of the Senate  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Michael D. Wilson as an Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. I am a staff attorney at the Domestic Violence Action Center, and I recently served as a law clerk to Judge Wilson from 2012 to 2013. I had the privilege of witnessing his commitment to justice and to our community. I have no doubt Judge Wilson is qualified to serve as Associate Justice.

I also believe he will be thoughtful and effective in his duties on the bench. During my time clerking for Judge Wilson I was impressed by his genuine interest and dedication to every defendant in his courtroom. He truly cared whether or not they were heading down a path of success or failure. Judge Wilson never hesitated to creatively implement a safety net for an at-risk individual. He was able to listen, to learn, and to always apply a just remedy. His incredible patience and sincerity in a criminal courtroom will carry over well to his duties at the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

It is also no coincidence many of Judge Wilson's law clerks continue onto public interest law careers. His dedication to access to justice and environmental justice is a part of what makes him a great mentor, and a fair and passionate Judge.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Fawn Jade Koopman

March 4, 2014

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Dear Sirs and Madames,

Please accept the following words in support of Judge Michael D Wilson's nomination for Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

My name is Charles Cryan, and I am a second year law student at the William S. Richardson School of Law. I had had the opportunity to work for Judge Wilson at Circuit Court during the summer of 2013 as a judicial volunteer. During that time, I was pleasantly surprised by Judge Wilson's compassion, dedication, intellect, and demeanor.

Despite his obvious intellect and quick mind, Judge Wilson possesses a remarkable ability to communicate compassionately, cordially, and simply with the general public in a way that reflects positively on the Hawaii State Judiciary.

Additionally, I was also pleasantly surprised and impressed by Judge Wilson's respect and commitment to the office. Judge Wilson is a very hard-worker, and worked diligently to prepare himself before any interactions with attorneys or the general public.

I was also continually impressed by Judge Wilson's patience with everyone he interacted with in his capacity as a judge. In particular, Judge Wilson's service as a Mental Health Court Judge is a true testament to his compassion and patience. Even when confronted with a busy and stressful calendar, Judge Wilson made a conscious effort to treat everyone with a great degree of respect and dignity. This often came as a surprise to members of the general public.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support Judge Wilson's appointment to the Hawaii Supreme Court. I can say without reservation of any kind that Judge Wilson's integrity, judicial temperament, and professional competence meet the high standards for appointment to the Supreme Court.



**Robert K. Merce**  
2467 Aha Aina Place  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96821

Phone: (808) 732-7430  
Cell: (808) 398-9594

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March 5, 2014

Judiciary and Labor Committee  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Wednesday, March 6, 2014  
Room 016  
10:00 a.m.  
GM 580  
Strongly Support

Dear Senator Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and members of the committee:

My name is Bob Merce and I am writing in support of Michael Wilson's nomination to the Hawaii Supreme Court. I have known Michael for nearly 40 years and cannot think of anyone more qualified to serve on the state's highest court.

Michael has been active in community affairs for several decades and has literally spent thousands of hours working without compensation on community issues such as education, preserving open space, and protecting the environment. He has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to a better Hawaii through grass roots community action and understands the importance and challenges of citizen participation in the democratic process better than anyone I know.

Michael will bring a wealth of experience to the court. He has been a trial lawyer in private practice handling both civil and criminal cases, an administrator at the Office of Consumer Protection, DNLR, and the Water Commission, and a judge with responsibility for criminal cases, the mental health court, and the drug court.

Michael has the character, intelligence, and temperament to be an outstanding justice. I have never heard him raise his voice or say a harsh word to anyone. He works hard, writes clear decisions, understands the role of precedent in judicial decision-making, and has a lot of common sense. He will be a passionate defender of the principles enshrined in the state constitution and will, I am sure, make sound decisions that will reflect the values and spirit of the people of Hawai'i.

Aloha and thank you for allowing me to testify.

Robert K. Merce

**Testimony in support of GM 580: Michael Wilson to the Supreme Court**  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
March 6, 2014  
Hawai'i State Legislature, Room 016

To: Honorable Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair  
Honorable Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair  
Honorable Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members

From: Amy Agbayani  
3432 B-1 Kalihi St. Honolulu, HI 96819  
amy\_agbayani@yahoo.com

My name is Amy Agbayani, I am submitting testimony as a private citizen in strong support of Michael Wilson's nomination to the Supreme Court. I have known Mr. Wilson for over three decades working together with community organizations, in my work at the University of Hawai'i, and as Chair of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission. I was a member of the Judicial Selection Commission when Mr. Wilson was nominated fourteen years ago and had the opportunity to review his qualifications and his work after his appointment as a judge.

Over the years, Mr. Wilson has demonstrated his legal competence and appropriate judicial demeanor. He has a deep appreciation of the history of our state and our future. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his dedication and fairness. I respectfully ask you to confirm his nomination to be an Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [joethielen@yahoo.com](mailto:joethielen@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM580 on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 05, 2014 7:35:55 AM

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**GM580**

Submitted on: 3/5/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
joseph thielen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I have known and worked with Michael Wilson for 30 years. We have served as co--counsel on numerous cases and I have observed him in his courtroom when he has been presiding over judicial matters. I have been a member of the California Bar since 1974. I personally know Michael Wilson to be an individual upmost honor, integrity,intelligence and deliberative judicial temperament. He truly considers all points of view when deciding a matter. He is a compassionate individual, but not afraid to make tough decisions. I believe he would make an excellent contribution to the Hawaii Supreme Court. Sincerely, Joseph Thielen

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March 4, 2014

TO: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Cindy S. Inouye

RE: Confirmation of Michael D. Wilson as Associate Justice to the  
Hawaii Supreme Court  
Hearing Date/Time: March 6, 2014, 10:00 a.m.

I am submitting this testimony in **strong support** of Michael Wilson's confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I worked with Michael for ten years (i.e., from 1986 – 1996) when I was an associate with the law firm of Pavey Wilson & Glickstein. I had just passed the bar when I began working for the firm, and I consider myself very fortunate to have had Michael as one of my early mentors.

I recall Michael as being a very intelligent, ethical and passionate attorney. He was articulate and an extremely effective advocate, with a strong sense of justice. I also recall Michael as being very civic-minded. He was involved in several community issues, which reflected his deep commitment to the people and environment of this State.

Based upon my personal knowledge of Michael, I have no hesitation in stating that he has the necessary skills, intellect and integrity to be an excellent Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court. I respectfully urge you to vote in favor of his confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dhallhi@yahoo.com](mailto:dhallhi@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM580 on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 05, 2014 8:09:55 AM

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**GM580**

Submitted on: 3/5/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David W. Hall	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I strongly support Judge Wilson's appointment to become an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court and urge the Senate to confirm his appointment. I have known Mike professionally and socially for about 37 years since he first came to work for a firm in which I was a partner. He is qualified through his professional career as a trial lawyer, Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Circuit Court Judge with some experience sitting by designation on the Hawaii Supreme Court. In addition, his education from Kailua High School through Antioch Law School, his many life interests which include Hawaiian culture and world travel, and his personal qualities of intelligence, humility, empathy, hard work and kindness make him highly qualified to fill the position left vacant by Associate Justice Acoba's retirement.

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [akwills@hawaii.edu](mailto:akwills@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM580 on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 05, 2014 8:34:48 AM

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**GM580**

Submitted on: 3/5/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 6, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aaron Wills	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have the honor with working with Judge Wilson as a volunteer and in the community with his work at Na Kama Kai. In his official capacity, Judge Wilson is a brilliant lawyer that rules with a kind heart and a steady hand. Judge Wilson has always taken the time after a long day to debrief with his volunteers and staff to talk about the lessons to be learned from each case. In addition, his work in the community has shown me his ability to be humble and work closely with children. I personally believe that Judge Wilson will be a great Supreme Court Justice because he is well rounded, born and raised in Hawaii, and has a heart for the future of Hawaii. Aloha.

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**TESTIMONY OF ROBERT TOYOFUKU IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION  
OF MICHAEL D. WILSON AS ASSOCIATE JUSTICE TO THE HAWAII STATE  
SUPREME COURT**

March 6, 2014

To: Chairman Clayton Hee and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

My name is Bob Toyofuku and I am an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Hawaii. I am testifying in strong support of Judge Michael Wilson to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, State of Hawaii.

I have known Judge Wilson for over thirty years from the time he was a practicing attorney to his current position as a judge on the First Circuit Court. I have had continuous contact with him throughout these past years both professionally and socially. I feel that his years on the bench as a trial judge has given him the needed background to be an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

He has always exhibited the highest degree of integrity and I feel that he has the respect of other judges and attorneys to do well as an Associate Justice. I have the utmost confidence that Judge Wilson will be an excellent addition to the Hawaii Supreme Court because of sense of fairness and compassion for people as well as his dedication to our system of justice.

I wholeheartedly support his nomination and urge his confirmation by this committee and the Hawaii State Senate. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

March 5, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

**Re: GM580 – Testimony in Support of Michael D. Wilson for Consideration and Confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court**

Dear Senator Hee and Senator Shimabukuro,

I am writing to support the nomination of Judge Michael D. Wilson for Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court. It is my honor and privilege to do so.

Judge Wilson is clearly an outstanding judge, mentor, and professional, but I believe that he should be viewed first as an outstanding leader.

As a judge and mentor, I appreciated the opportunity to view Judge Wilson's judicial temperament and integrity on the bench. During my tenure serving as his law clerk from August 2007 to August 2008, I was able to draw on his legal knowledge and trial experience that has helped me during my career as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney and in my current position in the private sector. What I appreciated most from Judge Wilson was the time he took to provide feedback on my legal research, bench memorandums, and trial analysis. Judge Wilson has nurtured dozens talented young attorneys during his time on the bench and I believe his elevation to the Supreme Court will only give him a greater platform to continue to impart his knowledge.

As a professional, Judge Wilson has demonstrated his commitment to public service, especially with his work around those impacted by mental illness. Established in 2005, the Mental Health Court is a specialty court that redirects offenders from jail to community-based treatment with intensive supervision to deal with public safety issues and support the recovery of defendants diagnosed with severe mental illness. In his role as judge for the Mental Health Court, I have seen Judge Wilson help with community presentations and educational seminars on the topic which reflect his compassion for those requiring psycho-social rehabilitation, psychiatric treatment, substance abuse recovery, and other individualized treatment.

I find Judge Wilson to be a wise counselor and important influence in my career and know of no one more deserving of this nomination. I ask that Judge Wilson be confirmed as Associate Justice to the Supreme Court.

Thank you,

Nam Phan



**From:** [Naia Lewis](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Submission of testimony for Michael D. Wilson  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 05, 2014 9:30:23 AM

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Aloha mai,

I am submitting the following testimony on behalf of Michael D. Wilson who the Gubernatorial Nominee under consideration for confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

My experience with Mr. Wilson is on a personal level, both as a friend and as a volunteer with Na Kama Kai—a local non-profit organization dedicated to supporting youth (especially underserved youth and Native Hawaiians) to make lifelong connections to Hawaii's natural resources—specifically, the ocean.

In my experience, Mr. Wilson not only commits his decades of experience to help communities and organizations as an advocate and consultant, he walks the talk. In a demonstrable way, since the organization's inception, Mr. Wilson has lent his time and expertise to help Na Kama Kai grow and mature as an organization. He has donated his own time at public clinics where he has humbly, and anonymously, worked side-by-side with all the other volunteers. He has also given of his time directly to youth in crisis by bringing them to clinics and following up with their extended families; he has committed himself to providing them with a wide variety of positive role models and encouraged them to strive for their best.

In terms of Mr. Wilson's professional track record, I have no doubt that it speaks for itself. As he has been a public figure (or a known quantity) for many years his accomplishments and mistakes need not be recounted by me as proof of his worthiness for Supreme Court Justice. My intent is to bring attention to who Mr. Wilson is as a person, in his private capacity, as my bar for success is whether or not one lives their lives as a whole (both privately and publically) by the same values. In my experience Mr. Wilson lives the values he speaks about and it is this level of continuity between what one says and does that is essential to the position he is being considered for.

As such it is my sincere hope that any challenge made to his nomination is weighed carefully against the quality of the person—of who Michael D. Wilson is as a man and community member—and not the private agendas or political whims of individuals.

Me Ka ha'aha'a  
Nai'a-Ulumaimalu Lewis

=====  
385 A Haleloa Place  
Honolulu, HI 96821  
808-436-3884

Mar 5, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Oahu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Hee,

I urge you to support Senate Bill 2264. This bill will help family caregivers in Hawaii when their loved ones go into the hospital. The bill will allow for caregivers to receive instruction on how to provide necessary care at home after their loved one is discharged from the hospital. It will also give patients the opportunity to designate a caregiver at the time of their admission to the hospital.

The CAPE Act will have the two-pronged effect of supporting family caregivers and keeping health care costs in check. It enables caregivers to support their loved ones at home and discourages costly and unnecessary hospital readmissions. According to a report by Kaiser Health News in 2013, 71 percent of Hawaii hospitals were penalized by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for excessive hospital readmissions.

Hawaii's 247,000 family caregivers, and the seniors they help live independently at home, are counting on your support. Please vote YES on Senate Bill 2264.

Sincerely,

Mr. Frank Tanner  
47-149 Hui On Pl  
Kaneohe, HI 96744-6573

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

**GM 580**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as  
Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, MICHAEL D. WILSON,  
for a term to expire in ten years.

March 6, 2014

**TESTIMONY OF  
BRIAN KANNO**

Chair Clayton Hee and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Michael D. Wilson to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I have known him for 25 years. I have observed him and the work he has accomplished in a number of different roles. He is exactly the kind of person that you would want on the Hawaii Supreme Court. He is smart, hard-working and compassionate. I have the utmost respect for him.

For the past five years, I have worked as a case manager for the severely mentally ill. I have been in his courtroom and am fortunate to have seen him in action and what kind of a judge he is. The individuals who appear before him in Mental Health Court have faced numerous challenges in life and, in particular, in the criminal justice system. He treats each and every one of them with respect. He asks them questions and then he listens. He really listens. He works hard to help each and every person who appears before him. For those who have been given the run around in the system, his approach is refreshing and very much appreciated.

When he walks into the courtroom, he is positive, upbeat and full of hope. He shares that hope with each person who appears before him. I get the strong sense that he really loves what he does. His "tough love" approach is fair and holds people accountable. This is exactly what is needed. Mental Health Court has been fortunate to have him leading the charge.

Serving on the Hawaii Supreme Court is a tremendous responsibility. I firmly believe that Judge Wilson offers what is needed. I strongly urge you to support his nomination.

Mahalo.

Douglas A. Crosier  
Attorney at Law  
P.O. Box 521  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

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By Facsimile (808) 586-7334

March 5, 2014

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee  
Chairperson  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Room 407, State Capital  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: In support of Gubernatorial Nominee  
Michael D. Wilson for confirmation as  
Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of  
Hawaii

Dear Senator Hee and Committee Senators:

I humbly request for your favorable consideration and your confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Michael D. Wilson for the judicial office of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Hawaii.

I have known Judge Michael D. Wilson both personally and professionally for over thirty (30) years and I am well acquainted and familiar with his qualifications and character.

Judge Wilson, throughout his life both as an attorney and subsequently as a Circuit Court Judge of the First Circuit of the State of Hawaii, has unquestionably demonstrated his legal acumen of the substantive and procedural law in a variety of different and diverse areas of the law. His competence as an attorney and judge is beyond reproach and highly respected as can be attested by countless members of the Hawaii State Bar and community members of the public.

However, more importantly, in my humble opinion, is Judge Wilson's personal and professional qualities of honesty and integrity, and his unflinching duty to serve the public's interest above all regardless of how controversial the issue or subject matter may be perceived and regardless of the degree of influence and pressure that may be exerted upon him by powerful forces of special interest and parties.

For example, in the past before his judgeship and as an attorney, Judge Wilson has been in the forefront of sensitive and sometimes controversial environmental issues. As with his pivotal involvement in the "Save Sandy Beach" issue and his strong and guiding leadership as the department head of the State of Hawaii Office of Land and Natural Resources under the administration of the then Governor Benjamin J. Cayetano, then citizen-attorney Michael Wilson made contributions resulting in the permanent furtherance, implementation, and preservation of matters of vital public interest and concern that have positively affected, changed and ultimately enhanced Hawaii's environment to this very day. Truly, very few people have devoted so much for so long to the public good as Michael Wilson, the person, the attorney, and now judge, has done all of his life.

With the appointment of Judge Michael D. Wilson as Associate Justice, there is no doubt that Hawaii has before it the opportunity for a future that holds promise for a way of life served by justice and a commitment to the improvement of the personal lives of people and interests of the community at large for generations to come.

I humbly request that you confirm Gubernatorial Nominee Judge Michael D. Wilson for Senate approval and appointment for the office of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Hawaii.

Very truly yours,



Douglas A. Crosier

Kailua, March 4, 2014

State Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee  
Clayton Hee, Chairman  
State Capitol, room 407  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE: Confirmation of the Hon. Michael Wilson as Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court**

Dear Chairman Hee and Members of the Committee,

I speak in favor of confirming Michael Wilson as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I have known Mike Wilson for more than 25 years. We got to know each other mostly through our common involvement in efforts to protect some of our most important natural resources from inappropriate development. Those important natural resources have included, among others, Kawainui Marsh, Mount Olomana, and the Sandy Beach coastline. Mike is very conscious of our role as stewards of our lands and of our responsibility as stewards to preserve and pass on our patrimony to future generations in the best possible shape.

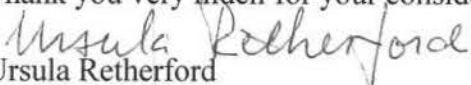
In the course of our mutual involvement to preserve the Sandy Beach coastline in open space, I had numerous occasions to observe Mike Wilson's legal reasoning and skills. He was a very effective spokesperson for our coalition in legal matters. One occasion that still stands out in my mind was his eloquent defense of the first amendment right that had been breached when a number of citizens were subpoenaed for having signed the Sandy Beach Initiative petition. Mike was the only attorney who stepped forward to defend the first amendment right of these citizens on a pro bono basis. He argued the case before then Circuit Court Judge Simeon Acoba. Judge Acoba quashed the subpoenas.

Mike has very high ideals as well as very high ethical and moral standards. He is a clear thinker and possesses a fine combination of an incisive legal mind and a kind and compassionate heart. He combines mental toughness with a high sense of fairness and justice.

Mike is also very charitable in his assessment of others. He has high respect for the human dignity of everyone, friend and foe alike. He possesses a rather rare purity of soul, and in my judgment he cannot be corrupted. These are qualities that I think we should all value highly.

I greatly admired the late Supreme Court Justice Ed Nakamura. I see in Michael Wilson some of the same admirable qualities possessed by Justice Nakamura. I am sure that Michael Wilson, if confirmed, will uphold the legal rights of all citizens in a fair and judicious manner, and I respectfully urge you to confirm him as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Thank you very much for your consideration of my testimony.

  
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