

JC3



Lincoln S.T. Ashida
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Katherine A. Garson
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Counsel*

COUNTY OF HAWAII
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April 23, 2014

Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairman Hee, Vice Chairperson Shimabukuro, and Committee Members:

RE: JC3- Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawaii, Judicial Nominee Henry T. Nakamoto, for a term of six years

Please accept this testimony in strong support of the confirmation of Henry T. Nakamoto to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit. I have known Henry for over 20 years both professionally and socially, and can attest to the qualities he possesses that will serve him well on the bench.

Henry serves as attorney for my father and his closely held family business on the Big Island. Our family relies heavily on Henry's legal expertise in business matters, and his calm demeanor in dealing with my father. Henry is a great listener. He takes in what others say, and thinks very carefully before he speaks. It is this cautious yet kind manner that has earned him the respect among his legal peers on the Big Island.

Socially, Henry always greets you with a smile, and "gives you the time of day." You can never tell if he is having a bad day, and makes you feel your interaction with him is the most important. These are just some of the qualities that will make Henry an excellent judge.

Based on the foregoing, I humbly and unqualifiedly recommend the confirmation of Henry T. Nakamoto as District Family Judge of the Third Circuit. Henry possesses all of the professional and human qualities most desirable in members of our Judiciary.

Very truly yours,

LINCOLN S. T. ASHIDA
Corporation Counsel

From: [Lloyd X VandeCar](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Henry T. Nakamoto
Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 3:02:07 PM

Senator Hee and members of the committee:

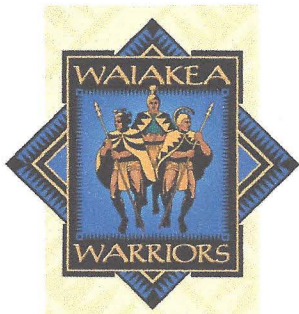
I am writing in support of Henry Nakamoto's judicial nomination. I had hoped to attend the hearing but have a heavy workload on April 28th.

I have worked with Henry for the 25 years he has been practicing law here in Hilo. Initially as opposing counsel in the cases we had against one another, and, for the last six plus years, as a judge presiding in cases he has handled in the Family Court. Henry is a very good lawyer in the ways that matter most to his clients and to this community. He is skilled. His work is complete and well thought out. Henry is able to identify what is important in a case and not waste his client's time or money with things that can be done but do not need to be done. And Henry has earned the respect and trust of the bar and the courts to the point that the posturing and positioning that so often occurs between opposing attorneys and between attorneys and the court occurs far less often in his cases. Finally, Henry is approachable and considerate to everyone, and is able to do that without scarifying his effectiveness as an advocate.

This is a strong recommendation, and it is meant to be. Henry was born and raised in Hilo, and it does not hurt that he is young enough to serve for some time to come. Continuity and community commitment are especially important in the Family Court. The judiciary and this community have an opportunity with Henry Nakamoto.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide my thoughts.

Lloyd Van De Car



WAIĀKEA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION EIN 20-1282904

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Donna Tanabe

April 23, 2014

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 407
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

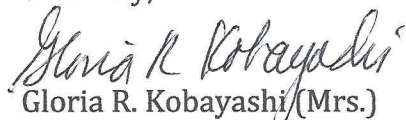
Dear Honorable Senator Hee:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Henry T. Nakamoto, who is a nominee for Family Court judge on the Big Island. Henry is president of the Waiakea High School Foundation, an organization he helped establish to support the academic efforts of the school in October 2004. He drafted the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws at no charge to the organization. During his leadership period, the Foundation has raised over \$80,000.00 for Waiakea High School. It has provided funding for the school's smaller learning communities and this year helped to continue the school's new AVID program. Through his efforts, the Foundation has become a vital part of Waiakea High School's success.

Henry's temperament is extremely cordial, friendly and positive. He is always open to new ideas and requests for help. His experience with other community groups has made him a valuable source of information about who to go to for additional help. On a personal basis, I trust his judgment, value his opinion and am very satisfied with the legal work he has provided for my family.

It is indeed an honor to write this letter on his behalf.

Sincerely,



Gloria R. Kobayashi (Mrs.)
Secretary/Treasurer
Waiakea High School Foundation



Barry K. Taniguchi
50 E. Puainako Street, Hilo Hawai'i 96720
Phone (808) 959-2817, Fax (808) 959-8050
E-mail: barry_taniguchi@ktasuperstores.com

April 24, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair and
Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee
Hawaii State Senate
Via email senhee@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senator Hee and members of the Judiciary Committee,

We are submitting our support of **Henry T. Nakamoto** for Third Circuit District Family Court judgeship for a term of 6 years.

Henry has been a partner in the Hilo law firm of Nakamoto, Okamoto and Yamamoto since 1996 after joining them in 1992 as an associate. Prior to that, he was an associate with the Honolulu law firm of Goodsill, Anderson, Quinn and Stifell from 1989 to 1991, after graduating from the University of California Hastings College of the Law in 1989.

Henry specializes in family law, real estate law and estate planning services. He has served as a custody evaluator, guardian ad litem, special master for the Third Circuit Family Court, and as an arbitrator for the Court Annexed Arbitration Program. His extensive experience in family law and as a guardian ad litem and arbitrator will serve him well as a Family Court judge.

He serves our community well and is committed to its improvement. He served as president of the Hawaii County Bar Association and currently serves as a parent member of Waiakea Intermediate School's Community Council. He also serves as president of the Waiakea High School Foundation for nearly ten years.

I have known Henry for over 10 years and believe he brings a unique perspective with strength and balance in judicial issues. He is very well qualified and has always been fair in his decisions. He has earned the respect among colleagues and clients through his actions, decisions and deeds.

I believe Henry will be strong and fair as a judge for the Third Circuit District Family Court and hope you will give him the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry K. Taniguchi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Barry" and last name "Taniguchi" clearly distinguishable.

Barry K. Taniguchi
Chairman and CEO

April 25, 2014

Via email JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Chair Clayton Hee and Members of the
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: JC 3
Nomination of Henry T. Nakamoto

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I highly recommend Henry Nakamoto for appointment as a Judge for the District Family Court, State of Hawaii.

I have known Henry for over 20 years.

His intellect and quest to learn are at the highest levels. It is clear that he has the ability to keenly and quickly analyze legal problems and clearly articulate the issues and applicable legal standards. His reasoning and conclusions have always been sound. His ability to arrive quickly at conclusions is balanced with his ability to be open and listen to differing points of view. He carefully considers other perspectives and factors them into his final conclusion.

In addition to his intellect, he has very good people skills. He is very low keyed and makes an honest attempt to make people feel comfortable. He is able to relate well and communicate effectively with individuals from all walks of life.

Finally, let me wholeheartedly endorse his overall character. He works hard, is totally honest and always is striving to be a "good" person. There is no question that he has the temperament necessary to be a fine jurist. As a judge, I have no doubt that he will always arrive at the just result. He has the character to reach that conclusion even under great pressure or scrutiny.

It is my highest recommendation that you consider Henry for appointment to the bench. He will serve the Judiciary and people of Hawaii with distinction and honor.

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to express my support.

Sincerely,



John T. Komeiji
Sr. Vice President & General Counsel



Lee Wilson, VP of Marketing
380 Kanoelehua Ave • Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Ph: 808-934-4249 • Lee.wilson@hpmhawaii.com • www.HPMHawaii.com

April 25, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee
Senate Judiciary Committee
415 S. Beretania St., Room 407
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Via email JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: Henry Nakamoto's Senate Confirmation

To whom it concerns,

I urge you to confirm Henry Nakamoto's appointment to the Family Court of the State Judiciary's Third Circuit.

I've personally known Henry for approximately ten years through our mutual involvement in our local community and schools. He is a very articulate, warm-hearted and humble man who works extremely hard to improve our community and the lives of those around him.

For the past six years Henry has gone into elementary classrooms to encourage personal finance and entrepreneurship through Junior Achievement programs. During meetings of the Waiakea Intermediate School's Community Council, Henry asks insightful questions to help the group more completely understand the school's challenges and opportunities. And Henry is a founding member and a strong advocate for the Waiakea High School foundation.

More personally, I can attest to Henry's character through my interactions with Henry at school, cub scouting and other community functions. He is a doer; first to roll up his sleeves and get the difficult work done. He's collaborative and a leader who encourages others to get engaged. Plus he's an enjoyable person to be around.

It is my firm belief that Henry Nakamoto would be a very fair and just judge, and that our Hawaii Island community will be well served with Henry on the bench.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lee Wilson".

Lee Wilson

A & A HAWAII, INC.
P. O. BOX 7448
HILO, HAWAII 96720-8945

24-Apr-14

Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairman Hee, Vice Chairperson Shimabukuro, and Committee Members:

RE: JC 3 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District
Family Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawaii, Judicial
Nominee HENRY T. NAKAMOTO, for a term of six years

I am in full support of your confirmation of Henry T. Nakamoto to the District
Family Court of the Third Circuit.

Henry's firm has provided legal services to our business for over 25 years.
I have worked personally with Henry over the past ten years. What impresses
me the most about Henry is his humility. He offers his counsel without a
"take it or leave it" attitude. He gives full consideration to questions my
non-legal mind comes up with and works with me to move toward problem
resolution. I also appreciate the fact that he answers my emails and produces
work product in a timely manner.

I highly recommend him for confirmation, even though it will mean I must
look for another attorney. Our loss will be the community's gain.

Sincerely,



Eunice A. Muramoto, CPA
Treasurer
A & A Hawaii, Inc.

NAKAMOTO, OKAMOTO & YAMAMOTO
ATTORNEYS AT LAW, A LAW CORPORATION

ROY K. NAKAMOTO
ALAN M. OKAMOTO
JEREL I. YAMAMOTO
HENRY T. NAKAMOTO

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TELEPHONE (808) 961-0641
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OF COUNSEL
CHARLES H. HITE

April 23, 2014

The Honorable Clayton Hee
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: District Court, Third Circuit – Henry T. Nakamoto

Dear Chairman Hee and the Members of Judiciary Committee:

We are writing this letter of support for our partner Henry T. Nakamoto who is seeking confirmation to the Family District Court in the Third Circuit.

Henry has been our partner and member of our firm since his return to Hilo in 1993. He has been a valued member of our firm who has headed our Family Law, Summary Possession and Collection practice.

Henry possesses the integrity, skills and traits necessary to be an effective judge. He has extensive knowledge and experience in family law. He regularly handled contested divorces involving property division and child custody for over 15 years. During that time, he also handled our summary possession and collection practice in District Court from client contact to trial. He uses common sense as well as his knowledge of the law to move cases to a conclusion. He assesses the strengths and weaknesses of his clients' position and effectively counsels his clients to work toward fair settlements or resolutions of disputed issues without losing his composure. He has skillfully dealt with difficult adversaries in both trial and negotiations. His good nature and even temperedness will be valuable if he is appointed to this position.

Henry has the basic abilities that are desirable in a trial judge: the ability to be fair to all parties and to be decisive. He also has been creative and imaginative in structuring settlements which are fair to all concerned. Henry also works well with others, whether it is with fellow attorneys, our staff or court staff.

Henry's appointment to the bench will be well received in our community. He has deep ties here. Henry grew up in Hilo and graduated from Waiakea High School. Since his return to Hilo, he volunteered his time to help with Junior Achievement presentations in classes and in the high school mock trial competitions. He also served on the Waiakea High School Foundation and the Hawaii Island Adult Care board. He has been generous with his time in bar related activities such as the Bench Bar Committee, Law Week and informational clinics in Hilo for Volunteer Legal Services of Hawaii.

The Honorable Clayton Hee
April 23, 2014
Page Two

He is a devoted father of his two boys, Timothy and Jordan who attend public schools in Hilo. He and his wife Joyce are committed to supporting their children's activities in school and in after school activities such as judo, baseball and basketball.

By confirming Henry as our next Family Court Judge, the Senate would be approving a person with a strong background in family law. While we will miss Henry if he is appointed to the bench, we believe that his confirmation would provide the Judiciary, the State and our community with an effective and fair Family Court judge. Based on the many years that we have known and worked with Henry, we think that his background, personality and experience make him an exceptional candidate for this position and we ask that you confirm his appointment to the bench. We would be more than glad to testify in support of Henry and answer any questions that the committee may have regarding him.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan M. Okamoto". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alan" being the most prominent.

Alan M. Okamoto

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerel I. Yamamoto". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jerel I. Yamamoto



Charles R. Prather, Esq.
Managing Attorney
cprather@rcolegal.com

900 Fort Street Mall, Ste. 800
Honolulu, HI 96813

phone - 808.532.0090
fax - 808.524.0092
www.rcolegal.com

April 25, 2014

Via Email

Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Confirmation of Henry T. Nakamoto, Esq.

Dear Sir or Madam:

I submit this letter in support of the confirmation of Henry T. Nakamoto, Esq. as a Judge for the District Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawaii. Mr. Nakamoto has worked extensively with our firm in the past and has proved to be an extremely talented attorney and of the highest moral character. There is no question that Mr. Nakamoto will make an excellent Judge and will be a great benefit to the State of Hawaii and its Judiciary.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the foregoing and please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Prather", written in a cursive style.

Charles R. Prather

CHONG & CHONG

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
P.O. BOX 1483
HILO, HAWAII 96721-1483

CLAYTON E. CHONG
CURTIS E. CHONG

TEL. NO.: (808) 935-5069
FAX: (808) 935-4992

April 23, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee
Senate Judiciary Committee
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 407
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Recommendation Letter for Henry Nakamoto
Family Court. Third Circuit Court

Dear Senator Alan Hee,

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Henry Nakamoto for the Family Court Judge position for the Third Circuit Court. I have known him since he first starting practicing here in Hilo. He is one of the best and finest attorneys in our community. He has dedicated himself to our profession and he has the respect of the attorneys and judges on our island. He possesses the intelligence and ability to become one of the best judges in our circuit.

Henry Nakamoto is a community leader and is dedicated to community service and the public. He understands all the people and will serve everyone honestly and fairly under the law. He will do what is best for all who come before him in his court.

Above everything else, he possesses the highest character necessary and needed for our judiciary to continue to serve properly. It is without hesitation and with great honor and privilege that I recommend Henry Nakamoto as a family court judge.

Very truly yours,

Curtis E. Chong

Curtis E. Chong

From: [Cary Honda](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Henry Nakamoto
Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 3:25:05 PM
Attachments: [Nakamoto Form JS-P-079.pdf](#)

Senator Hee,

Please find attached a copy of my reference and recommendation for Henry Nakamoto.

I feel that Mr. Nakamoto will make an excellent judge in our community. He is very experienced in family law and his biggest strengths are his level headedness and his fairness to others which I believe are the two most important attributes that a judge can have.

Please call me at (808) 933-3089 if you should have any questions regarding Mr. Nakamoto.

Very truly yours,

Cary Honda

HONDA TSUKIJI & ASSOCIATES, LLP

Email: cary@htallp.com

Website: www.hondatsukiji.com

For the latest tax news and information click here: <http://www.hondatsukiji.com/newsletters.html>

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Richard Ekimoto
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Gwenaelle Bratton
Russell H. Ando
Dan C. Oyasato
Jill M. Tsuchitori
Jennifer B. Lyons

Of Counsel:
Arlette S. Harada

April 24, 2014

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Judiciary Committee
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Henry T. Nakamoto, Esq.

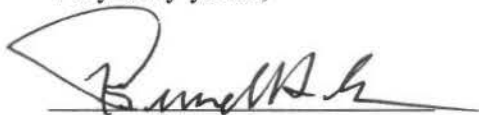
Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am an attorney in Honolulu and have been a member of the Hawaii State Bar Association since 1980. I am submitting this letter to support the nomination of Henry T. Nakamoto, Esq. to the District Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawaii.

I have known Mr. Nakamoto for many years, both professionally and personally. I know him to be an accomplished attorney with many years of experience in private practice, both in Honolulu and on the Big Island. Over the years, he has distinguished himself in the practice of law and has become a leader in the Big Island legal community. He is also a recognized leader in the Big Island community at large and has committed countless hours to community service. He is a man of high integrity and has the right temperament to serve on the bench. He has the legal ability, intelligence, experience, and personal qualities to serve with distinction for many years.

For these reasons, I fully support his nomination.

Very truly yours,



RUSSELL H. ANDO

cc: Henry T. Nakamoto, Esq.

LEONG KUNIHIRO LEZY & BENTON

Attorneys at Law – A Law Corporation
1212 Davies Pacific Center
841 Bishop Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

*Scott G. Leong
Gary N. Kunihiro
Normand R. Lezy
Shawn L.M. Benton
Paul A. Brooke*

*Telephone No.: (808) 524-7575
Facsimile No.: (808) 524-7878*

Linda Zichittella Leong (1948-2004)

April 23, 2014

VIA HAND-DELIVERY

The Honorable Clayton Hee
Hawaii State Senate
Chairman, Committee On Judiciary and Labor
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: The Nomination of Henry T. Nakamoto to the District Family Court
of the Third Circuit**

Dear Senator Hee:

I am writing in support of Henry T. Nakamoto as a District Family Court Judge for the Third Circuit, State of Hawaii. I have known Mr. Nakamoto for more twenty years, first as a summer associate at Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel (“Goodsill”), then as an associate attorney with Goodsill. At that time I was a senior associate and then a partner at Goodsill. During those years, Mr. Nakamoto and I became close friends. In addition to working together, we played in the lawyers’ softball and basketball leagues and City softball and basketball leagues.

After Mr. Nakamoto returned to Hilo to practice law with his father, we continued to keep in touch, having lunch in Hilo whenever our schedules allowed, and taking family vacations together. I have observed Mr. Nakamoto develop from a summer associate, to a first-year associate attorney, to a mid-level associate, to Grand Jury Counsel, to a partner of his present firm, and now on the threshold of becoming a district judge. Knowing Mr. Nakamoto as well as I do, I could not think of a better lawyer or person to be nominated to the bench.

I believe Mr. Nakamoto’s work ethic, outstanding legal abilities and professionalism make him particularly suited for the position of District Family Court Judge. I believe his familiarity with the area of law having represented many clients in the family law area, his excellent temperament in dealing with difficult clients, opposing

parties, and other legal counsel, his experience as Grand Jury Counsel, and his life-long ties to the Big Island community, make him particularly well-suited to be a District Family Court Judge in the Third Circuit.

As a family law practitioner having dealt with divorce, paternity, TRO's, child support, child protective services, and adoption cases, Mr. Nakamoto will be able to "hit the ground running." His only learning curve will be to gain knowledge of the inner workings of the court and that should be seamless and effortless. He will be able to readily grasp the legal issues and arguments, the law, and make the definitive rulings to keep the cases proceeding to trial or settlement.

His years in the private practice of law have trained him to be an advocate, such that in his new role as an impartial judge, he will be able to readily evaluate the arguments, weigh both sides of an issue, and make a well-reasoned and impartial decision. He will also bring to the bench his experience in the civil litigation area of practice including his work for plaintiffs and defendants, pretrial discovery, trials, and as an arbitrator in the Court Annexed Arbitration Program.

But, perhaps Mr. Nakamoto's best attribute for the position of District Family Court Judge, is that he is fair. Over the twenty years I have known him, he has never played "favorites," taken short-cuts, taken advantage of a person or situation, or said an unkind word to or about someone. In my mind, his penchant for being fair, rational and unbiased, his personality, his personal and family values, and his life experiences will allow him to bring a fresh perspective to the District Family Court; one that will benefit the Judiciary, the court staff, and the litigants.

Mr. Nakamoto has also contributed to the Hilo community by being a member of the Lehua Jaycees, the president of the Waiakea High School Foundation since its conception in 2004, and as a parent member of the School Community Council at Waiakea Intermediate School. Hopefully, he will be able to continue his community contributions as a judge.

I believe Mr. Nakamoto would be an excellent District Family Court Judge. I wholeheartedly and without reservation support his nomination to the bench and trust that the Senate Committee On Judiciary and Labor will come to appreciate all the things I have stated and will approve his nomination for consideration by the entire Senate.

Senator Clayton Hee

Re: The Nominatio of Henry T. Nakamoto to the District Court Bench

April 23, 2014

Page 3

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Very truly yours,

LEONG KUNIHURO LEZY & BENTON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott G. Leong", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Scott G. Leong

SGL:ara

cc: Henry T. Nakamoto, Esq.

RUSH MOORE LLP

A Limited Liability Law Partnership

Attorneys at Law

Offices Honolulu and Kona

Kona Office: 81-964 Haleki'i Street, Suite A5, Kealahou, Hawaii 96750 / Tel. (808) 324-7575 / Fax (808) 324-7576

SHAWN MAILE NAKOA

Resident Partner

Email: snakoa@rmkona.com

April 24, 2014

Via e-mail: JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee and Committee Members
Hawaii State Capitol
417 S. Beretania Street, Room 407
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit,
State of Hawaii, Judicial Nominee Henry T. Nakamoto
Hearing: April 28, 2014; 2:00 p.m.

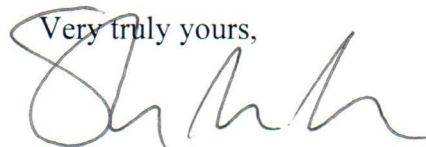
Dear Senator Hee and Committee Members:

I am a partner with the law firm of Rush Moore LLP. I have known Henry Nakamoto, Esq. for over 25 years. We initially met when we were young associates at Goodsell Anderson Quinn & Stifel. Over decades, I have observed Mr. Nakamoto's practice of law as professional and thorough. In my opinion, his compassion and approachability make him a particularly good choice for Family Court.

I fully support the confirmation of Henry Nakamoto as Judge for the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawaii and urge you and your committee to confirm him.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



SHAWN MAILE NAKOA

SMN:sjn

BICKERTON ■ LEE ■ DANG ■ SULLIVAN ■ MEHEULA

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

April 23, 2014

Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on
Judiciary and Labor

RE: Judicial Nominee Henry T. Nakamoto

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

I strongly support Henry T. Nakamoto for the District Family Court Judgeship in Hilo. I have known Henry's dad, Roy, as a fellow attorney from 1966. At that time, Roy was the best lawyer on this whole island. His son Henry is a "chip off the 'ole block". It must be good genes. He has the same tenacity and good judgment as his father. In addition, like his father, he is very well thought of by the trial bar. He is fair and decisive in dealing with his clients in the family court, and in his professional relationships with other trial counsel in Hilo. It is fortunate indeed that the Chief Justice recognized these qualities in Henry which resulted in his nomination. Please support Henry for this Judgeship.

Sincerely,



BICKERTON LEE DANG SULLIVAN & MEHEULA
Stanley H. Roehrig,
Of Counsel

SHR/jmm

CARLSMITH BALL LLP

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

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WWW.CARLSMITH.COM

DIRECT DIAL NO.
808.523.2511

TLUIKWAN@CARLSMITH.COM

OUR REFERENCE NO.:
TLK-000001

April 25, 2014

VIA E-MAIL (SENHEE@CAPITOL.HAWAII.GOV)

Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol, Room 407
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: JC3 - Confirming the Appointment of Henry T. Nakamoto to the District Court

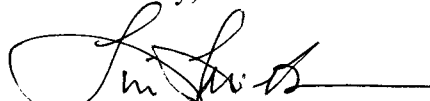
Dear Chair Hee, Vice-chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the confirmation of Chief Justice Recktenwald appointment of Henry T. Nakamoto to the District Court of the Third Circuit.

I have known Mr. Nakamoto for over 25 years and personally know that he has the character, competence, experience and temperament for this position. This is an excellent appointment that will be well received by the practicing bar.

I respectfully ask for your favorable confirmation of Henry T. Nakamoto.

Sincerely,


Tim Lui-Kwan

JON R. ONO
Attorney at Law
A Law Corporation
688 Kinoole Street, Suite 218A
Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3869
Telephone / Fax (808) 935-7268
E-mail: jonrono@hawaiiantel.net

April 25, 2014

Honorable Clayton Hee
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Legislature
State Capital, 415 Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Henry T. Nakamoto
Confirmation for District Family Court Judge, Third Judicial Circuit

Dear Chairman Hee and Members:

I have known Henry T. Nakamoto since 1992 and his father Roy since 1971. Over the years I have found Henry to be a man of high integrity and intelligence. He has a very "local" style and approach to the practice of law, almost a throw back to the old ways in Hilo. This is so refreshing to find someone as young as he is still being courteous, polite and professional in his dealings with other lawyers and people in general.

During the years that I have known Henry, we have opposed each other in a few cases. In each instance we were able to come to a settlement because we were able to discuss the issues reasonably and professionally. Henry has a compassionate side that enables him to understand both sides of the case and to do what is correct. He is the first attorney that I normally refer potential clients to for cases that I do not handle. He is also the attorney in Hilo that I refer my friends and relatives to for legal representation, including myself and my office.

He is extremely well respected in Hilo, both for his legal abilities and for his personality and behavior. Always a gentleman and a professional in court.

He is capable of making difficult legal decisions and will be able to resolve disputes well. I have the utmost confidence in him being a fine Judge and an outstanding member of the Judiciary.

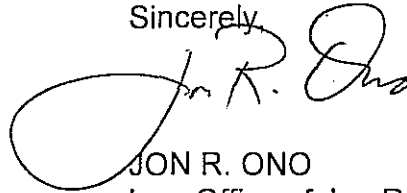
His even temperament, calm demeanor and pleasant personality will serve him well with all parties in the often volatile Family Court. He is married with children and is a very stable individual.

Honorable Clayton Hee
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Confirmation of Henry Nakamoto, District Family Court Judge
April 25, 2014
Page 2

I highly recommend that he be confirmed to the position of District Court Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit.

If you should have any questions or discussions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon R. Ono". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a distinct end.

JON R. ONO
Law Office of Jon R. Ono
Retired Hawaii County Prosecuting
Attorney

From: William.C.Bagasol@hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HENRY NAKAMOTO, DISTRICT FAMILY JUDGE, THIRD CIRCUIT COURT
Date: Friday, April 25, 2014 3:34:40 PM

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM C. BAGASOL, DEPUTY PUBLIC DEFENDER,
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

I have known Mr. Henry Nakamoto since our days at Hastings College of the Law, University of California, over 27 years ago. Also, I am a licensed attorney with over 26 years of litigation and supervisory experience with the Office of the Public Defender. I fully support Mr. Nakamoto's appointment as District Court Judge of the Third Circuit without reservation.

Mr. Nakamoto's experience as a long time civil litigator, high intelligence as well as diverse legal background will serve him and the public well on the District Court bench.

Henry is of the highest integrity and possesses excellent judicial temperament. Henry is a very warm, caring and compassionate individual.

Henry's community involvement has been well documented. As another example of heart of public service, I can attest to his recent pro bono assistance to a small church on the Big Island that desperately needed some legal assistance.

Mr. Nakamoto is, without a doubt, a perfect fit as District Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit. In this capacity, he will truly serve this State with honor and distinction.

NEWTON JOHN CHU, ESQ.

120 PAUHI ST. SUITE 312
HILO, HAWAII 96720
TELEPHONE (808) 961-0406 • FACSIMILE (808) 961-3815

NEWTON J. CHU
E-MAIL: NEWTONC002@HAWAII.RR.COM

April 23, 2014

Via email: JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
The Hawaii State Senate
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Henry Nakamoto, Candidate for Family Court Judge – Third Circuit
HIGHEST RECOMMENDATION

Dear Honorable Members of the Senate,

I write this letter in full support of Henry Nakamoto's candidacy for the position of Family Court Judge in the Third Circuit. As a corporate lawyer I have known Mr. Nakamoto for 19 years, and I have referred many clients to him for representation in Family law matters. He has always done an excellent job, with many clients thanking me for the referral. I would give him the highest recommendation allowable.

Mr. Nakamoto has the knowledge, skill, integrity and temperament to be an outstanding Judge in our community. He is also a respected family man with 2 young children, and as a fellow parent he is concerned about public service and the health and safety of our community. I have the utmost confidence in his ability to be responsible fiscally in this position as well.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thanks you and regards,



NEWTON JOHN CHU

From: [Min, Marvin](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Judicial Appointment
Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 8:35:20 AM

Aloha,

Re: Confirmation hearing on April 28, 2014, 2 p.m..

I am writing to send my SUPPORT for **Judicial Appointment, JC3, Henry Nakamoto**.

I have known Henry for over 30 years. He has established himself in our community as a very respectful, humble, intelligent, trustworthy, ethical and graceful attorney. He has been on several boards with me; such as the Hawaii Island Adult Care, Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii, Lehua Jaycees, etc. He will definitely represent our courts with the highest integrity and is able to be calm and cool under pressure.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at mtccmin@yahoo.com or on my cell phone at (808)640-8859.

Kindest Regards,

Marvin Min
426 Olu Street
Hilo, HI 96720

IMPORTANT/CONFIDENTIAL: Unless otherwise indicated, this message is intended only for the personal and confidential use of the designated recipient(s) named above and may be subject to privilege. If you are not the intended recipient of this message you are hereby notified that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. This communication is for information purposes only and should not be regarded as an official statement of the entity sending this message. Email transmission cannot be guaranteed to be secure or error-free. Therefore, we do not represent that this information is complete or accurate and it should not be relied upon as such. All information is subject to change without notice.

DEREK R. KOBAYASHI

TOPA FINANCIAL CENTER
745 FORT STREET · SUITE 1500
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

TELEPHONE (808) 523-6060 · FAX (808) 523-6030
INTERNET: dkobayashi@sil-law.com

April 25, 2014

Via Email: JDLTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Senator Clayton Hee and Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Confirmation of Henry T. Nakamoto as Judge, District Court of the Third Circuit
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

The Honorable Chair Clayton Hee and Honorable Committee Members:

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Henry T. Nakamoto, Esq. to the position of Judge of the District Court, Third Circuit Court, State of Hawaii.

I have been in private practice in Hawaii for about 23 years and first met Mr. Nakamoto when he and I were associates at the Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel law firm. From 1990 through April 1998 I practiced in Goodsill's Kailua-Kona office. During that time, Henry was a colleague in litigation and then became a capable adversary and opposing counsel on a few cases after he moved to Hilo and began his practice at the law firm established by his father.

Henry is always prepared and diligent as a practitioner. He has broad legal experience including family law matters, a thorough understanding of the rules of evidence, trial and evidentiary hearing experience, and undoubtedly will apply his skills in all matters presented before him as a District Court judge. Henry is courteous and professional towards counsel and litigants, even during the most trying of hearings and conferences. He has an even-keeled, pleasant demeanor and temperament that will serve him well from the bench.

Henry is also an active, civic minded bar and community member. He is on the Waiakea Intermediate School's Community Council, is the long-time President of the Waiakea High School Foundation and is a past-President of the Hawaii County Bar Association. More recently, he took the training to serve at the self-help center in Hilo. Henry is compassionate and has a demonstrated commitment to improving the quality of life for the Hilo community.

In sum, Henry will be a valuable asset to the District Court of the Third Circuit. Undoubtedly, he will be a diligent, hard-working, and much appreciated addition to the Judiciary.

Senator Clayton Hee and Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Page 2

For all of these reasons, I strongly support Mr. Nakamoto's appointment as Judge of the District Court of the Third Circuit. Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Derek R. Kobayashi

April 24, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee,

I thank you for the opportunity to comment on the qualifications and character of Henry Nakamoto as he is being considered for judgeship. I am currently the Business Manager of a private catholic all girls school Sacred Hearts Academy.

I have known Henry since 1980 while I attended Waiakea High School. While friends are made during those school days, friends are lost as we often move our separate ways. I have continued to stay in frequent contact with Henry just for the mere fact that beyond careers and such he shares the same fundamentals of life that I can relate to and appreciate; family, honesty, integrity and hard work ethic to name a few.

Although, we live on separate island, I make it a point to gather our families together as I know the positive influence good company can have.

Honestly, I don't keep abreast of Henry's career and I refer people to him knowing they will be well taken care of. Over the years I feel somewhat guilty that they come back to me with a "thank you" and all I did was send a referral to him. If he feels, they won't be serviced best, due a special subject matter or case he'll refer them to someone that will.

As judges go, I believe they should be centered and have the capacity to recognize good and bad traits. As Henry is grounded in goodness, it comes naturally that he is able to recognize this aspect. Henry's savvy persona, often downplayed by him, gives him the ability to recognize the other spectrum. His temperament has always impressed me as I look back on those early years and today.

Thank you again for this opportunity,

Sincerely,

Randy M Iwashita

DAVID S. DE LUZ, JR.

P. O. BOX 4848
HILO, HI 96720

April 25, 2014

Honorable Senator Clayton Hee
Senate Judiciary Committee
415 S. Beretania Street., Room 407
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Letter or Recommendation for Mr. Henry T. Nakamoto

Via email: JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha Honorable Chair Hee and fellow committee members,

My name is David S. De Luz, Jr. and I was born and raised on the Big Island and has been a part of the community all my life.

I am writing to you today to humbly request your consideration in the confirming the nomination of Mr. Henry T. Nakamoto to the Third Circuit District Family Court judgeship.

I have known Henry for over 20 years and have had the privilege and opportunity to have gotten to know Henry on both personal and professional matters and found him to have sensible and sound judgment, along with a very calm and caring posture.

I also believe that Henry has the necessary experience and competence that will guide as a District Family Judge.

In addition, I believe that Henry also understands and has the depth and insight of key issues and matters as it relates to the law and the judicial charge that he will be entrusted to preside over.

Thank you for the opportunity in allowing me to present my testimony in STRONGLY SUPPORTING Henry to be confirmed as our next Third Circuit District Court Judge!

Respectfully,



David S. De Luz, Jr.
Email: djr@teamdeluz.com
Phone #: 808-895-4284

April 23, 2014

Dear Senator Hee,

I have known Henry Nakamoto since we were 10 years old. (We make 50 this year.) He is the most humble, trustworthy, loyal and caring person and it has not changed over the years. I have trusted his friendship and know if I ever need help, he will always be there for me. He is very intelligent and most importantly, has common sense. Henry is a great family man and does a lot for our community. He is not a person who needs recognition and does a lot of things behind the scenes. I know he would make an excellent judge.

Sincerely,

Derek Igawa

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

Donna Tanoue
2725 Terrace Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
April 25, 2014

By email: JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

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

Re: Henry T. Nakamoto – District Family Court, Third Circuit
Confirmation Hearing, Monday, April 28, 2014, 2:00 p.m.

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

I write to support Henry T. Nakamoto, who seeks confirmation to the District Family Court, Third Circuit, State of Hawaii.

I have known Henry a long time. I have to smile, remembering how long ago it was that we first met at the Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel law firm in Honolulu. I think it was 1989.

As a new associate, Henry drew a tough straw. Henry's supervisor was one of our senior managing partners, a disciplined, exacting lawyer with a demanding real estate practice, but Henry rose to the task. I recall Henry working on a particular case that involved some thorny legal issues. Henry thought through the issues and sought guidance, as was entirely appropriate. What I remember most of all was how open and humble Henry was in discussing the issues and, later, discussing his recommendations. Although the case was early in his career, Henry's handling of this matter was characteristic, reflecting well upon him as a lawyer and as a thoughtful, compassionate human being.

To our disappointment, Henry decided to leave the Goodsill firm. We realized, however, that Henry's decision to return home to Hilo was based on what was important to him -- his family and his community. Since then, he has become an accomplished lawyer and partner with the law firm of Nakamoto, Okamoto and Yamamoto. He has served his community well, not only as a lawyer, but as a community leader and volunteer.

I urge you to confirm Henry T. Nakamoto to the District Family Court, Third Circuit. He can be entrusted with the responsibility to make sound decisions that will affect the welfare of individuals, families and the community. He will promote a strong and stable judicial system.

Sincerely,



Donna Tanoue

From: [LISA JOBES](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: re: Support Letter for the Judicial Nomination of Henry Nakamoto
Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 11:25:01 AM

April 23, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee

415 South Beretania Street, Rm 407

Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Sir:

It is my extreme honor to offer my full and unconditional support of Henry Nakamoto. His character and reputation throughout grade school, his years as a legal scholar, and all of his years of service with his knowledge of the law to the Hilo community will bring unquestioned integrity to the Hilo Family Court.

Henry Nakamoto is meticulous, thorough, and uncompromising with his research in matters of the law. I believe that he will carry all of these skills into his role as District Family Court Judge.

I have known Henry Nakamoto for over 30 years and since returning to Hawaii, from residing in California, I have spent the last decade as a Pretrial Officer writing bail studies in the Third Circuit Court. I am familiar and have a work history with the styles and rulings of all the Family, District, and Circuit Court Judges in Hilo. With this knowledge and as a single parent of two children, I am pleased and honored that you have chosen Henry Nakamoto to sit on our Third Circuit Court bench. He will be such an asset to the Hawaii Judiciary system.

Henry Nakamoto is an active and hands on father. He is a kind and trustworthy husband. And, with everything on his plate, he continues to be a tireless community leader. Henry Nakamoto continues to contribute his time to keep all of his classmates of Waiakea High School Class of 1982 in touch with each other by participating in organizing our class reunions as our past chairperson and current treasurer.

I believe, Henry Nakamoto is needed and necessary in the Hilo Family Court with his calm and down to earth style of leadership. I have the utmost respect for his integrity and wisdom to face the challenges of Justice and navigating through conflicts. He has the ability to see all sides of a situation before ruling.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Okazaki Jobs

HCCC Offender Services Case Manager

70 Alohala Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720

(808) 896-2122

From: [Newton Inouye](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Henry Nakamoto Confirmation
Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 1:49:39 PM

Senator Clayton Hee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Rm. 407
Honolulu, HI. 96813

Honorable Senator Hee,

I am writing in support of Mr. Henry Nakamoto's confirmation as a District Family Court Judge. I have known Mr. Nakamoto (Henry) professionally for over 20 years as my legal attorney. Henry has prepared for me our Revocable Trust, Living Will, and consulted with me on numerous legal issues. He has always been very professional, knowledgeable, sincere, helpful, and always looked out for the best interest of my family.

On the community service participation, I met Henry when we were both members of the Lehua Jaycees organization. Some of the community service projects that Henry participated in were the organizing of the Downtown Hilo Christmas Parade, Feeding the elderly on Thanksgiving day, Miss. Aloha Hawaii Pageant, Springfest Carnival, 4th of July Fireworks Show, Constructing playset for the County of Hawaii, and helping with the Merry Monarch Parade. Henry was committed and dedicated to many of these community service projects and active in the planning and producing it.

On the social/recreational side, we were part of a softball team that played in a league. Henry was always a team player that could always be counted on to do what is best for the team. He was always friendly and got along with everyone on our team and the other opposing teams. He has a great attitude, but his ability to run fast around the bases was a lot to be desired.

A little bit about myself, I was born and raised in Hilo, and lived in Hawaii all my life (58 years) and currently employed by the State of Hawaii, Department of Health, in the position of the District Environmental Health Program Chief.

Mahalo for giving me the opportunity to give this testimony,

Newton Inouye

Gregg K. Yonemori
1302 Malawaina Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

March 31, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee

Re: Nomination of Henry T. Nakamoto
District Court of the Third Circuit

Dear Senator Hee:

It is with the highest level of confidence that I write this letter of recommendation for Henry T. Nakamoto for the judgeship in the District Court of the Third Circuit.

Henry has volunteered countless hours to our community, through his legal work and membership in various service organizations. He has been especially valuable in the area of youth activities. Henry is on the Waiakea Intermediate School Community Council, which meets monthly and provides advocacy for parents and children in the school system. He is also the president of the Waiakea High School Foundation.

Henry has been an invaluable asset to the Shudokan Judo Club. He has been our biggest parent supporter and has been responsible for matching competitors and serving as scorekeeper in tournaments, fundraising, supervising our conditioning program, and serving as a host for visiting judo players from Japan. He has also been providing guidance and assisting us with the process of applying for official not-for-profit status for our Shudokan organization.

I have known Henry for more than thirty years, dating back to when we were wrestling teammates at Waiakea High School. In recent years, I have had the opportunity to work with Henry in my capacity as vice principal at Waiakea Intermediate School and as instructor at the Shudokan Judo Club. Henry has always been a responsible, hard-working, determined, and quiet leader. He is also patient, thoughtful, intelligent, and a community contributor. I believe that Henry possesses the qualities and judicial temperament to make an excellent judge and I confidently give him my highest recommendation. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 936-3028.

Sincerely,

Gregg K. Yonemori

J Yoshimoto

Attorney At Law

P.O. Box 7511, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Phone: (808) 895-0240, E-mail: jlaw2006@hotmail.com

April 25, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Rm. 407
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Letter in Strong Support of Henry Nakamoto, Nominee for District Family Court
Judge of the Third Circuit

Hearing date: April 28, 2014, 2:00 p.m.

Dear Chairman Hee and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I am writing this letter in strong support for the nomination of Henry Nakamoto to the District Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit. I have known Mr. Nakamoto for over 20 years and I have always been impressed with his abilities as an attorney and his compassion as a person. We have worked together as a volunteer during Law Week for the Young Lawyers' projects such as Professionals for Drug Free Kids and Meet a Lawyer clinics. He is an outstanding member of our community and is very active helping others and would be a valuable addition to our Judiciary.

Mr. Nakamoto has all of the necessary skills to be an effective and respected judge. His knowledge of the law, honesty, strong work ethic, high moral character, patience, and his ability to relate to people of our community would make him an excellent choice as a District Family Court Judge on Hawai'i Island.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

J YOSHIMOTO

From: [Robert & Eleanor Miyake](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony for Henry Nakamoto
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2014 8:03:00 AM

I have known Henry Nakamoto for about 20 years. He is currently our family lawyer. In all my years that I have known Henry, he has always been trustworthy, honest and reliable. He is meticulous in his professional life and is personable, friendly and a great family man outside of work. I wholeheartedly recommend Henry Nakamoto be the District Court Family Judge in Hilo. I know he will be a respected and hardworking Judge.

Sincerely,

Robert Miyake

1310 Malawaina Street; Hilo, HI 96720

(808) 959-9920

From: [Thomas Kawamoto](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Henry Nakamoto appointment.
Date: Friday, April 25, 2014 10:15:57 AM

My wife and I endorse the appointment and confirmation of Henry T. Nakamoto as Judge of the District Family Court in Hilo. We respect his integrity and family values exhibited by his community involvement and contributions to civic and athletic organizations. Henry's insightful vision and maturity will serve him well in this important appointment for the position he seeks.

Mahalo,

Thomas T & Rosemary N Kawamoto

From: bjj@yamadasons.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Letter of Support for Henry Nakamoto
Date: Friday, April 25, 2014 11:53:16 AM

Dear sirs:

I have known Mr. Henry Nakamoto for over twenty years.

Henry, over the years, has repeatedly displayed to me his excellent character - that is why we are close friends. He is friendly, intelligent, fair, very honest and dependable. But, in my opinion, his greatest asset is his love for his family, especially his wife and two sons.

I don't know what attributes make a good judge, but I'm sure that Henry will be one if selected.

Thank you,
Brian J. Ikawa

April 28, 2014, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 016

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

From: Jan A. Kobayashi

Re: JC 3 Consideration and confirmation to the District Family Court of the Third
Circuit, State of Hawaii, Judicial Nominee Henry T. Nakamoto

In Support

Senator Hee, Senator Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary
and Labor:

I support JC 3 and the nomination and confirmation of Mr. Nakamoto to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawaii. I have known Mr. Nakamoto for over 30 years. He has very broad and extensive legal knowledge and experience by virtue of the many years he has spent as a private practice attorney in Hilo. He has a very strong work ethic and is very diligent. In my experience, as both a client and a friend, I have found Mr. Nakamoto to be honest and straightforward in all of his dealings; he possesses the highest integrity.

Mr. Nakamoto will be an excellent addition to the bench.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

April 24, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Rm 407
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Hee:

It is an honor and a privilege for me to highly recommend Henry Nakamoto for the upcoming vacancy of District Court Judge. . I have known Henry for approximately 44 years and cannot think of anyone better suited for this very important position. Henry is responsible, well rounded, even tempered, has a high level of integrity, is highly respected and even more than that, Henry is intelligent, fair and extremely competent. It is without any hesitation whatsoever that I provide this unsolicited recommendation on his behalf.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to participate in this process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 430-1509.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance B. Duyao
118 Malia Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

From: edhiga@hawaiiintel.net
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Fwd: Letter of Support for Henry Nakamoto, District Family Court Judge-Hilo
Date: Friday, April 25, 2014 2:01:29 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: edhiga@hawaiiintel.net
Date: Apr 25, 2014
Subject: Letter of Support for Henry Nakamoto, District Family Court Judge-Hilo
To: JDLtestimony@capital.Hawaii.gov

Ed Higa General Contracting
350 Walelia Place
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Telephone: (808) 959-6969
ABC #13576

Senator Clayton Hee
Senate Judiciary Committee
415 S. Beretania St, Room 407
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Sir,

I have known Henry Nakamoto for over ten years on and off the golf course. In all that time, he has never expressed any profanity nor exhibited any racial or political prejudice, and regards the rule of law (tempered with compassion) with the highest regard.

His confirmation would be well-received by the citizens of Hilo.

Respectfully,

Edward H. Higa

203 Iwalani Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
April 25, 2014

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

Dear Senator Hee,

Mr. Henry Nakamoto has been a family friend and my personal attorney for many years. As his client, he is organized, efficient, extremely competent, and has excellent rapport. His good nature, humility and trustworthiness make him a well respected individual amongst his peers and within the community.

I humbly ask that you consider Mr. Henry Nakamoto for District Court Judge, who will be a valuable asset in the judiciary system. Thank you for your time and consideration to this matter, it is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

May S. Igawa

PAUL K. HAMANO
ATTORNEY AT LAW
PO Box 574
Hilo, Hawaii 96721
Phone: (808) 935-3336 Fax: (808) 935-3340

April 23, 2014

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

Re: JC 3-Testimony on Confirmation Hearing for Henry T. Nakamoto

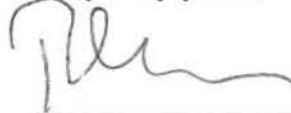
Dear Senator Hee:

I write in strong support of Henry T. Nakamoto for the judicial appointment for the District Family Court of the Third Circuit. I personally know Henry and have worked on cases against him and with him in family court. I have also worked on the same side with him on other cases. Because of this relationship of personally witnessing Henry in the legal field, I feel I my comments are relevant and based on direct observations.

Henry exhibits and meets all of the characteristics described in the very highest order: Integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to fulfill the responsibilities of a family/district court judge.

I have been on the judicial selection commission's list before with Henry, including this current list of nominees. I know all of the other nominees on this current list and their legal abilities for this particular position at the district family court. I can sincerely say without any hesitation that Henry T. Nakamoto is highly qualified for this judicial position and should be confirmed by the Senate.

Very truly yours,



Paul K. Hamano

PKH: bms

SANDRA PECHTER SONG

ATTORNEY AT LAW

10 Kamehameha Avenue
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Telephone: (808) 933-9212
Fax: (808) 935-4853

April 27, 2014

Hon. Clayton Hee, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Support for Henry T. Nakamoto, Nominee for Appointment as District/Family
Court Judge of the Third Circuit Court
JC 3; Hearing: April 28, 2014, 2:00 p.m.

Dear Senator Hee and Committee Members:

I am writing this letter to support the nomination of Henry T. Nakamoto to the
District/Family Court of the Third Circuit.

I have known and worked with Henry for many years. He is a dedicated and highly
effective attorney with extensive experience in both civil and family law. Not only does he have
the background and experience for this position, he also has the temperament required of a judge.
Henry is well respected by all of his colleagues. In my opinion, he would be an asset to this
community and to the Judiciary if he were appointed as a District/Family Court Judge. I most
strongly urge you to confirm his nomination for this position.

Very truly yours,


Sandra P. Song

1161 Oihana Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
April 23, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Rm. 407
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Hee,

Mr. Henry Nakamoto has been a close family friend and my personal attorney for many years. As his client, I am always impressed with his professionalism, his organization skills, efficient nature, and knowledge of legal issues. His character is outstanding and it is because of these personal traits, all the while remaining humble, which makes him a most trustworthy and well respected individual within the community.

Although I haven't had much of a chance to work with Mr. Nakamoto directly as an educator, I am impressed with his commitment to the Waiakea High School Foundation where he currently resides as Foundation President. As an educator, his involvement is crucial to the success of the foundation's efforts to provide educational resources, support and funding for our programs which ultimately benefits our students. I appreciate his efforts to build a stronger, more active foundation as an alumnus of Waiakea High.

It is because of these reasons, I humbly ask that you consider Mr. Henry Nakamoto for District Court Judge. I know he will continue to make a difference in the many lives within our community and will be an invaluable asset to the judiciary system of Hawaii Island. Thank you for your time and consideration to this matter, it is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Sheri S. Kojima

Sheri S. Kojima
2006 Hawaii State Teacher of the Year
Waiakea High School

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

HENRY T. NAKAMOTO
District Family Court Judge, Third Circuit

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

From: Calvin E. Young
President, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Monday, April 28, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 016
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association (Board) appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on the appointment of Henry T. Nakamoto for the position of District Family Court of the Third Circuit (County of Hawaii).

The following is the timeframe of activities undertaken for this judicial nomination:

- March 21st The Chief Justice announces the solicitation of comment on the six (6) judicial nominees submitted by the Judicial Selection Commission for consideration.
- March 25th The HSBA President notifies the HSBA membership via email of the Chief Justice's announcement and solicitation of comment. (ALL active members mandatory message).
- April 17th The Chief Justice announces the appointment of Henry T. Nakamoto as judge of the District Family Court of the Third Circuit (County of Hawaii).
- April 18th The HSBA President notifies the HSBA membership via email of the Chief Justice's appointment of Henry T. Nakamoto, and solicits member comment and receipt no later than April 21st. (ALL active members mandatory message).
- April 24th The HSBA Board meets with judicial nominee, Henry T. Nakamoto.

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Testimony

Relating to the Nomination of Henry T. Nakamoto,
District Family Court Judge, Third Circuit
April 25, 2014
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Guideline Criteria and Procedure

The HSBA utilizes the following guideline criteria, patterned after the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office, in its deliberations when reviewing a judicial nomination: integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public services, health, and responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been nominated.

The HSBA Board has a rating system with two (2) categories: "qualified" and "not qualified". The qualification determination is an advisory rating for consideration by the Senate, the confirming authority for those nominated to serve on the State's Bench. The determination of "qualified" or "not qualified" is made by the HSBA Board after a review of the Judicial Selection Commission (JSC) application and the HSBA's own questionnaire. It should be noted that in some areas, the HSBA questionnaire seeks a broader range of information than the JSC. For example, in the area of attorney discipline, the JSC asks the judicial applicant if he/she has been the subject of any "disciplinary action". The HSBA questionnaire asks the applicant if he/she has ever been involved in a "disciplinary proceeding".

In addition to the written documentation submitted by the nominee, references also provided by the nominee are contacted, and a review of comments, positive as well as negative, offered by Bar members is undertaken. The HSBA Board then interviews the nominee.

Procedure and Process Review

The HSBA Board has, since the most recent Judiciary and Labor Committee hearing, reevaluated the judicial nomination review procedure. ALL active members will receive notices of judicial nominations and the solicitation of comment, including notices of comment solicitation for judicial retention and mid-term evaluation purposes. HSBA members will no longer be allowed to "opt out" of these types of e-mail communications. Nominees will be apprised of any areas of concern at least 24 hours prior to the Board's interview of the nominee.

The entire procedure including the receipt of and reliance on confidential comments is being reviewed.

Conclusion

After reviewing the documentation provided by Mr. Nakamoto and comments from members, contacting the references provided, and meeting with the nominee, the HSBA Board finds Henry T. Nakamoto QUALIFIED for the position of District Family Court Judge for the Third Circuit.