

**JC3**  
**LATE**  
**TESTIMONY**

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [gzweibelaw@gmail.com](mailto:gzweibelaw@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for JC3 on Apr 28, 2014 14:00PM  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2014 6:14:30 PM

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**JC3**

Submitted on: 4/27/2014

Testimony for JDL on Apr 28, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
George Zweibel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am testifying in strong support of confirming Henry T. Nakamoto's nomination to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawaii. I have lived and practiced law in the Third Circuit for many years, during which I have had the opportunity to get to know and work with Mr. Nakamoto on numerous occasions. In my opinion, he has the experience, knowledge and temperament needed to ably serve as a district court judge. Equally important, he personifies the high standards of integrity and fairness that we expect from those chosen to serve as judges in our courts. I have no reservations in respectfully urging the Committee on Judiciary and Labor to confirm Mr. Nakamoto's nomination.

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**APRIL 27, 2014**

**TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF HENRY NAKAMOTO  
JUDICIAL NOMINEE, APRIL 28, 2014  
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR  
STATE OF HAWAII**

**Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:**

**My name is Stuart H. Oda, and I am writing in support of the confirmation of Henry Nakamoto as Family Court Judge in the Third Circuit.**

**I've known Henry for at least twenty years (1989) as a fellow attorney. He comes from a family of highly accomplished individuals, including his father, Roy Nakamoto, an attorney who's still practicing over 50 years (licensed in 1959).**

**He has over 20 years of experience as a private attorney in all areas of the law.**

**Specifically, he has practiced family law for many years and knows every aspect of it from A to Z, from divorces, custody, child support issues, as well as property division issues.**

**If confirmed, he will bring a bundle of experience to the bench which will always be a plus for a new judge. As a newly appointed judge there will be no "training period". He will be expected to handle numerous cases and motions from day one.**

**Moreover, he has had a diverse law practice and has handled numerous matters other than family law. He has the patience, civility and competence necessary in any good judge.**

**He is also respected by other attorneys in Hilo, and most importantly, he can be trusted to act diligently and to be fair at all times.**

**Finally, when I served as a per diem Family Court judge, I appreciated Henry's appearance on behalf of his clients because I knew that he was always prepared, did not present frivolous arguments, and that he could be trusted. He was also very respectful of the judges he appeared before.**

**Therefore, all things considered, I believe Henry Nakamoto is an ideal nominee for the position of Family Court Judge for the Third Circuit and urge this committee to approve his appointment.**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**STUART H. ODA  
Attorney at Law  
282 Ululani Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Tel. No.: (808) 935-3355  
Email: [stuartoda@stuoda.com](mailto:stuartoda@stuoda.com)**

101 Aupuni Street, Suite 325  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

April 28, 2014

Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair  
Honorable Malle S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: Henry T. Nakamoto, Nominee for District Family Court Judge, Third Circuit, State of Hawai'i  
JC-3**

Dear Chairman Hee, Vice Chairperson Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

This letter is written in support of Henry T. Nakamoto's nomination to the position of District Family Court Judge for the Third Circuit of the State of Hawai'i.

Prior to my employment with the County of Hawai'i Office of the Corporation Counsel, I practiced family law in Hilo. In my capacity as a family law practitioner, I became acquainted with Henry. Whenever I became aware that Henry was the opposing counsel on a case, I breathed a sigh of relief. Not because he was a push over, but because he was reasonable. With a phone call, he and I could agree on what the issues of the case were going to be and only focus on those issues. By approaching cases this way, both of us were able to gain client satisfaction. Our clients did not have to incur attorney fees to litigate matters that really should not be litigated.

Henry has impeccable integrity. In one particular case, I recall informing him that my client felt that his client was withholding information about certain assets. He followed up with his client and let me know that his client denied my client's claim, and he had not seen anything to show otherwise. Shortly thereafter, Henry called me and said that he just discovered that his client had in fact been withholding information about his assets. He immediately disclosed the information to me and amended his pleadings to reflect the omission. It is instances such as this that lead me to trust Henry's word and hold him in high esteem.

Henry and I discovered that we had common friends, having both grown up in Hilo. Today I consider him a friend as well as a colleague. In his personal life as well as his professional life I have never heard him utter an unkind word. He is quick to smile and put others at ease. He volunteers in the community and is truly an all around nice guy.

Henry Nakamoto would make a fantastic judge. He has knowledge of family law, the proper judicial temperament, and a sound work ethic. I highly recommend him for the position of District Family Court Judge for the Third Circuit.

Sincerely,



Katherine A. Garson