

MITCHELL D. ROTH
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DALE A. ROSS
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



655 KĪLAUEA AVENUE
HILO, HAWAII 96720
PH: (808) 961-0466
FAX: (808) 961-8908
(808) 934-3403
(808) 934-3503

WEST HAWAII UNIT
81-980 HALEKĪ ST, SUITE 150
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750
PH: (808) 322-2552
FAX: (808) 322-6584

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai‘i submits the following testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of JC8.

This testimony is being submitted for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata, for a term to expire in 6 years.

Mrs. Nagata has been a member of the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai‘i for over 18 years. She has supervised the District, Circuit and Family Court units – covering a myriad of cases from misdemeanors to murders, and has solidified an excellent record and reputation for admirable character and integrity.

As the Special Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Hawai‘i from 2008-2014, Mrs. Nagata assisted with Project Safe Neighborhood in a charge to reduce gun and gang crime by networking with existing local organizations to provide them additional tools and legal knowledge to ensure the program’s success. She is an active member of the Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services to the Public where she works to promote and provide legal services to the local community; as well as a member of the Diversity, Equality & the Law Committee, developing programs to eliminate gender, ethnic, and other bias and discrimination in the legal profession and judicial system.

Mrs. Nagata has proven herself to be patient, open-minded, courteous, firm, and compassionate. She deals with people calmly and courteously, and is willing to hear and consider the views of all sides of a case. Her leadership and in this office will be missed;

however, if confirmed, she will be able to cast a much larger net in service to her community by bringing these skills to the District Court of the Third Circuit.

For the foregoing reasons, I **STRONGLY** support Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

MITCHELL D. ROTH
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DALE A. ROSS
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



655 KĪLAUEA AVENUE
HILO, HAWAII 96720
PH: (808) 961-0466
FAX: (808) 961-8908
(808) 934-3403
(808) 934-3503

WEST HAWAII UNIT
81-980 HALEKĪĪ ST, SUITE 150
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750
PH: (808) 322-2552
FAX: (808) 322-6584

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

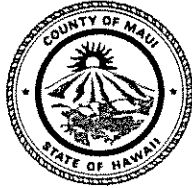
I have known Mrs. Nagata professionally and personally for over 10 years. It has been a pleasure working with her in the Hawai'i County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney. Darien has always shown herself to be humble and approachable. She puts the cares of others before herself.

I have had the opportunity to witness how Darien treats people with dignity and respect in many different types of situations. I believe Mrs. Nagata has a sound understanding of people, the local community, and the perceptions the community has in the law and justice.

For the foregoing reasons, I **STRONGLY** support Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Tammylyn Kaniho



DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MAUI
150 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
PHONE (808) 270-7777 • FAX (808) 270-7625

CONTACT: RICHARD K. MINATOYA
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Supervisor - Appellate, Asset Forfeiture and Administrative Services Division

TESTIMONY OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, COUNTY OF MAUI
IN STRONG SUPPORT OF
JC 8 - CONFIRMATION OF DARIEN W.L. CHING NAGATA
JUDGE, DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT

April 25, 2016

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran
Chair
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro
Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui, **strongly supports** the confirmation of **DARIEN W.L. CHING NAGATA** as Judge, District Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawai'i.

Our department has had the pleasure of working closely with Ms Nagata during her tenure as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the County of Hawai'i. We found Ms. Nagata to be very intelligent, accommodating, even tempered, and extremely helpful. We believe these qualities are important for a judge to possess.

Furthermore, Ms. Nagata's extensive experience as a deputy prosecuting attorney will undoubtedly assist her in faithfully executing the duties and responsibilities of a district court judge.

Accordingly, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui, requests that this committee recommends **CONFIRMATION** to the full Senate of Ms. Nagata's nomination. Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Justin F. Kollar
Prosecuting Attorney

Jennifer S. Winn
First Deputy



Rebecca A. Vogt
Second Deputy

Diana Gausepohl-White
Victim/Witness Program Director

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i

3990 Ka'ana Street, Suite 210, Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766
808-241-1888 ~ FAX 808-241-1758
Victim/Witness Program 808-241-1898 or 800-668-5734

JC8

FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE DISTRICT COURT OF
THE THIRD CIRCUIT, JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Kauai submits the following testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of JC8.

This testimony is being submitted for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata, for a term to expire in 6 years.

Our Office has worked closely with Ms. Nagata on issues pertaining to highway and traffic safety in Hawaii. She is diligent, intelligent, and has an excellent demeanor. Personally, I have observed Ms. Nagata to be a talented and passionate advocate for Access to Justice issues. I have very much enjoyed working with her and I am confident that she will be an asset to the Judiciary and to the Bench.

Based on the foregoing, I am in strong support of Ms. Nagata's nomination to serve as District Judge and I ask your Committee to recommend her confirmation."

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



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

Darien W.L. Ching Nagata
District Court Judge, Third Circuit
TESTIMONY

TO: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair

FROM: Jodi Kimura Yi
President, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Monday, April 25, 2016 at 9:15 a.m.
Conference Room 325
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the nomination of Darien W.L. Ching Nagata for the position of District Court Judge, Third Circuit.

The HSBA Board of Directors evaluates the qualifications of persons appointed for judicial office, the position of Hawaii U.S. Attorney and the position of Hawaii State Attorney General. We follow a multi-step process to inform the confirming authority of its findings.

- Notification to the nominee of the HSBA appointment review process, which includes a questionnaire requesting educational credentials, legal and other professional work experiences, personal references; a resume; a copy of the JSC application; a form authorizing disclosure from the Office of Disciplinary Counsel of any disciplinary action; and an interview with the HSBA Board of Directors.
- Notification via electronic transmission to the HSBA membership of the appointment and a request for comments on the nominee (see attached).
- Appointment of a three-person review Subcommittee of HSBA Board members by the President, which serves as a neutral fact-finding body to review documentation submitted by the nominee, contact references submitted by the nominee, review comments received from the HSBA membership, and conduct follow-up member contact for clarification, if necessary, for presentation to the HSBA Board.
- Submittal of a report by the three-person review subcommittee to the President, and subsequently to the entire Board.

OFFICERS

Jodi Kimura Yi, President
Nadine Y. Ando, President-Elect
Howard K.K. Luke, Vice-President
Russ S. Awakuni, Secretary
Mark M. Murakami, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Cecelia C.Y. Chang
Steven J.T. Chow
Rebecca A. Copeland
Vladimir Devens
Rhonda L. Griswold
Geraldine N. Hasegawa (East Hawaii)
Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao
Carol S. Kitaoka (West Hawaii)
Derek R. Kobayashi
Mei-Fei Kuo
Georgia K. McMillen (Maui)
Emiko L.T. Meyers (Kauai)
Lisa W. Munger
Mark K. Murakami
Alika L. Piper

YLD PRESIDENT

Ryan K.Y. Hew

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Gregory K. Markham

HSBA/ABA DELEGATE

James A. Kawachika

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Patricia Mau-Shimizu

Hawaii's Lawyers Serving Hawaii's People

- Meeting of the President, the Executive Director, and the nominee prior to the scheduled interview of the nominee by the Board.
- Interview of the nominee by the HSBA Board.
- Deliberation of the HSBA Board.
- Submittal of the HSBA Board's recommendation to the confirming authority.

The HSBA President and the Assistant Executive Director met with Ms. Nagata on April 21st to discuss the Subcommittee's findings. On April 22nd, Ms. Nagata was interviewed by the HSBA Board of Directors in executive session.

Documentation submitted by Ms. Nagata was reviewed and all of the references listed were contacted for their personal opinions and observations. The comments and letters received from HSBA members reflected a strong endorsement of Ms. Nagata in all categories of the HSBA criteria which include:

- Integrity
- Diligence
- Legal knowledge and ability
- Professional experience
- Temperament
- Financial responsibility
- Public service
- Health
- Ability to fulfill the responsibilities and duties of the position

After the interview of the nominee, which included dialog and questioning relating to her background, experiences, and reasons for pursuing the position of District Court Judge of the Third Circuit, the HSBA Board found Ms. Nagata to be **QUALIFIED**.

Ms. Nagata's extensive litigation background and experience in both District and Circuit Courts will serve her well on the bench. Judges, supervisors, and peers have praised Ms. Nagata's intellect, hard-work ethic, and calm and compassionate demeanor. For these reasons and others, the HSBA Board believes Ms. Nagata will make an excellent judge and deemed her **QUALIFIED**.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments for consideration during the deliberations and decision making of this Committee.

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

I have known Darien Nagata professionally as a Deputy Supervisor in the District Court Unit for more than a year here at the Hawaii County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney. In the short time that I have had the opportunity to work with her as her secretary, I have observed her as being a very knowledgeable and experienced deputy. She is a very calm, patient and understanding person. Through her extensive experience as a deputy prosecutor in other units to include the Circuit and Family Courts, she has shown to be very fair, very thorough yet confident and open-minded to making decisions on issues and/or concerns. Darien is a very well-respected person, very kind, has a nice but firm personality, a good heart, and a good mind.

I strongly support Darien W.L.C. Nagata as Judicial Nominee for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Antoinette K. Aki

Support Testimony for Confirmation of Darien W. L. Ching to the District Court
for the Third Circuit, JC 8
Committee on the Judiciary and Labor
Hearing: Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 am, Conf. Rm 325

Honorable Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair, Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members

I support Darien W.L. Ching as our next District Court Judge for the Third Circuit. I have known Darien since we hired her as a deputy prosecuting attorney over sixteen years ago. I have seen her in professional and social contexts.

Darien's performance, intelligence, diligence, commitment, and capacity to handle the stresses of litigation, while having "people skills," made her "stand out" immediately. She continues to do outstanding work to improve the justice system, participating at all levels of the Hawaii County Bar Association, Hawaii State Bar Association Leadership Program, Bench Bar Committee, and Access to Justice, to name a few.

She is a "self-starter." When she did not know something, she would find out what she needed and mastered it quickly. She quickly picked up on the law and evidence, legal procedures and practice. Her organizational ability made her effective at preparing complex cases, managing large caseloads, including fulfilling the administrative requirements of the office. She was willing to train the less experienced deputies and staff. She was one of the select few, who was cross-deputized to work as Special Assistant US Attorney.

As most judicial appointees who have mastered a specialization, such as trial practice, Darien will quickly learn the other areas of law that they may not have practiced daily. This is expected.

Darien is public service-oriented. She willingly volunteers for projects that involves training, improving systems, and community building. Her resume demonstrates her willingness to work towards improved delivery of legal services for all, including the example of the Access to Justice initiative of the Self-Help Center at the Hilo Courthouse.

Darien knows how to get the job done. She communicates and motivates others to work with her to get it done. She made her team members know what to expect, even if it was not an easy task. The judges, judicial staff, practicing attorneys, Prosecutor's staff and agencies with whom she works respect her professionally and for her contributions within the community, including being very involved with her three children's school and extra-curricula activities.

Victims and witnesses praised how she handled their cases and kept them

informed.

Darien has balanced work life with a rich and active family life, having a husband and three children. She has had to face personal adversity with a family member. Even facing this life-and-death adversity, she appeared calm, respectful, grateful for the actions of others, and managed to remain positive.

For each of the following criteria, Darien exceeds the expectation of what is expected of the judges for both District and Circuit Court: integrity, diligence, legal knowledge and ability, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service and health.

Darien has the ability to fulfill the responsibilities and duties of a judge, both in District or Circuit Court. Most importantly, she has the commitment to an effective justice system and longevity to provide many years of judicial service.

I can give you examples of each of these criteria if you want details. You can contact me by emailing me.

Without reservations, I support Darien Ching appointment as our next District Judge for the Third Circuit.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Charlene Iboshi, retired, Prosecuting Attorney for Hawaii County

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair

Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

MEASURE # JC 8

SUPPORT FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF DARIEN W.L.C. NAGATA,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE TO THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:30 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of Measure # JC 8

I strongly support of Judicial Nomination of Darien W.L.C. Nagata and ask for her confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit.

I have known Ms. Nagata since 1998 and during that time she has presented herself as a selfless and tireless advocate of justice. Her works outside of the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney in furthering the justice system are well documented within her resume so I will not go into them now. What is not in her resume is her view of what of justice is. Ms. Nagata has shown that her view of effective prosecution is not based on conviction rate or incarnation time but on what is just and fair given each particular circumstance and the law of that time. I am convinced that her rulings and application of the law will be fair to all those appearing in front of her without regard to status, attitude or quasi political beliefs of that individual. I further believe that she will present herself with proper judicial decorum at all times both on and off of the bench.

In her private life I know her to be a wife and mother of three who is invested in the community in which she lives and has served by having taken active roles in our community through her works with youth sports and with the schools. It is with great pride that I forward my full support of this judicial nominee Darien W.L.C Nagata.

Aloha and thank you for your consideration,

Craig T. Masuda

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

I have had the privilege of working with Darien at the Hawai'i County, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for the last eight years. I can say, without hesitation, that Darien is highly qualified for this position and conducts herself with the highest of ethics at all times. The way in which Darien moves in the world is based on what is fair and what is right; and she does so with the highest degree of compassion and integrity.

Darien's commitment to keep our community safe and healthy extends beyond just this office. She is involved in a number of organizations and committees that help to insure access to legal services for all individuals and works to fight discrimination of those trying to access those services. Darien has a wide-ranging understanding of people and the issues that face our local community. She is courteous, prudent, reasonable, and impartial. You would be hard-pressed to find a more qualified individual for this position.

For the foregoing reasons, I **STRONGLY** support Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Deborah Chai

April 21, 2016

Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran;

I would like to take this opportunity to give you my endorsement for judicial nominee, Mrs. Darien W.L.C. Nagata.

I am currently a Battalion Chief in the Hawaii Fire Department on the Island of Hawaii, and have been employed here for over 26 years. As a resident here on the Big Island, I have had the opportunity to know Darien professionally in my capacity as a public safety employee and also recreationally as the former President of the Hilo Junior Tennis Club, since all of her children participate in the sport of tennis. All of my experiences working directly and indirectly with Darien have been positive.

Darien is a trustworthy person that has a high degree of integrity, responsibility, and work ethic. She is a positive role model who has always handled adversity with much perseverance and poise. Darien is a very personable individual and always conducts herself with the utmost of professionalism.

I truly believe that she would serve our island well in the District Court of the Third Circuit. Thank you for allowing me to present my endorsement for Darien W.L.C. Nagata. Please contact me at 808-443-4150 or email me at gerald.kosaki@hawaiicounty.gov for any questions.

Sincerely,



Gerald Kosaki, Battalion Chief
Special Operations
Hawaii Fire Department

Gerri Konishi (Ms.)

April 21, 2016

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 325
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: JC 8, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Darien W.L. Ching Nagata, for a term to expire in 6 years.

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

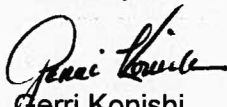
I strongly support the confirmation of Darien W.L. Ching Nagata to serve as a judge for the District Court of the Third Circuit Court for a term of 6 years.

Ms. Nagata is intelligent, honest, dedicated and possesses a respectful attitude. She has consistently displayed her commitment to fairness, objectivity and the highest of ethical standards. Her ability to listen and communicate in a manner that is easily understood by many, coupled with her daily life experiences as a wife and mother and as a lawyer makes her the ideal person for this position.

It is for these reasons and many others that I urge the Committee to confirm Darien W.L. Ching Nagata to the position as District Court Judge of the Third Circuit.

Thank you for your consideration on Darien W.L. Ching Nagata's confirmation.

Sincerely,


Gerri Konishi

April 22, 2016

To the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

It is with great pleasure and a true honor for me to recommend Darien Nagata for the position of the District Court Of The Third Circuit, Judicial Nominee. I have worked closely with Darien on the YWCA Hawaii Island Board of Directors from 2010 – 2015. Darien has proved herself to be a hard-working and responsible individual, a dedicated mother and wife, and a natural born leader. I am delighted to provide this testimonial letter on her behalf.

As a fellow YWCA board member and former YWCA Board President, I have witnessed how Darien performs under stress and under time constraints. She has chaired our 2 signature events with great success. Darien's skills in managing others, in team building, and her ability to be highly organized make her a tremendous asset to the Judicial District Court System.

Darien is a very caring individual and highly devoted to not only her family but also to her community. She is highly respected by her peers, friends, and coworkers. She is intelligent and understanding. She has a positive attitude, is a great team player, and has the amazing ability to bring others together to work towards solutions. I've also seen how she handled the terrifying illness of her daughter head on, never giving up and doing whatever it took to get her daughter well. She has that same passion about her community.

In the years that I have known Darien, I have developed enduring respect for both her work ethic and problem solving abilities. She is a fun loving and very talented individual that I am proud to also call my friend. I humbly ask for you to consider Darien for the position for to the District Court Of The Third Circuit, Judicial Nominee,

Should you have any questions with regards to this letter, please do not hesitate to call me on at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Jennifer Tanouye

Jill S. Atwal

April 16, 2016

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran
Chairman Judiciary and Labor Committee
415 S. Beretania Street Rm. 221
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
<senkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov>

Re: *JC8 Confirmation Hearing during the week of April 25, 2016 for:
3rd Circuit District Court Nomination of Darien Wai Lan Ching Nagata*

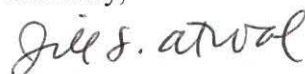
Dear Chairman and Members of the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee:

I fully support the nomination of Darien Wai Lan Ching Nagata for Judge of the 3rd Circuit District Court for the following reasons:

Darien Ching is one of the most highly respected lawyers in Hilo. She is very effective as a prosecuting attorney and worked long hours to serve the community. She took on difficult cases and was very successful in prosecuting criminals. Darien is intelligent, fair and kind. She will make good decisions as a judge, evaluating all facts and circumstances with the utmost of care. She is an active member of our community serving on numerous boards and community organizations. We need dedicated and trustworthy people like Darien making judicial decisions for our island. I don't know of a person who has more character, honesty, work ethic and drive than Darien. She is a wonderful mother, wife and friend. She will make an excellent choice to serve the public and I am looking forward to having her as a judge.

Darien and I have been friends since college, where we played tennis for four years at Santa Clara University in California. I was happily surprised when she moved to Hilo for work and eventually stayed here and married her husband Ron. I also eventually made my way back to my hometown of Hilo and our children have grown up together. We both serve on the Hilo Jr. Tennis Club board. Our island is very fortunate to have someone like Darien in our community.

Sincerely,



C: Darien Wai Lan Ching Nagata

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

As a legal clerk employed at the Prosecutors Office for the County of Hawai`i who has worked for many years with Darien Nagata, I can, based on this experience, say that she would be an excellent judge. She could be depended upon to make sound and quick decisions on situations at work and was the “go-to” person whenever situations arose where a solution was needed. I have seen her handle multiple tasks and workloads while supervising at the same time in addition to her other outside activities such as her work with the Bar Association and more. She is truly an amazing person.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Karen L. Clark

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

I have known Darien Nagata since she began her employment as a deputy prosecutor at the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney. She is a hardworking, humble individual, and takes her responsibilities seriously. Darien was a supervisor of the deputy prosecutors in the Circuit Court unit, and she presently supervises the deputy prosecutors in the District Court unit. As busy as she is with her duties in the District Court unit, deputies from both the District and Circuit Court units go to her to discuss issues and ask her advice.

Darien always treats people with respect, whether they deserve it or not. She is courteous, wise, and, I believe she can be very impartial.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Kayleen M. Kure

KERRY J HIRATA

April 21, 2016

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran
Chairman Judiciary and Labor Committee
415 S. Beretania Street Rm. 221
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
<senkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov>

Re: *JC8 Confirmation Hearing during the week of April 25, 2016 for:
3rd Circuit District Court Nomination of Darien Wai Lan Ching Nagata*

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

I fully support the nomination of Darien Wai Lan Ching Nagata for Judge of the 3rd Circuit District Court for the following reasons:

Darien has demonstrated a commitment to serving the people of Hawaii through a career in public service. After graduating from the William S Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii and being admitted to the Hawaii State Bar in 1997, Darien chose to become a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in the County of Hawaii where she has since spent the last 18 years in pursuit of justice for members of the community and providing assistance to those impacted by crime related activities.

In addition to her unwavering dedication to a career in public service, the judicial system and the law, Darien has also leveraged her knowledge of the law in supporting members of the community through integrative conscious programs such as Delivery of Legal Services to the Public and Diversity, Equality and the Law.

I met Darien when we were both just 9 years old and I am blessed to have had her in my life for over 35 years. She is extremely level-headed, grounded and her heart is filled with love and compassion for others. Darien continually proves herself to be one of the most ethical, loyal and trustworthy individuals that I have had the privilege to know.

I respectfully request your support in confirming Darien Wai Lan Ching Nagata to the District Court of the 3rd Circuit under the appointment of Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald.

Sincerely,



Kerry J Hirata

C: Darien Wai Lan Ching Nagata

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

I have worked with Darien Nagata at the Prosecutor's office since 2002. As a victim Counselor, I have worked with Darien on many cases and she has always treated victims and staff with dignity and respect. She has excellent communication skills and is very detailed oriented and organized. She knows how to prioritize and balance a heavy case load. I have seen her handle highly stressful situations in court calmly and with integrity and grace. In her current role as District Court Supervisor, I have observed her mentoring other attorneys. Darien has a strong work ethic that I admire and I have enjoyed working with her.

I believe Darien has a sound understanding of people and the local community. I believe she will be able to be fair and impartial and for these reasons I support Judicial Nominee Darien Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.


Kimberly Hashimoto

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am an attorney licensed to practice law in the state of Idaho and in U. S. District Court and the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. I became a lawyer in 1986 and have participated in litigation involving constitutional issues, family law, probate law and criminal law. Currently I work as a Supervisor at the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney on the Island of Hawai`i. I have known Darien Nagata for approximately a year and a half and have no hesitation in recommending her for a judicial term in the District Court of the Third Circuit.

Ms. Nagata is committed to the pursuit of excellence by all of the individuals on her staff, whether they be clerical assistants or deputy prosecuting attorneys who are either seasoned, fresh out of law school or still need a mentor. She listens, is fair-minded, compassionate and adept at problem solving. I have never seen her lose her temper despite the highly stressful environment she operates in.

Darien also exhibits a degree of humility that I have seldom encountered and I have no doubt that she will be an asset to the judiciary.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Lea Cooper
Supervising Legal Clerk II

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

I have known Ms. Darien Ching Nagata since January 2013 through the Hawaii island Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, district court unit.

She is intelligent, hard-working and dedicated. She leads by example and treats everyone with kindness and respect. She is always available to anyone seeking her highly trusted guidance and advice. I am confident she will excel in and be committed to her responsibilities and obligations as judge.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Leanne Nagata

**TORKILDSON, KATZ, MOORE
HETHERINGTON & HARRIS**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW, A LAW CORPORATION
120 PAUAAHI STREET, SUITE 312
HILO, HAWAII 96720-3048
TELEPHONE (808) 961-0406 • FACSIMILE (808) 961-3815

LINCOLN S. T. ASHIDA
DIRECT DIAL: (808) 747-8317
E-MAIL: LSA@TORKILDSON.COM

April 22, 2016

Honorable Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran
Chair, Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Legislature
415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Agaran and Committee Members:

**RE: JC 8
Confirmation of Darien W. L. Ching Nagata**

It is an honor to submit this letter in strong support of the confirmation of Darien W. L. Ching Nagata to the District Court of the Third Circuit. I have known Darien for over 20 years, have worked with her and interacted with her socially, and believe I can provide a balanced assessment of her strong work ethic and good character.

I first met Darien when we served together as prosecutors. From the very beginning of her work with us, she was always willing to take on whatever task was given her. She approached her work with fairness and passion, and has become one of the top prosecutors in the office today.

Darien has devoted much of her talents and time to ensuring access to justice to Hawaii Island residents. She was instrumental in opening the Hilo Self-Help Center, and works on many statewide initiatives aimed at insuring justice for all.

Socially, you will not meet a more humble and friendly person. Darien always greets you with a firm handshake and smile.

Based on the foregoing, I would unqualifiedly recommend Darien W. L. Ching Nagata for your consideration. Darien possesses the finest work and human qualities most admired by leaders in our profession.

Very truly yours,



Lincoln S. T. Ashida

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

Having worked with Mrs. Nagata for the last 3 years, I have had the opportunity to witness the fact that she is a true ambassador of justice and accountability. She will undoubtedly prove herself to be a fair and impartial judge.

For the foregoing reasons, I **STRONGLY** support Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Maurice C. Messina

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

I have known Mrs. Nagata for approximately 18 years. She is a good leader, have good legal knowledge and ability to respond and resolve matters that helps facilitate our work. She has shown herself to be a professional, hardworking, and compassionate person.

I had work with Mrs. Nagata in the District section of the Prosecutor's office, she is very thorough, gets the job done, gets along with everybody, a very caring individual and always extending her help in any way she can.

She will make a good and fair judge.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

MERCY MANAOG



Business Strategies
Helping Family Owned & Closely Held Businesses

April 21, 2016

Committee on Judiciary and Labor
The Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 So. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Darien W. L. C. Nagata, Esq.
Judicial Nominee
District Court of the Third Circuit

Dear Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair, and
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair;

I am writing in support of the nomination of Darien W. L. C. Nagata to the District Court of the Third Circuit. I have known Ms. Nagata for several years as a mother, a parent, and as a staunch supporter of the Hilo Junior Tennis Club which her children participate in. Her active involvement does not come as a surprise. If one looks at her bent towards community service, it's plain to see that this is Ms. Nagata's passion:

- Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, 2/1998 to present
- District & Family Court Unit Supervising Attorney and Litigator, 1/2015 to present
- Special Assistant to the US Attorney's Office, 2008 to 2014
- Member of the Hawaii Access to Justice Commission since 2013
- Hawaii Self Help Center, helped to establish in 2012
- Member, Delivery of Legal Services to the Public Committee, 2012 to present
- Member, Bench Bar for the Island of Hawaii
- Fellow of the HSBA Leadership Institute

Her desire to serve her community is quite apparent. An appointment as a District Court Judge would be an appropriate next step in her legal career; one that I believe would benefit the Big Island community.

Aloha,

Michael D. Miyahira

PETER K. KUBOTA

Attorney at Law
A Law Corporation

Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3011

Areas of Practice

Business Law
Real Estate
Estate Planning

April 22, 2016

Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran
Chairman
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

RE: Darien Nagata, Appointee for District Court Judge, Third Circuit
JC 8, April 25, 2016

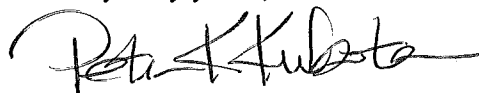
Dear Chairman Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Darien Nagata's appointment as a District Court Judge of the Third Circuit. I have practiced in Hilo for over 25 years, and have observed Ms. Nagata in court for many years as a young, and now Senior Prosecuting Attorney. Ms. Nagata has an excellent reputation in our community as a Prosecutor, and has earned the respect of opposing defense counsel and judges. She has dedicated much of her extra time in advancing the cause of justice in our community, especially to those persons who are less able to obtain legal representation. She has served well as our past President of the Hawaii County Bar Association, with vigor, and initiated programs to encourage participation among our attorneys in Hilo.

I was an applicant for this same position, and although disappointed personally, I was happy that the Chief Justice selected Ms. Nagata. I believe that the Chief Justice made an excellent selection in Ms. Nagata, as she will serve as a fine judge in our community for many years. I believe that Ms. Nagata has excellent legal knowledge and trial capabilities, a calm and patient judicial temperament, and that she has a sense of fairness and practicality that will serve our legal community well. I believe that she has the support of many of our colleagues in Hilo.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



PETER K. KUBOTA

R. Scott Simon, Esq.

April 22, 2016

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran
Chairman Judiciary and Labor Committee
415 S. Beretania Street Rm. 221
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
senkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: *JC8 Confirmation Hearing during the week of April 25, 2016 for 3rd Circuit District Court
Nomination of Darien Wai Lan Ching Nagata*

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

I fully support the nomination of Darien Wai Lan Ching Nagata for Judge of the 3rd Circuit District Court for the following reasons:

- *Legal Experience* – Darien has nearly twenty years of experience as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for Hawaii County, with increasing supervisory responsibility over units handling violent crimes and domestic matters in District, Circuit and Family Courts. Darien was also cross-deputized to serve as Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Hawaii.
- *Service to Community* – She has been actively involved in promoting legal services and access to the community as a Commissioner on the Hawaii Access to Justice Commission and helping to establish Hilo's Self Help Center.
- *Leadership among Attorneys* – Darien has twice served as President of the Hawai'i County's Bar Association and is an active member of multiple bar committees focused on legal services for the public and on diversity and equity in the legal profession and judicial system.

I've known Darien since high school, and coincidentally we both also attended Santa Clara University and the University of Hawaii Richardson School of Law during roughly the same time period. Darien has always shown unquestionable character, strong capabilities, and genuine concern for others. For all of the above reasons, I strongly support her nomination and believe she will be a very capable District Court Judge.

Sincerely,



R. Scott Simon

c: Darien Wai Lan Ching Nagata

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

I have had the pleasure of working with Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for the last eight months. Mrs. Nagata is very impressive in her use of firm, yet fair judgement in her capacity as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney. In addition, her level of professionalism is of the highest quality that can be found in the legal field.

Considering the combination of Darien's education, experience, and desire for making Hawai'i a safer place for all, I highly recommend her confirmation as a Judge in District Court of the Third Circuit.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Scott G. Guthrie
Paralegal

JC8
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT,
JUDICIAL NOMINEE
DARIEN W.L.C. CHING NAGATA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Monday, April 25, 2016, 9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I submit the following testimony in support of JC8.

With this testimony, I express my support of Judicial Nominee Darien W.L.C. Ching Nagata for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years.

I met Darien several years ago while working at the Prosecutor's office in Hilo. She was the Supervisor for the deputies of Circuit Court unit and is now the Supervisor of the District and Family court deputies. She has made such a positive impact on all the deputies that they still come to her for advice and ask for her expertise of the law. She is a hardworking, courteous, wise, respectful, and very humbled person.

I have witnessed Darien to always treat people with respect and dignity. She takes her responsibilities seriously and has the ability to make impartial decisions. Darien's confidence and knowledge of the law is evident in her work. She is an asset not only to our unit but to the entire community. I highly support her future endeavors.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sharol L. Mahi

April 22, 2016

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukaro, Vice-Chair
Judiciary and Labor Committee Members

Re: Judicial Appointment of Darien W.L. Ching Nagata for Hilo District Court

Dear Committee Members:

It is my sincere pleasure to write to you in full support of Hilo District Court Judge Nominee, Darien W.L. Ching Nagata. I believe that Chief Justice Recktenwald made an excellent choice in choosing Ms. Nagata, and I urge the Senate to confirm her nomination.

I have known Darien Nagata for almost fifteen years, both personally and professionally, and I truly believe that Chief Justice Recktenwald made the best choice for the Big Island community when selecting her. I first met Ms. Nagata in 2001 while serving as a Law Clerk for the Honorable Riki May Amano, and found her to be a very hardworking, diligent, fair, and knowledgeable Deputy Prosecuting Attorney.

I later worked with Darien Nagata as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for two years, and she was one of the senior deputies who always had a time to offer helpful advice and guidance to a new Deputy, which was, and still is, greatly appreciated. I also worked on the opposite side of the law against Ms. Nagata for almost ten years as a criminal defense attorney. Ms. Nagata is an excellent and highly knowledgeable criminal attorney (she is the only attorney to whom I have lost a jury trial!), and she has served for many years as both a Circuit Court and District Court supervisor, helping to train new Deputy Prosecutors. I always found Darien Nagata to be a tough, but reasonable, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, who advocated for, and had great compassion for her complaining witnesses.

I also had the privilege to serve with Darien Nagata for many years as an officer with the Hawaii County Bar Association, and know that she has spent many years in public service to the Hawaii County Bar as a former Vice-President, President, and Board Member of the Hawaii County Bar Association, and that she was instrumental in finally getting the Hilo Third Circuit Self-Help Center up and running. The Hilo Self-Help Center has grown into one of the most active Self-Help Centers in the State of Hawaii and serves an important need for the community. Ms. Nagata also served on the State-wide Access to Justice Commission, and the Third Circuit Bench Bar Committee. Darien has also served the greater Big Island Community, serving on her children's PTSA board at Kamehameha Schools, and has been a board member on several other community organizations including the YWCA. In both her professional and personal life, I have found Darien Nagata to display a good judicial type temperament, and believe she would display a respectful, thoughtful, and compassionate presence on the bench.

I believe Darien Nagata is highly qualified to be a Judge, and that the Big Island legal community would be the better for her being on the bench. Please vote to support her.

If any Committee members have any further questions or concerns about Darien Ching Nagata's qualifications, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time by telephone or email.

Thank you very much for allowing me the opportunity to speak out in support of Darien Ching Nagata for the position of Judge for the Hilo District Court.

Truly yours,

Bill Heflin



William B. Heflin

The Law Offices of Ian L. Mattoch
586 Kanoelehua Avenue
Suite 200
Hilo, HI 96720
Phone: (808) 969-3302
Fax: (808) 961-5599