

BENJAMIN A. KUDO

Benjamin A. Kudo joined Ashford & Wriston, as counsel, in July 2012. Prior to joining Ashford & Wriston, Mr. Kudo was a founding principal of Imanaka Kudo & Fujimoto LLC.

Mr. Kudo specializes in land use, planning, zoning and real estate development, and water law and has vast experience working with the private sector, as well as representing State and County legislative and administrative agencies on a variety of land use, environmental, and natural resources legal issues. He has handled major resort, commercial, industrial, and residential developments throughout Hawaii, representing clients locally, from around the nation, and internationally from the Pacific-Asia region.

Mr. Kudo received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Washington in 1972; a Masters of Business Administration (emphasis in finance) from the University of Hawaii in 1975; a Juris Doctor degree from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C. in 1978; and a Ph.D. in international management from the Shidler College of Business, University of Hawaii, with emphasis in international management, cross-cultural studies in 2008.

In addition to his law practice, Mr. Kudo served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at The William S. Richardson School of Law teaching in the area of real property, land use and water law from 1990 - 2000. In 1994, Mr. Kudo was honored by the establishment of the Benjamin A. Kudo, Chair of Law (designated in the areas of land use, environmental and administrative law) at The William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii. The Chair of Law is presently held by Professor David L. Callies who has a national reputation in the land use planning and zoning legal area. Mr. Kudo has also served as an adjunct faculty with the Master of Human Resources Management program at the Shidler College of Business in 2008, and University of Hawaii - West Oahu from 2009 - 2012.

He also participates in community activities and currently serves as an Advisory Board member, Aloha Council, Boy Scouts of America (former Kamehameha District Chairman); Director, Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii (1996 – 2011); Honorary Director, Temari-Center for Pacific and Asian Art; Director, Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific; President (2008 – 2010) and Director, The 200 Club; Director, New City Nissan, Inc.; Director, East-West Center Foundation (2008 – 2014); serves as legal counsel to the Japanese American Citizens League and volunteer advisor to the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii on the Honouliuli Internment Center Preservation Project. Mr. Kudo's other personal interests include jazz music. He received his Professional Certification in Jazz Guitar from the Berklee College of Music in 2012 and plays locally with the New City Jazz band.

Mr. Kudo is married (Sachiko Kudo) and has three children (Katherine, Robert and Kohki).