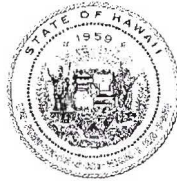


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS S. CHIN
ATTORNEY GENERAL

RUSSELL A. SUZUKI
FIRST DEPUTY ATTORNEY
GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
425 QUEEN STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
(808) 586 -1282

February 21, 2017

Attn: Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair and Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol, Room 221
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: GM508 Catherine Remigio Nomination for Circuit Court

Aloha, Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

The Department supports Governor Ige's nomination of Catherine Remigio to serve as a circuit court judge in the first circuit.

Catherine Remigio has a demonstrated background in public service as a deputy public defender and per diem judge. I had the pleasure of working across the courtroom from Ms. Remigio when she was a criminal defense attorney. Ms. Remigio is thoughtful, considerate, smart and well-prepared. She will serve the State of Hawai'i well in this new capacity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doug Chin".

Doug Chin



mitsuyama + rebman
DIVORCE AND FAMILY LAW

737 Bishop Street, Ste 1450
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
tel 808 545 7035
mitsuyamaandreberman.com

February 16, 2017

Via web testimony submission

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: GM 509, Circuit Court Nominee Catherine Remigio

Dear Senators:

I have known Judge Catherine Remigio for ten years, first as a lawyer in private practice and then as I practiced in her courtroom at Family Court.

Judge Remigio would be an asset to the Circuit Court as she has been to the Family Court. She is diligent and thorough. She has extensive legal knowledge. She has a true judicial temperament and has impressed my clients in her courtroom as a fair and impartial judge, something that is not easy to do in the emotionally charged setting of the family court.

It would be a benefit to the public and to the bar to have Judge Remigio continuing her public service at the Circuit Court.

Thank you for your time.

Yours truly,

Alethea K. Rebman



mitsuyama + rebman
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737 BISHOP STREET
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February 17, 2017

Senate Committee On Judiciary And Labor
Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Karl Rhoads, Vice-Chair

RE: Circuit Court Of The First Circuit Gubernatorial Nominee Catherine Remigio

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and fellow Committee members:

I am a practicing family law attorney for a little over 18 years now. I am the immediate out-going Chair of the Family Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association. I am also currently a *per diem* Judge assigned to the District Court of the First Circuit.

I submit this letter in overwhelming support of the confirmation of Ms. Catherine Remigio as Circuit Court Judge Of the First Circuit. I have known Ms. Remigio for several years through my practice as a family law attorney here in Hawaii. I worked with her as a colleague when she used to practice. I have also appeared in front of her when she became a District Family Court Judge.

Ms. Remigio was a welcome addition to the Family Court because of her experience in the field of Family Law. She easily transitioned from the role of attorney to Judge in Family Court without any reluctance or hesitation from her peers. She has always been professional and composed. She is thorough and efficient in her rulings. She would be an asset to the Circuit Court bench.

Please also consider the disparity in the Courts of male and female Judges. I agree with Governor Ige in that the “[U]ltimately the Judicial Branch will better serve the people of this state when it truly mirrors our diversity.”

Thank you for your time.

Very Truly Yours,

/s/
Dyan K. Mitsuyama

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM508 on Feb 23, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 5:57:06 PM

GM508

Submitted on: 2/15/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 23, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Kent	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I urge you to support the confirmation of Judge Catherine Remigio to the Circuit Court bench.

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

JEFFREY A. HAWK, AAL

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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817*

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E-MAIL: JEFFHAWK@HAWAII.RR.COM*

February 19, 2017

Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
415 Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM508: Catherine Remigio for
Circuit Court of the First Circuit, Judge – In Support

Dear Committee Members:

I would like to give my highest recommendation for confirmation of Catherine Remigio to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. I have known her since 1998 when I started working for the Office of the Public Defender. Since that time, I have worked with her as an attorney and appeared before her at Family Court.

I believe that Ms. Remigio has a high degree of legal ability. At the Office of the Public Defender, she had numerous jury trials and knows how complicated the cases can be. In working with her, I could see that she was an exemplary attorney. I believe she has sound legal judgment, is fair to all sides of an issue and comports herself in a manner befitting a Judge of the Circuit Court.

I have also appeared before Judge Remigio in Family Court on several trial matters. She is always courteous to all litigants and a pleasure to work with. We would be lucky to have her at Circuit Court. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office, 532-3800.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ JEFFREY A. HAWK
Jeffrey A. Hawk
Attorney at Law

TO: Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

HEARING DATE: February 23, 2017

RE: Testimony in support of GM508

Good day Senator Keith-Agaran, Senator Rhoads, and members of the Committee. My name is Jessi Hall. I am an attorney licensed to practice law in Hawaii. I am here today to testify in support of GM508 to confirm the nomination of Hon. Catherine H. Remigio as a Judge of the Circuit Court, First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

I have worked with Judge Remigio as an opposing counsel prior to her appointment to the Family Court and appeared before her while she was a sitting Judge. I have also worked directly with her on various Bench/Bar Committees.

In my personal experience with Judge Remigio she has always been focused on the job at hand. She handles herself very professionally. As an attorney she used her experience and talent to obtain the best outcome for her clients often without unnecessary litigation. As a Judge I have always witnessed her to be balanced and unbiased. Her decisions were based on the law and the facts presented.

Although I have to admit that to lose Judge Remigio from Family Court will be a great loss, I do believe that Circuit Court could greatly benefit from her experience and expertise. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of GM508.

JOHN C. BRYANT, JR., LLC

Attorney at Law

LYNNE M. YOUMANS
(Of Counsel)

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February 16, 2017

Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Conference Room 016
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM: 508 Catherine H. Remigio

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Vice Chair Rhoads:

I am writing to strongly recommend judicial nominee Catherine H. Remigio for the position of Circuit Court Judge.

I worked with Ms. Remigio at her firm, Bryant & Remigio from July 2010 until she was appointed to the Family Court. Prior to that, I worked with Ms. Remigio at the law firm of Stirling & Kleintop from April 2005 through September 2006. While Ms. Remigio and I worked together at Stirling & Kleintop, I had the opportunity to work as her second chair on a number of cases. As her second chair, I was impressed with her knowledge of the law, her understanding of her cases, and her ability to effectively present her client's position in Court. I learned a lot from her about how to prepare a case for Court and how to zealously advocate for a client in a competent and confident manner.

After Ms. Remigio left Stirling & Kleintop to form Bryant & Remigio, I continued to contact her for advice on my difficult cases. Mr. Remigio has a superior knowledge of the law and excellent judgment which I relied on to guide my work on difficult cases. I believe her superior knowledge of the law and excellent judgment will make her well qualified to be a Judge in Circuit Court.


February 16, 2017
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
Page 2

JOHN C. BRYANT, JR., LLC

Ms. Remigio impressed me with the calm and focused manner with which she approached the difficult and often emotional cases she has handled in Family Court. Ms. Remigio was able to sympathize with her clients while at the same time maintaining a professional and poised demeanor necessary to effectively articulate her client's position to the Court. I believe this ability will be a great asset to her as a Judge in Circuit Court.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of Ms. Remigio.

Very truly yours,



LYNNE M. YOUMANS

GOODSILL ANDERSON QUINN & STIFEL

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP LLP

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ROBERT J. HACKMAN
TERESA A. O'CONNELL
ELIZABETH H. LEE

OF COUNSEL:
MARTIN ANDERSON
CONRAD M. WEISER
RONALD H. W. LUM

MARSHALL M. GOODSILL
(1916-2004)
WILLIAM F. QUINN
(1919-2006)
RICHARD E. STIFEL
(1920-1993)
JOHN R. LACY
(1942-2014)

February 21, 2017

BY E-MAIL (JDLTESTIMONY@CAPITOL.HAWAII.GOV)

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

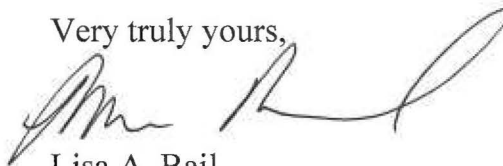
Re: **Judicial Nominee Todd W. Eddins**
GM507

Dear Senate Committee Members:

This letter expresses my strong support for judicial nominee Todd W. Eddins. Having worked with Mr. Eddins on several legal matters, I know him to be knowledgeable about criminal law and procedure. I have involved Mr. Eddins in some of my matters based on his integrity, experience and legal knowledge and ability, and can confirm that he has the demeanor to serve as a judge.

Mr. Eddins is well respected in the legal community and his broad experience in criminal matters will serve the judiciary well. I encourage you to confirm his nomination.

Very truly yours,



Lisa A. Bail

LAB



THE LAW OFFICE OF RICHARD H.S. SING

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February 21, 2017

Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran , Chairperson
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
415 Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM508 for Ms. Catherine Remigio, Circuit Court of the First Circuit, Judge – In Support

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members,

I am writing to support the confirmation of Ms. Catherine Remigio for a Circuit Court Judgeship.

I am a solo practitioner concentrating in criminal defense who has appeared in the District, Family, and Circuit Courts on a regular basis over the past 20 years. I am familiar with the histories, procedures, and personalities of the Courts of the First Circuit.

Ms. Remigio is one of the brightest, quickest, and most competent attorneys that I have ever met. He has impeccable academic credentials, as well as years of practical “in the trenches” experience as a public defender, private attorney, and family court judge. Public service needs honest, talented, and caring individuals like Ms. Remigio.

Outside of her professional life, Ms. Remigio is honest and caring individual, who treats others with respect and fairness. She is levelheaded and compassionate. She possesses the best of the traits that we hope for ourselves. I trust her as a friend and colleague, and believe that our community needs and deserves Ms. Remigio on the bench.

The opportunity to have such a qualified individual on the circuit court bench should not be passed up. Please feel free to call upon me if you have any questions or concerns.

Very Truly Yours,

/S/ Richard H.S. Sing

Richard H.S. Sing

2018 Keeaumoku Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822
February 21, 2017

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Written Testimony in Support of Nomination of Catherine H. Remigio for Circuit Court (GM 508, hearing on February 23, 2017, 9:30 a.m., Conference Room 016)

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

I am currently a deputy attorney general in the Appellate Division of the Department of the Attorney General. However, I am submitting this testimony purely in an individual capacity. I have known Catherine H. Remigio for 19 years. I have worked with her in two of her previous jobs. We were both deputy public defenders together and then later we were both associates at a prominent family law firm, Stirling & Kleintop. As a young deputy public defender, there were several more senior public defenders to whom I often went for advice, sample documents, research, and the like. One was Karen Nakasone (now a circuit court judge herself) and another was Cathy Remigio. They were both very strong on the law and on trial practice skills, and I knew I could rely on them. Later, when I was in private practice at Stirling & Kleintop, one of the partners asked me about Cathy, since she had applied for a position. I strongly recommended that we hire her. The firm did hire her, and I continued to go to her for advice and assistance as a valued colleague for several years.

Cathy was an outstanding lawyer and I had the highest opinion of her. She had broad experience in both criminal and civil cases. She had very good judgment and was highly knowledgeable. She also had a great sense of humor, and it was a joy working with her.

Since she became a family court judge, I have not had to appear in front of her formally. However, I did recently have the chance to observe her at family court when I took my summer intern there to observe court proceedings. Cathy was presiding on the Juvenile rotation. I spent much of my time as a public defender on that rotation and, therefore, I feel I know a thing or two about how juvenile cases should proceed. Cathy had complete control of that courtroom and was able to work well with everyone present -- from the prosecutors, to the defense attorneys, to the court staff, to the parents, and to the minors themselves. I have had the honor of appearing in front of some very good veteran judges in my career, and Cathy ran her courtroom like the best of them.

Cathy also helped me when I was an adjunct professor at the University of Hawai'i Law School. I asked her to serve as a volunteer judge in the oral argument portion of the Appellate Advocacy

class that I taught for three years. My students very much appreciated the insights she shared regarding their performances.

Cathy Remigio is an outstanding choice for circuit court, and she has the knowledge, experience, and temperament to be an absolutely first-rate judge. I strongly support her nomination without any reservations.

(Please note that this letter reflects my personal opinion and does not indicate the position of my past or present employers.)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert T. Nakatsuji". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Robert T. Nakatsuji



RONALD T. OGOMORI

Attorney at Law, A Law Corporation
Commercial & Construction Law

Executive Centre | 1088 Bishop Street, Suite 4100, PH-2 | Honolulu, HI 96813

Main: 808-695-4240 | Fax: 808-275-3217 | Direct: 808-695-4241 | rogomori@ogomorilaw.com

February 21, 2017

VIA E-MAIL: (senkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 221
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Catherine Remigio

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran:

I am an attorney and the founder of Ronald T. Ogomori, Attorney at Law, a Law Corporation. I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Catherine Remigio, who is one of the applicants for the existing vacancies at the Circuit Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Catherine since 1990 as we both attended the William S. Richardson School of Law, worked as law clerks for different Circuit Court Judges upon our graduation from law school in 1992, and then worked at the Office of the Public Defender during the period from 1993 to 1994.

Catherine has the requisite intelligence, integrity, experience and temperament to be an extremely effective judge at the Circuit Court level. Catherine would also treat parties and counsel respectfully but fairly. Therefore, it is without reservation that I recommend Catherine Remigio to be appointed as a Circuit Court Judge in the First Circuit Court, State of Hawaii.

If you have any questions or comments, I may be reached at (808) 695-4241.

Very truly yours,

RONALD T. OGOMORI

**Testimony of John M. Tonaki,
State Public Defender to the Senate Committee on Judiciary
and Labor**

February 23, 2017

GM 508: Nomination of Catherine Remigio to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit

Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

It is a privilege for me to support Catherine Remigio's nomination to be a judge of the First Circuit Court. For the last five years, Judge Remigio has served very capably as a Judge of the Family Court. She will bring a wealth of judicial experience with her to the Circuit Court. As a Family Court judge, she has been required to render some of the most difficult decisions you will encounter in the court system – decisions dealing with such issues as child custody, termination of parental rights, juvenile delinquency, and domestic difficulties.

Prior to assuming her seat on the family court, Judge Remigio was a public defender who subsequently developed a successful practice in the area of family law. Her trial experience as well as her skill in dealing with people helped her in becoming a very productive judge. Judge Remigio efficiently handles her caseload and does so with fairness to all who appear in her courtroom. She has a high level of integrity and her moral courage is also without question

I support the nomination of Catherine Remigio to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. Thank you for the opportunity to be heard on this matter.

Taryn Tomasa

Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
415 S. Beretania Street
Conference Room 016
State Capital
Honolulu, HI 96813
via email: JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: Hearing on GM 508 9:30 AM Thursday, February 23, 2017
Consideration and Confirmation of
Judicial Nominee CATHERINE REMIGIO

Senators Keith-Agaran, Rhoads and Committee Members:

This letter is in support of the nomination of CATHERINE REMIGIO to the circuit court bench. I have known Ms. Remigio professionally for over eighteen years. It is without hesitation that I submit this letter in support of her nomination. I believe that Judge Remigio possesses the character, intellect, and demeanor that this challenging and rigorous position demands.

In the years that I worked with Judge Remigio at the Office of the Public Defender, she practiced law adeptly and zealously for her clients. Over the years, since being appointed to the family court, I have had the privilege of appearing before Judge Remigio. As a member of the bench, Judge Remigio has ruled with compassion, decorum and candor. She has always exhibited professional and ethical conduct and consistently demonstrated a command of the law.

As a citizen and practicing attorney, I believe that the State of Hawaii needs and deserves the best and most qualified judges. A judge must be well rounded and adept to handle broad ranges of legal issues, vast number of cases, and have judicial demeanor, character, legal expertise, and intellect to be successful. Based on my knowledge and experience with Judge Remigio, as well as her track record on the family court bench, it is apparent that she has the skills and dedication to be an invaluable asset to the State of Hawaii as a circuit court judge.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Taryn Tomasa

From: [Terry Revere](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: GM507 re Remigio and Hiraoka Nominations
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 9:02:16 AM

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Keith Hiraoka and Catherine Remigio to the First Circuit.

I have had various cases where Keith Hiraoka has been an opposing counsel, a co-counsel, and my counsel. He is very smart and tenacious advocate with an active mind. I think he will be a credit to the bench.

I have known Catherine Remigio since law school. She was very smart then and has truly grown. I had not seen her for several years and then appeared before her on my one foray into Family Court which involved some complicated issues that resulted in some of us civil litigators winding up in representing non-parties in a divorce proceeding in family court. I was very impressed by the control and practical wisdom she displayed when I appeared before her as an advocate. Since she has diversified her practice from criminal to family law and has served exceptionally as a Family Court Judge am very confident that she also will be a credit to the bench.

Mahalo,

Terrance M. Revere
Revere & Associates, LLLC

PLEASE NOTE: For all new matters, prospective clients and billing inquiries please contact my staff at 808-791-9550 or by email main@revereandassociates.com. You can also visit our website at www.revereandassociates.com and fill out our client intake form.

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TESTIMONY OF THOMAS D. FARRELL

Regarding Governor's Message 508,
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, State of
Hawaii, Gubernatorial Nominee CATHERINE REMIGIO.

Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair

Thursday, February 23, 2017, 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

Good morning Senator Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee:

I was pleased, and not surprised, to see Cathy Remigio's name on the "short list" for a Circuit Court appointment. Although the Governor had a number of qualified candidates from which to choose, Cathy was his nominee, and he chose well.

I've practiced law in this town for thirty-six years, now, and I've seen all kinds of judges and lawyers. She is one of the best. I've known her as opposing counsel, prior to her appointment as a Family Court judge. She knew the law, was reasonable and professional, and never lied to me. I know that "never lied to me," doesn't sound like much of a recommendation, but in the world of divorce lawyers, that's not something one can take for granted.

I was delighted when she was appointed to be a district family court judge and I have since appeared before her many times. She hasn't always done what I wanted, but she has always been prepared, given my client a fair hearing, and enforced decorum and respect in her courtroom.

Cathy would be an easy pick on professional qualifications alone, but she would also bring some diversity to the bench. I took a look at the Bar Directory and noticed that we have twenty-seven circuit judges. As near as I can tell, only three are of Filipino ancestry, and only nine are women. It seems like ladies and the Fil-Am community are a little underrepresented.

I strongly support this nomination and urge your favorable action.

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*Certified by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. The Supreme Court of Hawaii grants Hawaii certification only to lawyers in good standing who have successfully completed a specialty program accredited by the American Bar Association.

TRINA L. YAMADA, ESQ.

TO: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Karl Rhodes, Vice-Chair

FROM: Trina L. Yamada, Esq.
E-mail: trina.yamada.law@gmail.com
Telephone: (808) 695-2220

HEARING DATE: Thursday, February 23, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

RE: Testimony in Support of the Honorable Catherine Remigio for Consideration and Confirmation to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii

Good Morning Chair Keith-Agaran and Vice-Chair Rhodes and members of the Committee. My name is Trina L. Yamada and I am an attorney who has been in practice in the Family Court for over 20 years. I am submitting this testimony in support of the Honorable Catherine Remigio for Consideration and Confirmation to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit.

I provided a letter of support for Judge Remigio's appointment to the Family Court and I continue to provide support for her in her appointment to the Circuit Court. I have known Judge Remigio both as a colleague and as a judge. In both instances, Judge Remigio was knowledgeable of the law and courteous as a professional.

A trial judge is tasked with making decisions and Judge Remigio will and has made decisions. As in any litigated case, I may not have agreed with some of the decisions that she made, however she did what she was tasked to do and made decisions on the issues presented to her. I have not known Judge Remigio to avoid difficult cases. As an example, Judge Remigio was the post-divorce judge in an approximately five (5) year case in which I was a litigant. During the course of this case, Judge Remigio rotated to a different division of the Family Court. However, due to the longevity of the litigation and the numerous motions filed and the issues presented, Judge Remigio remained on the case until its most recent conclusion.

The fact that after a term as a judge in the Family Court, Judge Remigio is requesting to continue to be a public servant as a judge and that she would like to be in a higher court, speaks volumes to her integrity and commitment to public service.

Judge Remigio came to the bench with her skill sets from her experiences as a Public Defender and family law practitioner. As she goes to the Circuit Court, she will also take her skill set that cannot be taught through books and can only be acquired through sitting on the judicial bench. She will be an asset to the Circuit Court.

I strongly support the confirmation of Catherine Remigio to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit.

Thank you.

THE LAW OFFICE OF

WALTER J. RODBY

733 BISHOP STREET, MAKAI TOWER, SUITE 2302
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE NO.: (808)545-5490
CELLULAR NO.: (808)232-6313
FACSIMILE NO.: (808) 536-4988
EMAIL: ATTORNEYRODBY@MSN.COM

February 17, 2017

Fax: 808-586-7346
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228

RE: Confirmation of Judge Catherine Remigio
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 016
Thursday, February 23, 2017 @ 9:30 a.m.

Dear Senators:

My name is Walter J. Rodby and I write this letter to express my complete support of Judge Catherine Remigio for the confirmation to the bench of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

I first met Judge Remigio at the Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii, in 1989, where we were both enrolled. After graduating, we both moved on to the State Public Defender's Office where we were trial attorneys.

Through the years, I have come to admire Judge Remigio for her candor, honesty, intelligence and her integrity.

I say this because I have known Judge Remigio not only as a fellow student, and then as a colleague, in the trenches, when we were both public defenders, but also later when I would appear before her to litigate matters in the Family Court of the First Circuit.

Judge Remigio has always treated others with the utmost respect, fairness and impartiality. She would make a fine addition to the circuit court bench. Thank you for considering my comments.

Very truly yours,


WALTER J. RODBY

GM 508



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

**Catherine H. Remigio
Circuit Court Judge, First Circuit**

TO: The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Vice-Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Nadine Y. Ando
President, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Thursday, February 23, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 016
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the nomination of Catherine H. Remigio for the position of Circuit Court Judge, First 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.
- 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.

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- 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 Executive Director met with Judge Remigio on February 17th to discuss the Subcommittee's findings. On February 20th, Judge Remigio was interviewed by the HSBA Board of Directors in executive session.

Documentation submitted by Judge Remigio was reviewed and the references listed were contacted for their personal opinions and observations. The comments and letters received from HSBA members reflected an affirmation of Judge Remigio 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 Circuit Court Judge of the First Circuit, the HSBA Board found Judge Remigio to be **QUALIFIED**.

Judge Remigio, who has broad experience in criminal and civil matters with significant legal drafting and trial experience, has exhibited solid case and courtroom management striving for fairness and efficiency. As a Family Court jurist, Judge Remigio has presided over large and oftentimes emotionally charged calendars, and is known for her knowledge of court rules, policies and procedures. Judge Remigio is very active in court and HSBA sponsored programs, and recently established a Truancy Court pilot project at Waianae Intermediate which has resulted in a decrease in student absences among chronic truants.

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