

**JAMES S. TABE**

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER  
1130 N. NIMITZ HIGHWAY, SUITE A-254  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

May 10, 2020

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair,  
the Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair,  
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary  
State Capitol  
417 S. King Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: GM 677 -- Submitting for the consideration and confirmation to  
the Defender Council, Gubernatorial Nominee Crystal Gail  
Glendon

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

It is a privilege to support the nomination of Crystal Gail Glendon to the Defender Council. As a member of the Defender Council, Ms. Glendon will assist the Office of the Public Defender in fulfilling our mission of zealous and effective representation of indigent persons charged with criminal offenses.

During her fourteen plus years as a deputy public defender, Ms. Glendon has practiced at every level in the judicial system: the circuit courts, the district courts, the family courts, and the appellate courts. Since entering the private practice of law, she is specializing in criminal defense, family law and civil litigation.

Ms. Glendon is a proud graduate of the Kamehameha Schools. After graduating from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, she obtained her law degree from the University of Hawai'i, Richardson School of Law. Following her graduation from law school, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable Karen S.S. Ahn, Circuit Court of the First Circuit and as a law clerk to the Honorable Greg Nakamura, Judge of the Circuit Court of the Third Circuit.

Because of her extensive experience, Ms. Glendon understands the criminal justice system thoroughly and the Office of the Public Defender's essential role in that system. The Office of the Public Defender would be privileged to have Ms. Glendon serve on the Defender Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard on this matter.

Sincerely,



James S. Tabe  
State Public Defender

**GM-678**

Submitted on: 5/8/2020 1:47:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 5/12/2020 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

*Law Offices of*  
**SCOTT K. COLLINS**

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May 8, 2020

The Senate Judiciary Committee  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**Re: GM678; Letter of Support for CRYSTAL GAIL GLENDON for Consideration and Confirmation To the Defender Council; Public Hearing Scheduled on 05-12-2020, 10:00am, Conference Room 016.**

Dear Honorable Senate Judiciary Chairman & Committee Members:

It is with esteemed privilege and honor that I submit this letter in full support for Ms. CRYSTAL GAIL GLENDON's ("Ms. GLENDON") confirmation to the Defender Council as she was nominated by the Honorable DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, State of Hawai'i.

I first met Ms. GLENDON over ten years ago when she was a notable Deputy Public Defender in the Courtroom. Over time, I became even more impressed with Ms. GLENDON's extraordinary legal skills tempered with her perseverance, complimented with her uncanny ability to effectively navigate through challenging adversaries and judges.

Throughout the years, Ms. GLENDON relentlessly advocated for her clients, always being professional and focused, even when some of these clients were extremely difficult to deal with.

Over recent years, I was also fortunate to know Ms. GLENDON on a personal level as our families got together and became close. My wife RHONA and Ms. GLENDON are always swapping cooking and baking recipes, sewing, crafting and doing other amazing endeavors. When our daughter graduated from high school a couple years ago, we learned Ms. GLENDON was also an amazing photographer and took incredible graduation photos of our daughter which we enlarged into gorgeous posters.

The Senate Judiciary Committee  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
Hawai'i State Capitol

**Re: GM678; Letter of Support for CRYSTAL GAIL GLENDON for Consideration and Confirmation To the Defender Council; Public Hearing Scheduled on 05-12-2020, 10:00am, Conference Room 016.**

May 8, 2020

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Ms. GLENDON is much more than an attorney; she somehow finds time to raise her kids, take them to various sports practices and events, take care of her family, their home, find time for cooking, baking, crafting, photography, and so much more. My wife and I are continually amazed at how she accomplishes it all.

As a fellow colleague in the legal profession for over 30 years, I have no doubt that Ms. GLENDON would provide a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Defender Council, and can provide invaluable insight, as she has served more than 14 years as a Deputy Public Defender before transitioning smoothly into her current private practice.

I fully and unconditionally give my complete support to Ms. CRYSTAL GAIL GLENDON being confirmed and becoming a member of the Defender Council as she definitely will be an asset.

Respectfully,



Scott K. Collins, Esq.

May 9, 2020

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Senator  
Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Nomination of Crystal Gail Glendon  
to the Defender Council (GM-678)

Dear Chair Rhodes and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of Ms. Crystal Gail Glendon to serve as a member on the Defender Council.

I have known Ms. Glendon for twenty years now and she has spent a majority of those years defending the indigent in the criminal and family courts as a deputy public defender. With that experience comes a complete understanding of the criminal justice system and the role that the Office of the Public Defender performs within that system. That understanding is incalculable, and she would bring that to the table as a member of the Defender Council.

Just as important as her experience and knowledge of the criminal justice system, Ms. Glendon is professional, diligent, thoughtful, and honest. With these qualities, there is no doubt that Ms. Glendon would efficiently and meaningfully contribute to the administration of the Office of the Public Defender as a council member.

Again, I fully support Ms. Glendon and strongly urge confirmation of her nomination. She is well-qualified for this position and will do an excellent job.

Mahalo piha,  
Sonja McCullen

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator, Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate

Re: GM678, Testimony in Support of Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, Crystal Gail  
Glendon, to the Defender Council

Hearing: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 016 State Capitol  
1415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha, my name is Bryant Zane. I am an attorney in Honolulu and have been a Deputy Public Defender at the Office of the Public Defender, State of Hawai'i, for 17 out of the last 18 years.

I have known Ms. Glendon for over fifteen years. We are contemporaries at the Office of the Public Defender. Throughout her fourteen year career as a Deputy Public Defender, Ms. Glendon has always delivered passionate representation of her clients with a caring touch. A prime example is her representation of Ka'ano'i Kipapa, an abused child who killed his abuser, his mother. At the sentencing hearing, in the face of a courtroom full of angry and grief-stricken family members, Ms. Glendon hushed the crowd with riveting accounts of the horrors of the defendant's childhood being raised by the decedent. It was incredibly courageous and inspiring advocacy in a case that received national attention. Now a year later, Ms. Glendon runs a burgeoning private practice in varied areas of law including criminal defense.

Ms. Glendon is a perfect fit for the Defender Council which needs enlightened perspectives and diverse backgrounds. She remains deeply committed to the well-being of the Office of the Public Defender. She keeps informed on the current issues and events of the office. She maintains regular contact with her old friends from the office in both personal and professional respects. She is generous in sharing her wisdom and experience with other attorneys who need it. Ms. Glendon left the Office of the Public Defender just a year ago. Her experience is still recent and relevant. She has not forgotten what it is like to be a Deputy Public Defender on the frontline. She fully knows what it is like to represent cast-off, unappreciative clients in publicly unpopular cases. She is and has always been a zealous advocate despite any obstacle. This first-hand, up-to-date experience will be indispensable in leading the Office of the Public Defender into the future.

Surely, Ms. Glendon would be humbled and honored if given the opportunity to serve on the Defender Council. The Defender Council would be fortunate to have her contribution.

Please confirm Crystal Gail Glendon

‘O wau iho nō me ke aloha,

Bryant Zane.

Taryn Tomasa  
1130 N. Nimitz Hwy. A-254  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
(808) 5862080

May 11, 2020

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Committee on Judiciary  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair Committee on Judiciary  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 016  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
via online submission

Re: Confirmation of Crystal Gail Glendon as a Defender Council Member  
GM 678 Hearing 5/11/2020 @ 10:00am

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and Committee Members:

This letter is in support of Ms. Glendon's appointment to the Defender Council. I have known Ms. Glendon for over sixteen years, and believe that her experience, intelligence, and dedication would be an asset to this position.

As a former deputy public defender, Ms. Glendon has familiarity with the struggles and demands of the Office of the Public Defender. Additionally, Ms. Glendon has notable academic achievements and a variety of legal experience that would be an asset to the Defender Council. Moreover, Ms. Glendon has always demonstrated a commitment to public service and the legal profession that would serve the Defender Council and the State of Hawaii well.

I urge you to recommend her confirmation to the Defender Council. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Taryn Tomasa

Catherine Gutierrez  
1130 N. Nimitz Hwy. Ste. B-299  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817  
(808) 532-3229  
catherinegutierrezlaw@gmail.com

**LATE**

May 11, 2020

Re: Letter in support of Crystal Gail Glendon for consideration and  
confirmation to the Defender Council.

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads and Members of the Senate Committee:

This letter is submitted in support of Crystal Gail Glendon as a member of the Defender Council. I have known Ms. Glendon for over 14 years professionally and personally and know that she has the best intentions in seeking to be part of the Defender Council.

Having worked for the Public Defender's Office for over fourteen years and for the Judiciary before becoming a Deputy Public Defender, Ms. Glendon has the insight on what the Office of the Public Defender needs to succeed and excel. She understands and champions with great passion what the office does and stands for, protecting the rights of people.

Additionally, having worked for many years in the Public Defender's Office she has developed many friendships and strong connections with the people who still work there. Ms. Glendon has the aloha for the office and the people there and will ensure she does what she can to not only safeguard the office and its purpose but also improve it.

I support Ms. Gendon's nomination to the Defender Council wholeheartedly. Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

Very truly yours,

  
Catherine Gutierrez



**LATE**

May 11, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: *GM 678 – Consideration and Confirmation to the Defender Council,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, Crystal Gail Glendon, for a term to expire June  
30, 2022.*

Hearing: Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 10:00 A.M., Conference Room 016

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Senate:

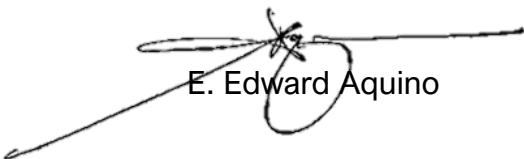
I am writing in strong support of Crystal Gail Glendon's nomination to serve on the Public Defender Council.

I have known Ms. Glendon for almost 20 years – when she was a law clerk for the Honorable Karen S. S. Ahn, as a colleague at the Public Defender's Office, and as a close friend and professional colleague in private practice. Through the years, I have come to know her and have grown to respect her as a professional and as person who expresses her every work with Aloha.

Ms. Glendon over the years have demonstrated her commitment to public defender work both as a trial attorney for the office and, now, as a supporter in private practice. She is fairly familiar with the workings of the office and the challenges that each of the deputies face on a day to day basis in ensuring that justice is properly served.

For these reasons, I urge you to confirm her nomination to serve on the Public Defender Council.

Sincerely,

  
E. Edward Aquino

**LATE**

**LAW OFFICE OF DAVID HAYAKAWA**

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
A LAW CORPORATION  
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May 10, 2020

Chair Karl Rhoads and Committee Members  
Senate Committee on Judiciary Hawaii State Capitol  
417 South Beretania Street, Room 016  
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813  
Via Email: [testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Re: Confirmation of Crystal Glendon for Defender Council (GM678)  
May 12, 2020 at 10am.

Dear Chair Rhoads and Committee Members:

I am writing in strong support of the confirmation of Ms. Crystal G. Glendon to the Defender Council.

I have practiced criminal defense for 30 years, including the initial 13 years of my career at our Office of the Public Defender. I interact frequently with the Office and individual Deputy Public Defenders, by assisting with jury trial practice training, case brainstorming, as well as participating in office celebrations. I have much Aloha for the Office and look forward to the continued success of the Office in the future. In addition to my full-time criminal law practice, I also serve as the Chair of the Supreme Court of the State of Hawaii's Rule 1.14 Professionalism Course Committee, Dean of the Hawaii State Bar Association's Trial Academy and recently was awarded the HSBA's Ikena Award for outstanding contributions to legal education.

I have known Crystal Glendon since she started at the Office in 2004 and watched as she developed into an outstanding trial attorney and advocate. I have no doubt that Crystal would be an excellent addition to the Defender Council. She understands the issues facing the Office and even more importantly, has a clear sense of the pulse of the Office and I support her nomination without any reservation.

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

Very truly yours,  
LAW OFFICE OF DAVID HAYAKAWA

*/s/ David M. Hayakawa*

DAVID M. HAYAKAWA



# THE LAW OFFICE OF RICHARD H.S. SING

**LATE**

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May 11, 2020

Chair Karl Rhoads and Committee Members  
Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Hawaii State Capitol  
417 South Beretania Street, Room 016  
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813  
Via Email: [testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Re: Confirmation of Crystal Glendon for Defender Counsel (GM678)  
May 12, 2020 at 10am.

Dear Chair Rhoads and Committee Members:

I am writing in strong support of the confirmation of Ms. Crystal G. Glendon to the Defender Counsel.

I am a solo practitioner concentrating in criminal defense who has appeared in the District, Family, Circuit, and Federal Courts, on a regular basis over the past 20+ years. I also served as a Deputy Public Defender from 1997 to 2003. Since that time I have maintained close ties to the office and its deputies, and at times have provided training and support, both formally and informally. I care deeply about the health and success the Office of the Public Defender.

I have known Crystal Glendon for more than a decade, both in her roles as a colleague in the Bar, and as a personal friend. Ms. Glendon is one of the most competent and caring attorneys I know. She cares greatly about the Office of the Public Defender and has a strong commitment to indigent defense. The Defender Counsel needs and deserves individuals of the caliber of Crystal Glendon.

I believe that the opportunity to have such a qualified candidate for a position on the Defender Counsel 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

**LATE**

**GM-678**

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 9:57:41 AM

Testimony for JDC on 5/12/2020 10:00:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tracy Fukui	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of Defender Council Nominee Crystal Glendon. I have known Crystal for approximately 15 years both professionally as former Deputy Public Defenders together, and personally, as a friend. She is a very competent, strong, and caring person and attorney that cares very much about the Office of the Public Defender. Crystal understands the tremendous responsibility and commitment required to run and work in that office and I believe she is committed to ensuring that the office always strives for excellence. She is an outstanding choice for Defender Council. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Aloha,

Tracy Fukui

**LATE**

**LATE**

**GM-678**

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 12:22:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 5/12/2020 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Benjamin Ignacio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support Ms. Glendon as an appointee to Defender Council. She is a longtime former Public Defender, and experienced trial attorney, and a passionate advocate for justice. Additionally, she is a lifelong Hawaii resident who's concern for the community and the State is equal to her commitment to justice.

**LATE**

**LATE**

**GM-678**

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 6:50:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 5/12/2020 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

## LAW OFFICE OF CRYSTAL GLENDON, LLLC

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**May 6, 2020**

Senator Karl Rhoads  
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary  
State of Hawai'i Senate  
State Capitol, Room 204  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Via Email to: [senrhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senrhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Re: Nomination to the Defender Council, GM No. 678

Dear Senator Rhoads,

Thank you very much for your letter dated May 3, 2020. I am humbled by Governor Ige's nomination to the Defender Council and sincerely look forward to this opportunity to serve the Defender Council, the Office of the Public Defender and the community.

Thank you for your questions about my interest in serving on the Defender Council. In response to your questions, my understanding of the role and jurisdiction of the Defender Council is to be the governing body of the State of Hawai'i Office of the Public Defender. Its primary function is to appoint the State Public Defender, which was a role that was taken on early this year after the appointment of the Honorable John M. Tonaki to the Circuit Court Bench left the position vacant. I applaud the Council's appointment of James S. Tabe to lead the statewide office. He was a dedicated leader in the office long before he took the helm, and I am confident in his ability to navigate the office through these tough, uncertain times. When I learned that there would be a position opening up on the Defender Council, I approached current leadership in the Office of the Public Defender with my interest in applying for the opening. Since starting my own practice last year, I have been looking for ways to diversity and contribute. When I expressed my interest, I was encouraged to apply by State Public Defender James Tabe.

Beyond the appointment of the Public Defender, my understanding and experience with the role of the Defender Council is that it exists to support the Office of the Public Defender while simultaneously providing a checks and balances system. Through its administrative powers, the Council holds regular meetings open to the public, whereby it can address petitions to change rules of the Council or determine the applicability of statutory provisions administered by the Council. The Council can also hold closed, executive meetings where it is empowered to consider specific employment matters related to the hiring, evaluation, dismissal or discipline of an officer

or employee, charges brought against that officer or employee, labor negotiations, and to investigate proceedings regarding criminal misconduct related to the office. The Council may also consider matters related to public safety or security. In order to effectuate these functions, the Council has subpoena power to require witnesses to testify under oath at any duly noticed meeting regarding matters related to the inquiry subject.

I wish to serve as a member of the Defender Council to support the Office of the Public Defender while providing checks and balances when needed. I believe that, in order to do this successfully, one should have a strong understanding of the service the office provides, the dynamics of the workplace, its history and its mission. I was a Deputy Public Defender for almost 15 years, and I served in every division of the office, from appeals through the Family, District and Circuit Court divisions. I have a personal understanding of each of the attorneys' duties, having handled cases from appeals to jury trials at the Circuit Court level. I interacted with the staff on a daily basis and provided leadership as second-chair for younger attorneys encountering their first jury trials. I served the mission of the Office of the Public Defender for most of my career, to represent the indigent charged with crimes to ensure that they are afforded effective, meaningful representation through one of the toughest times of their lives. I left the office a year ago to open a private legal practice, and I continue to represent persons charged with crimes, both as retained counsel and pro bono counsel. It was ingrained in me by the office that people need help, and as much as we can, we provide it. And as much as I can, I would like to continue to serve the Office of the Public Defender as a Council Member. I will always look out for the best interests of the office, whether that be supporting current policies or questioning them, within the scope of the Defender Council's power.

While I believe my background as a former Deputy Public Defender qualifies me for a position on the Defender Council, it is enhanced by my current experience as a solo practitioner and small business owner. Through private practice, my practice area is more diversified; I have civil cases, Family law cases, Federal defense cases and am also on the Grand Jury Counsel list for the Hawai'i Circuit Court of the First Circuit. What this has impressed upon me is a need to be adaptive, versatile and solution-oriented. These are skills and knowledge I will bring with me to the Defender Council if confirmed.

My hope for my term is to support the Office of the Public Defender in whatever way is necessary to make it successful. I believe they will need all the support they can get in these current uncertain times; new issues seem to be arising by the day with the global pandemic, unemployment on the rise, and the very real concern that more and more people will need the services Office of the Public Defender. I have observed as the office has pivoted to address current needs and applaud their efforts to continue to provide excellent legal representation despite the changes we are all enduring.

While I was a deputy, the Council undertook some unprecedented (at least in my time there) steps to make changes in the administration of the office. It was the first time that I'd really seen them take a more active role in the management of the office. They sought the input of the



deputies about policies and procedures that needed improvement, which I thought was positive and resulted in changes for the better. Should issues like these be brought to the Council's attention again, I will take upon myself as a Council Member to seek input from the stakeholders in the office so we can make decisions that move the office forward.

If a conflict arises during my service on the Council, I will take every step to be open about any potential conflict and, after careful consideration and discussions with other Council members, recuse myself if necessary. The only conflict I can foresee is if any issue is directly related to someone who works in the office who I maintain a close personal relationship with. In all candor, I do maintain many relationships with members of my former office; it's a small legal community and we all generally know each other, especially in the criminal defense practice. My current office is across the parking lot from the Office of the Public Defender, so it's not uncommon for me to drop by for a visit if my schedule permits. Additionally, I will disclose that, due to the proximity of my office to the Office of the Public Defender, clients who are disqualified from Public Defender representation at the District Court level (during District Court intake) sometimes seek counsel from myself and other attorneys in my current office. The Office of the Public Defender does not refer clients to us, and it is sheer proximity that alerts clients to our availability. In the year that I have been in private practice, these cases account for perhaps 5% of my caseload given that the bulk of my practice is in Family Court and not in the District Court.

I will always have the best interest of the Office of the Public Defender at heart. I wish to serve and to contribute my voice in a meaningful way to support the office. During my time at the office, I was a trial attorney also balancing the demands of family life with three young children. I understand how demanding this job is and how it can take its toll; the burden of representing people who often times have no one else to depend on but you is daunting. The deputies are the backbone of that office; the work they do and service they provide to our community is invaluable. I want to contribute what I can to support the office, the deputies and policies that will continue to make the office a successful one.

I do not believe that there is anything in my background that may be deemed negative or controversial by the Senate.

I welcome any and all questions about my background and my interest in serving on the Defender Council. I look forward to this opportunity to contribute to the Office of the Public Defender and the community. Thank you very much for your generous time and consideration.

Mahalo nui loa,

*/s/ Crystal Glendon*  
Crystal Glendon

cc: J. Faige via email at [j.faige@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:j.faige@capitol.hawaii.gov)