

Jane S. Preece

**Experience**

Admitted in California and Hawaii and have over thirty years of legal experience. Familiar with all aspects of litigating cases including: assessing case merits, preparing initial pleadings, pretrial motions, discovery, preparing witnesses, trying cases, and post-trial motions.

Appellate work includes assessing the merits, filing the appeal or writ, all types of briefing, and oral argument before the court of appeal.

Primary responsibility for preparing, litigating and settling a federal class action lawsuit against state agency that failed to distribute child support.

Management experience includes creating and managing own law office and managing a branch office and unit office of a large legal aid organization.

Experienced legal writer and editor. Former executive editor of California State Bar's Family Law News.

**Current Bar Admissions**

Hawaii Bar 2014, Bar Number 010157  
California Bar 1983, Bar Number 110985  
(Passed both Bar Exams on first attempt)

**Education**

University of California, Hastings College of the Law (JD , top 20% of class)  
University of California, Berkeley (BA in Economics , Dean's List)

**Employment**

2019 – Present: Hawaii Disability Rights Center, Staff Attorney, Honolulu, Hawaii  
2015 - 2017: Office of Disciplinary Counsel, Honolulu, Hawaii  
2007 - 2014: Law Office of Jane S. Preece, sole practitioner in family law litigation practice  
1989 - 2006: Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles: Staff Attorney, Supervising Attorney of Santa Monica Office, Directing Attorney of Family Law Unit  
1984 - 1989: Private Law Firms: civil litigation in personal injury, insurance defense, construction defects, landlord/ tenant

### **Published Appeals and Writs**

*In re Newsome*, 68 Cal.App.4th 949 (1998) (obtained reversal of trial court's error in finding jurisdiction in California, jurisdiction was in Texas), *Quintana v. Guijosa*, 107 Cal.App.4th 1077 (2003) (obtained reversal of trial court's discriminatory treatment of domestic violence victim), *Tracy A. v. Superior Court*, 117 Cal.App.4th 1309 (2004) (obtained order requiring courts to discontinue practice denying due process to litigants), *Monterroso v. Moran*, 135 Cal.App.4th 732 (2006) (obtained reversal of trial court's failure to apply applicable law to pro per litigant).

### **Most Recent Appeal**

*Van der Veer v. Regalbuto*, B254486 (2015) (obtained reversal of trial court's entry of judgment inconsistent with settlement agreement).

### **Honors**

2006 - 2011, California Certified Family Law Specialist (requires documentation of extensive litigation experience and a full-day test showing expertise in family law, passed exam on first attempt).

2005 - 2006, Editor, Family Law News (a publication of the Family Law Section of the State Bar of California).

2003, Family Law Attorney of the Year from the Legal Aid Association of California

### **Published Articles**

Protecting Your Client's Privacy in Depositions (2006, Family Law News)

New Law Gives Deceived Dads Second Bite at Apple (2005, Family Law News)

What Does a Father's Name on a Birth Certificate Really Mean? (2005, Family Law News)

Bobb Set Asides: Dispensing with 473(b) Motions in Default County Cases (2005, Family Law News)

Conflicting Custody and Restraining Order: A Problem with No Solution or Pity the Officer (2005, Family Law News)

Property Division in Default Cases (2005, Family Law News)

Caregiver's Authorization: Grandma's Little Helper (2004, Family Law News)

Guardianship Slips: Parents in Probate Court Deserve Greater Rights in Custody Disputes (2002, LA Daily Journal)

Some Family Law Actions are Exempt from Five-Year Rule (2002, LA Daily Journal)

The Child Support System Needs Resuscitation (1998, Los Angeles Times)

### **References and Writing Samples Available Upon Request**