



THE LAW OFFICE OF RICHARD H.S. SING

DAVIES PACIFIC CENTER
841 BISHOP STREET, SUITE 410
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

TELEPHONE: (808) 537-1529
FACSIMILE: (808) 523-9137
EMAIL: RICKSING@HICRIMINALLAW.COM

April 11, 2022

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

Re: Confirmation of Crystal Glendon for Defender Counsel (GM772)

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

STATE OF HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**Testimony of James S. Tabe, State Public Defender,
to the Senate Committee on Judiciary**

April 13, 2022

GM772: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Defender Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Crystal Gail Glendon

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

I fully support the nomination of Crystal Gail Glendon for a second term on the Defender Council. As a member of the Defender Council, Ms. Glendon will continue to 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, 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 to continue to serve on the Defender Council.

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

Catherine Gutierrez
1001 Bishop Street, Ste. 710
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 532-3229
catherinegutierrezlaw@gmail.com

April 11, 2022

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 16 years professionally and personally. She has done an excellent job in her first term as a member of the Defender Council and she will continue to do well in her second term, if given the opportunity.

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 prosper and continue its mission to provide competent legal assistance to indigent members of our community charged with criminal offenses. She understands and champions with great passion the office's mission and the staff and attorneys who fulfill those goals, protecting the rights of people.

Additionally, having worked for many years in the Public Defender's Office she has developed strong connections with the people in the office. 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 mission but also improve it.

I support Ms. Gendon's continued membership to the Defender Council wholeheartedly.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

Sincerely,



Catherine Gutierrez

**Testimony of Lee S. Hayakawa, Assistant Public Defender,
to the Senate Committee on Judiciary**

April 13, 2022

GM 772: For consideration and confirmation to the Defender Council,
Gubernatorial Nomination of CRYSTAL GAIL GLENDON.

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

It is a pleasure to support the nomination of Crystal Gail Glendon to the Defender Council for a second term. 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.

Ms. Glendon served as a deputy public defender from 2004 to 2019. She has since entered the private sector, specializing in criminal defense and also handling civil law matters. Ms. Glendon has handled difficult, high-profile cases in both the criminal and civil courts. Ms. Glendon received her bachelor's degree from the University of Hawaii at Hilo and her law degree from the University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson School of Law. Ms. Glendon understands the criminal justice system thoroughly and the Public Defender's essential role in that system. She also understands the many challenges our front-line trial attorneys face.

Ms. Glendon has served one term on the Defender Council and is a valuable member of this commission. We would be privileged to have her serve a second term on the Defender Council.

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

GM-772

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 10:09:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/13/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JOELLE SEGAWA KANE	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 12, 2022

Re: GM 772

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

It is with high regard that I offer this letter in support of CRYSTAL GAIL GLENDON, Gubernatorial Nominee, for consideration and confirmation for a further term to the Defender Council. I know Ms. Glendon both professionally and personally, She is as experienced and skillful attorney who is able to anticipate, articulate and identify complicated issues, and formulate and execute thoughtful solutions. She has a contemplative and considerate nature and is very perceptive in her ability to interact with people and situations. She consistently exhibits professionalism and has a great deal of respect for all individuals, always viewing people first as equals, regardless of where they come from, what their background is, or what their political preference may be. Ms. Glendon is a person of tremendous integrity and high moral values and, in my humble opinion, an outstanding citizen in our community.

I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration and urge you to recommend and confirm CRYSTAL GAIL GLENDON to a further term on the Defender Council.

Malama pono,
Joelle Segawa Kane

Gallagher Kane Amai & Reyes, AAL, ALC
Topa Financial Center
745 Fort Street, Suite 1550
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Direct dial: (808) 203-5413
Email: jkane@insurlawhawaii.com

GM-772

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 10:09:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/13/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherilyn Tavares	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on GM772, for consideration of gubernatorial nominee Crystal Glendon to Defender Council. I submit this testimony in strong support of this nomination and respectfully ask the Committee to approve Ms. Glendon's nomination.

As a proud Public Defender who has served my community of Hilo for the past 10 years, I have had many opportunities to work with and along side Ms. Glendon. Having had this opportunity, I know the desire that she has to ensure that our office is set up for continued success. If we do not have a strong office, it is my opinion that the greater public is at risk. Without an advocate with the valuable knowledge that she possesses, we take the risk of being ill prepared in a time when so much is changing in our communities. We are in need of improving and increasing our services and Ms. Glendon is the voice that this office needs on the Council and I strongly support her appointment.

Having tremendous experience working for this office, her knowledge is first hand to our needs. She has tirelessly advocated for her clients during her years of service as a public defender and always maintained an exceptional professional character. I believe that this work ethic and experience is unmatched with what she brings to the Council and what she will continue to advocate for.

Having someone that is trusted by the office to address critical issues is key to the continued success of the Defender Council's mission and the operation of the Office of the Public Defender. In order to be a success, we have to have the tools to sustain and maintain a group of dedicated attorneys and staff to carry out our constitutional obligations. I believe wholeheartedly that Ms. Glendon is that advocate and trust in her abilities to carry out the duties placed on her as a member of the Council.

There is a greater opportunity for the overall success of our office as a whole if we are able to have someone with Ms. Glendon's experience in a position to adequately advocate for us. I thank you for the opportunity to provide my input and for your time and attention to this matter. We need Ms. Glendon on the Council and I strongly encourage you to appoint her to this position.

Sincerely,

Sherilyn Tavares, Deputy Public Defender (Hilo)

LATE

April 12, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

Welina ke aloha kākou. I write to you to voice my unwavering support for Crystal K. Glendon, for Defender Council. She is a person who always is the most kind and considerate attorney, a true professional. She is a fierce advocate for her clients, and a life-long learner of the law. Crystal is organized, thoughtful, and will bring all of her best qualities to the Defender Council. She will be diligent in her duties, and will bring thoughtful solutions to any issues the Office of the Public Defender might face. As a long time public defender, she is certain to have valuable insights that will benefit both the clients of the office, and the attorneys responsible for litigating them.

I have worked both with Ms. Glendon and against her, and I say with no hesitation that she is qualified, and is the right person for this huge responsibility. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Me ka ha'aha'a,



Kelli K. Lee Ponce

GLENDON & PONCE

Crystal K. Glendon, Esq.
1001 Bishop Street Ste. 710
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

T (808) 762-7646
F (808) 753-5258
E crystal@glendonponce.com

April 1, 2022

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

Re: Nomination to the Defender Council, GM No. 772

Dear Senator Rhoads,

Thank you very much for your letter dated March 28, 2022. I am humbled by Governor Ige's nomination to serve another term on the Defender Council. I sincerely look forward to my continued service on the Council and the broader impacts this has for the Office of the Public Defender, our State and our community.

The past two years have certainly gone by quickly. The entirety of my time on the Council has been during COVID, and that has occupied much of our attention as Council members. We have supported the office through its COVID measures, made the switch to distance meetings, and did our best to navigate the changing times alongside the office. Most of what was needed from us was support during this time. Public Defender James Tabe did an excellent job of leading the office through these unprecedented times. Now that things appear to be transitioning back to normal, we have set our sights on helping as much as possible to improve the office and support its attorneys as needed in the exercise of their duties.

I wish to continue my service as a Council member because I believe there is a lot of good, non-COVID related work left to be done. I occupy a unique role on the Council, being the member who most recently served as a Deputy Public Defender in the Honolulu office. Because of this, I maintain strong relationships with the administration, deputies and staff, and have a finger on the pulse of what's going on in the office. I am often someone that is approached when deputies have concerns, and this connection allows me to raise issues directly to the Council that may not have otherwise been reported. I welcome and value this role as a Council member who people feel comfortable approaching with concerns.

Our latest decision as a Council has been to take a general survey of the office where we are asking the deputies and supervisors to comment on office practices that they are satisfied with and those that need improvement. The Council has conducted a survey in the past as a way to get a temperature check from the attorneys at the office. Unfortunately, that survey occurred right before COVID came about, so the follow-up was interrupted. We are now in the process of picking up where the first survey left off to finish the good work that was started by previous members. Our goal is to give everyone an opportunity for input and to address their concerns directly. I would very much like to remain a Council Member to see this through. My utmost goal is to do what I can with the time I have to improve the office, and I look forward to the survey responses to direct what the Council should address in the future.

During my service on the Council, I do not believe any conflicts of interest arose. Again, I believe that my recent service as a Deputy Public Defender is an asset because it makes me approachable and accessible to anyone at the office who wishes for an issue to be raised with the Council. To that end, I strive to be fair and available to all who approach me and to always keep in mind that the best interest of the Office of the Public Defender is my kuleana as a Council Member.

Thank you for your questions about my continued interest in serving on the Defender Council. I will always have the best interest of the Office of the Public Defender at heart. I have appreciated the opportunity these past two years to contribute my voice in a meaningful way to support the office. I know how hard and thankless the job of a Public Defender is, yet I know the people there will continue to take on the challenges of representing the indigent and underserved every day because that is what we as Public Defenders do. That the nation is seeing the value of a Public Defender with Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's pending confirmation to the United States Supreme Court shining light on the role of a Public Defender in our community makes me indescribably proud to have been a part of this wonderful office, and it inspires me to work even harder to help improve it in any way I can.

I welcome any and all questions about my background and my interest in serving on the Defender Council. Thank you very much for your generous time and consideration.

Mahalo nui loa,



Crystal Glendon

cc: L. Matthews via email at rhoads1@capitol.hawaii.gov