

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 7:54:24 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nellieann Shiroma	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Dear Senators and its committee,

I am writing this letter for consideration to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nomminee, Natasha R. Shaw.

I have known Ms. Shaw for over 13 years, first when she was a law clerk for Judge Colleen Hirai, then when she was an associate attorney at small law firm where I was a legal assistant. Later, she opened her own law practice. While working extremely hard with her practice, she was raising three small children, and still volunteered for various non-profit organizations.

Natasha Shaw would be a fine District Family Court Judge. She is currently a per-diem judge at the Kapolei Family Court, and is still maintaining her practice. She has a good sense of humor, self-discipline, and various interests outside of law. Her work product is superior because she has a keen legal mind and has demonstrated time with her ability to analyze complicated legal issues and apply the law appropriately. She is intelligent, wise and patient.

Natasha Shaw is a wonderful mother, friend and mentor, and she is an excellent attorney and judge. I hope that the committee will consider her as the District Family Court Judge for the First Circuit. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Nellieann J.T. Shiroma*

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 8:38:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Naia Lum	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Dear Hawaii Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am honored to be writing this letter of complete support for my lifetime role model and support system, Natasha Rani Shaw, the current Per Diem District Family Court Judge, who wishes to fill the judicial vacancy at the District Family Court on the Island of Oahu. I can speak at length about Ms. Shaw’s resilient and positive attitude and her passion to deeply consider the holistic view on others’ situations without any personal bias. Afterall, she is my mom.

My name is Naia, a current Mechanical Engineering student attending university in Chicago on a merit-based full-ride scholarship. I’ve known my mom for 19 years now. From a young age, the value and excitement of obtaining an education have been instilled in me by her, whose story of education was a bit different than my own. My mom was a first-generation student who single-handedly put herself through college, supported our family in moving to one of the best places for me and my siblings to grow up, started her law practice, navigated being a single mother, and on top of it all, even put me and my sister through ‘Iolani School tuition. My mom is THE success story of the American Dream; she not only earns success for herself, but gracefully continues to give the gift of opportunity for my siblings and I.

Don’t get me wrong, this was not an easy triumph for her. However from the perspective of her daughter, I see my mom as a ray of positive light, as she cheered me on to work to accomplish anything my mind could dream of. Only now am I beginning to understand the gravity of what she has sacrificed for me. I have watched my mom continue to selflessly contribute the same dedication for Family Court as a Per Diem Judge, and I know she will make an even greater positive impact on people’s lives if granted the opportunity to fill the full-time judicial vacancy.

While my mom has many superpowers, one of the greatest ones is her ability to gather information by reading through people, understand and empathize with their situation, and somehow always know the right thing to say or do. I’ve watched her break down walls – as small as spotting red flags and providing guidance for my trivial high school dating experiences to upholding courage and compassion when my parents were divorced.

The divorce was hard for my mom, but it especially took a toll on me and my siblings. Despite those difficult times, my mom swiftly comforted our confusion and anger. She never encouraged our vexation but instead validated our distraught, and pointed our attention to a more positive light. Her skill to finesse a fragile situation and set aside personal biases single-handedly transformed one of the most negative experiences of our lives into an opportunity for compassion

and growth. Even in the most personal moments, she continuously acts for the greater good for those around her; she will contribute the same to Family Court.

My mom has always been my champion. She has sacrificed and supported me through everything, and after all these years, I finally have a chance to advocate for her too. Natasha Rani Shaw will do justice for families who go through the court system; she already has demonstrated this as a Per Diem Judge. My mom carries herself with humility, intelligence, and grace. She works hard to ensure that nothing is overlooked, no matter how small. She is resilient to all that she has experienced, and carries the same ethic in her passion for serving the community. My mom's vision for an equitable world is something my generation can only hope to one-day see; she has the skill set to build it – not just for today, but for future generations to come. She is a natural leader, who can meticulously pick apart problems to make objective decisions with all considerations in mind. Knowing her as my mentor, friend, and mother, I know she will work hard, as she has always done, to uphold the greatest standards and make decisions that stand for justice. She has taught me to do the same.

I would never have had the confidence to pursue my accomplishments, gain peace in our family's tribulations, or become the person I am today without my mom. Please let me know if you have any further questions about my mom in regards to her judicial nomination. Thank you for your time, and I hope I was able to provide some clarity in my recommendation.

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 3:48:39 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jared Kawashima	Testifying for Yee & Kawashima LLLP	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads and Committee Members,

My partner Randall Yee and I submit our written support for the confirmation of Natasha R. Shaw to the District Family Court of the First Circuit. We both personally know Ms. Shaw and have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Shaw in probate/trust related matters. She exemplifies the highest ethical, moral and conscientiousness desired in a practitioner of the law. She has expressed her joy and passion in serving as a per diem Judge in the Family Court and it is wonderful to see her face light up as she notes the steep learning curve she has willingly endured. While we do not practice in Family Court, if appointed, we know Ms. Shaw will serve diligently, with the proper judicial temperament, and to the best of her ability.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter and for your favorable consideration of Ms. Shaw.

Respectfully,

Jared N. Kawashima, Esq., Managing Partner

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 8:39:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrew D. Smith	Testifying for Andrew D. Smith LLC	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*I am an attorney with thirty (30) years of practice in civil litigation, guardianship and conservatorship, and contested probate and trust proceedings. I have tracked Natasha Shaw's career as she progressed from law clerk (Judge Hirai), to sole practitioner and finally to per diem judge. I have been counsel in several contested matters in which Ms. Shaw served as kokua kanawai, as well as several cases in which she represented parties adverse to my clients. She also has presided over several of my guardianship cases. It is been my privilege to watch her build her practice and lay the groundwork for her current appointment on the Family Court bench. My firsthand experience and observation tells me that she is compassionate, fair, diligent and fully committed to doing her best work in all of her professional roles. She is firm and consistent in her rulings. She shows respect for counsel and parties. Most of all, she clearly loves being a judge and aspires to become an integral part of our judicial system. Her enthusiasm for her chosen profession has served her well through the pandemic years, providing the stamina and strength which is absolutely critical to prevail over the daunting challenges of Family Court cases. I strongly recommend confirmation of her appointment, as she is flourishing in Family Court and has demonstrated an eagerness to perfect her skills already tempered by years of experience on the bench.*

**LAW OFFICE OF GALE L. F. CHING, LLC**  
*Attorney at Law*

*The Arcade Building  
212 Merchant Street, Suite 330  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Email: galefching@gmail.com  
Tel: (808) 275-0208 Fax: (808) 275-0204*

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March 30, 2022

**[Via E-Mail (Senrhoads@Capitol.hawaii.gov) & Fax (808-586-6131)]**

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads  
Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**[Via E-Mail (Senkeohokalole@Capitol.hawaii.gov) & Fax (808-587-7220)]**

The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole  
Vice Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: JC 24  
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District  
Family Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee,  
NATASHA R. SHAW, for a term to expire in 6 years

Dear Senator Rhoads and Senator Keohokalole,

I am pleased to have learned that Natasha R. Shaw, Esq. is the judicial nominee for the District Family Court position of the First Circuit Court of the State of Hawaii. This letter is an unsolicited letter in full support of the appointment and confirmation of Natasha R. Shaw.

I have known Ms. Shaw for a number of years and have had the privilege of working with her on cases in my private practice and as a fellow Per Diem Family Court Judge of the First Circuit. In working with Ms. Shaw on actual cases, she has always worked tediously and consciously on behalf of her clients. I have learned that Ms. Shaw is meticulous in her approach to work as she makes sure that every detail is taken care of. One can observe that at all Court hearings, Ms. Shaw is well prepared as she advocates on behalf of her client's position. At all times, Ms. Shaw has conducted herself in a civil and ethical manner to all parties and attorneys. She is well respected in her practice.

As a fellow Per Diem Family Court Judge, Ms. Shaw conducts herself in the same admirable fashion. She prepares thoroughly in order to be well versed on the pending issues in her cases. Her thoroughness in preparation greatly assists and is well appreciated by the parties and attorneys appearing before her. When I had the opportunity to personally observe Ms. Shaw preside on cases, I was quite impressed in the way she handled many of the stressful and emotional cases that often appears in Family Court. Despite the often stressful situations that

*LAW OFFICE OF GALE L. F. CHING, LLC  
ATTORNEY AT LAW*

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads  
Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole  
Vice Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

*March 30, 2022*

*Page 2*

exist in Family Court cases, Ms. Shaw as the presiding Judge always remained calm and focused. Ms. Shaw displays a calm judicial demeanor that is much needed on the bench.

I have no doubt whatsoever in Ms. Shaw's ability and competency to serve as a Family Court Judge. Ms. Shaw already has valuable judicial experience that she brings to the bench. She will be off and running once appointed.

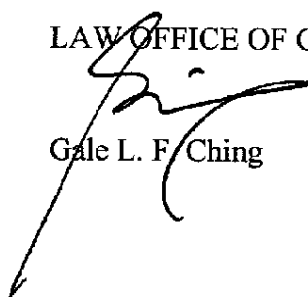
Ms. Shaw will make an outstanding Family Court Judge and be a valuable asset to the Judiciary.

I hope that you will look favorably upon the confirmation of Natasha R. Shaw as the judicial nominee for the pending Family Court position. I regret that I am unable to be personally present to address you due to pending Court matters that conflicts with this proceeding. However, please do not hesitate at contacting me at (808) 271-8358 (cell) should you have any questions.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

LAW OFFICE OF GALE L. F. CHING, LLC



Gale L. F. Ching



# KOREAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION HAWAII

**LATE**

하와이한미변호사협회

**KABAH Officers:**

**President**

Kelly Y. Uwaine

Sent via email

**Vice President**

Jin Tae Kim

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary

**Treasurer**

Chuck C. Choi

March 31, 2022

**Secretary**

Jason S. Woo

Re: JC 24, TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF NOMINEE NATASHA R. SHAW

**Board of Directors:**

Tina Bae

Amanda Chang

Connie Chang

John Choi

Rex Kim

Warren Kim

James Lee

Sunny Lee

Will Lee

Leighton Oshima

Daniel Pyun

Natasha Shaw

Dear Senator Karl Rhoads:

Korean American Bar Association Hawaii (“KABAH”) was founded to encourage and promote the professional growth of Korean American Lawyers and law students in the State of Hawaii. For over 20 years, KABAH has strived to foster network, support and the exchange of ideas and information among its members, the local Korean American community, and the community at large. KABAH’s efforts include educational initiatives, community benefiting events such as voter registration drive, and others in conjunction with other community organizations.

On behalf of KABAH, we write this letter in support of nominee Ms. Natasha R. Shaw to serve in the appointed vacancy at the District Family Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii. Ms. Shaw possesses all of the qualities and traits that you want in a jurist. She has exemplary legal experience, aptitude and temperament, and community service showing compassion and kindness for the people of Hawaii.

During her tenure as President of KABAH, she built cohesion and unity among our membership and led initiatives to create our first website, started mentoring opportunities for younger Korean American lawyers, and her daughter got involved in designing our logo, which is on this letterhead. Ms. Shaw continues on the Board of Directors of KABAH to continue to mentor and develop future Korean lawyers in Hawaii. We believe that if Ms. Shaw is confirmed as a District Family Court judge, it will greatly help in bringing more representation of the Korean community to the judiciary, which we believe is necessary.

For all these reasons we strongly urge you to appoint and confirm nominee Ms. Natasha R. Shaw to serve in the vacancy at the District Family Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

**Address:**

Topa Financial

Center

700 Bishop Street,

Suite 1107

Honolulu, Hawaii

96813

(808) 533-1877

**Website:**

[kabahawaii.org](http://kabahawaii.org)



Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelly Y. Uwaine', written in a cursive style.

Kelly Y. Uwaine  
President of KABA

**LATE**

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 12:19:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Erik Taniguchi	Testifying for Taniguchi & Associates	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom this may concern,

I've known Natasha Shaw for over 7 years now. I'm a Realtor with Keller Williams Honolulu and I have a real estate team, Taniguchi & Associates. We work with Natasha on trust and probate probate property sales. Natasha is a great person and fantastic to work with. She has excellent communication with my team and our clients. I highly recommend Natasha Shaw.

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 10:24:09 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandy Long	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Natasha Shaw does not follow thru on her commitments. Would be concerned about her judicial follow thru.

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 2:03:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Rodriguez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Natasha Shaw has the legal experience which qualifies her to serve on the Family Court of the First Circuit. Thank you for your favorable consideration.

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 2:26:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Roy Shaw	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing this testimony for my sister Natasha Rani Shaw, the current Per Diem District Family Court Judge, who wishes to fill the judicial vacancy at the District Family Court on the Island of Oahu.

My name is Roy Shaw and I am currently a Group Leader of Network Engineering at CAE with a top secret clearance for the Department of Defense. I have known Natasha for 41 years of my life. She is one of the most hard working, caring, honest and motivated individuals I know. I could write you a book about her accomplishments, but that is what a resume is for and as a hiring manager I know you only get so much from that. The way a person handles adversity and helps during difficult times is the best test of a person's character. I would like to share my own personal experience with you.

I honestly did not understand anything about Family law until about 2019 when my own marriage started to fall apart. During this time, I tried to save my marriage and kept this personal issue to myself except for my sister Natasha. She was the only one I trusted to keep this matter confidential. I also trusted her because I knew she would be able to help me more than any person I know. With her own personal experience of going through a divorce and her time working as a Family Court Judge. She knew full detail of the issues with my marriage. She could have easily made it personal but she still kept her advice honest and fair to make sure that I was doing what was best for my children, myself and my long term future dealing with my ex-wife. She did not tell me what I wanted to hear, she told me what I needed to hear. Even though she knew it would be difficult for me to digest a lot of the advice she gave me. I am forever grateful for this and without her I am not sure how I would have made it through this difficult time in my life. I know that if she keeps a fair judgement on her own brother, she will continue to do this for everyone. This type of moral compass I believe should be the standard for what every Family Judge should inspire. With her personal life experience and a stellar resume to match. I highly recommend her to fill this vacancy.

Roy Shaw

Group Leader Network Engineer

CAE USA

813-887-1274

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 3:11:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jared A Washkowitz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I have known Natahsa Shaw personally and professionally for over ten years. She is of the highest integrity and moral character and I support her appointment as family court judge. I have had cases before her and find her to be prepared, and also fair and knowledgeable about procedures and the law. She maintains good control of the Court room and lets all parties be heard, all while keeping a calm and composed demeanor. I strongly believe that she will be an excellent addition to the judiciary and will serve the public, her colleagues in the judiciary, and the attorneys who appear before her quite well. She also has three kids who are all doing very well, and is an active member of the community. The fact that she has been so successful in her career all while raising three good kids speaks to her character. In conclusion, I support Natasha and hope she is confirmed as a judge.

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 7:48:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Carroll Taylor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I write in support of the appointment of Natasha R. Shaw as a Family District Court Judge in the First Circuit.

I first met Ms. Shaw in her role as a law clerk for Judge Hirai of the Probate Court. When her term ended, she requested an interview with me for possible employment in my firm. We were not hiring at the time and I told her so, but volunteered to meet with her to discuss her interests and perhaps proffer some career guidance suggestions.

We met. Halfway through our talk, it came out that she had her third child in the summer between her first and second years of law school at Stetson University while she was simultaneously matriculating in Stetson's MBA program. My immediate reaction was: the lady must know how to work! Armed with this "insight," I decided that perhaps my firm was in a hiring mode, contacted a friend in another law firm and arranged a meeting for the three of us. As a result of that meeting, she commenced working half time for me and half time for my friend's firm. That relationship continued until an associate left my friend's firm and Natasha was thereupon offered full time employment with him which I endorsed and she accepted.

We have worked on a number of matters as co-counsel and my initial insight has been borne out: she works hard and produces good work product. Because of her work experience as an auditor before attending Law School and her matriculation from the Stetson MBA program, she is well qualified to handle property division issues in the Family Court. She also has a cheerful presence and a diligent can-do attitude. I know that she has much enjoyed her work as a per diem Family Court judge and aspires to positively contribute to the lives of those who appear before her.



I am absolutely confident that she will be an exemplary Judge of whom the Hawaii Senate can be proud.

Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Very Truly Yours,

Carroll S. Taylor

CST:mkp22ct0210A

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 8:09:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jeffrey Kam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting the following testimony in full support of Natasha Shaw for confirmation for the full-time judicial position for the District Family Court located in Kapolei.

Ms Shaw is fully qualified for the position as she has worked as a per diem judge for the District Family Court since January 2019. Prior to her legal career she had worked as a junior accountant and internal auditor for 10 years which I feel would be a great addition to her legal skills.

I also was a client of hers as she helped me maneuver through a delicate and emotional family matter. I found her to be extremely skilled but more importantly caring, and a great listener and communicator.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha,

Jeffrey C. Kam, MD

Chief, Department of Allergy & Immunology

Straub Medical Center

Honolulu, HI 96813

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 1:39:25 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joseph Morrissey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to recommend Natasha Shaw for the position of full-time District Family Court Judge. Natasha was a student of mine in Contact Law at Stetson University College of Law back in 2005. I got to know Natasha quite well through her active participation in our class, but also through her extensive involvement with extracurricular activities on campus. I'm delighted that I'm still in touch with her so many years later, and am very proud of her accomplishments since law school. I found Natasha to have a unique combination of intelligence, compassion, and humility, qualities that would serve her well as a full-time family court judge. She has my highest recommendation for the position.

***Academic and Leadership Success in Law School***

Natasha was a terrific student at Stetson. But her academic success was even more remarkable given that she was raising young children while she was in law school. In fact, she had her third child while she was in her second year. Not only did she find time to study and excel academically while raising her family, she also found time to be a student leader on campus. She was the Treasurer at the Family Law Society, President of the Asian American Law Student Association, and a member of the Business Law Society. She also interned for the Honorable Amy Williams.

***Professional Excellence***

Natasha has been a practicing attorney for almost 14 years now, helping clients generally with issues related to trusts and estates. She also just began her fourth year as a Per Diem Family Court Judge. Natasha explained to me the nature of a family court judge, why she loves the part-time position, and would be both honored and delighted if she were to be appointed to be a full-time District Family Court Judge. She explained that family court judges must be compassionate and patient, but strong because they are required to make critical decisions involving family and what is in the best interest of children. Natasha told me that the issues addressed at Family Court are often times heart breaking. Nonetheless, she fully believes that the Family Court plays a crucial role in improving the lives of the families and children who come before the court. Her explanation of the role to me underscores what I knew about her as a student – that she is compassionate and committed to helping the lives of others.

Natasha is incredibly capable. In addition to being bright, compassionate, and accomplished, she has always been enthusiastic and humble. She has my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,

Joseph F. Morrissey

Leroy Highbaugh Sr. Research Chair and Professor of Law

Stetson University College of Law

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 4:07:23 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tonya Morissette	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I humbly write this in support of my sister's nomination for the District Family Court on the island of Oahu.

Like my sister, I had to put myself through college and earned a Bachelors of Science in Nursing. I've proudly been a Registered Nurse for over 12 years. I currently work in dialysis, however, prior to my new position, I was one of the charge nurses at the hospital. I've been married to a very loving and supportive husband for nearly 15 years who proudly served our country in the United States Army and is now the Service Manager at Nalco Water, which is owned by Ecolab Company and have three boys. My oldest son proudly served our country as a Marie and has just accepted his first position as a Pasco County fire fighter EMT. My younger two sons are in high school.

I've known my sister her entire life, which is now a little over 45 years. Since we were kids, my sister has always been the mediator of my family, the one who stands up to everyone when necessary, and the one who always try to keep the relationships in our immediate family connected. Our upbringing was beyond challenging and painful. My parents divorced at a young age, my father had full custody of us, we saw my mother twice a year, my father must've had trauma from being a career Army service man because even after he retired, he wouldn't stay in one place. We moved over 30 times, I myself went to over 12 high schools. We were so poor growing up. We even lived in a camp ground at one point. I remember my sister leaving food on her plate so my dad could have a little extra food to eat at dinner. Now as adults, and with my dad having passed away, I honestly feel so much pain and anger thinking back, but my sister on the other hand, she focuses on all the good things and tries to remind me of those good things. I'll never be like my sister, but I share this with you because she is THE person you'd want as a Family Court judge. Despite all the pain and suffering, my sister always put others first, always has hope and a belief that things would get better, and even if they didn't get better, she's always find the good. She's compassionate and selfless. She lives in a world of possibilities and

optimism and hope. Despite those amazing qualities about my sister, she's as tough as nails and has been since we were young kids. She is not a push over and if necessary, will be strong and not hesitate to stand up for what she believes in.

We need people like my sister in Family Court because she knows what those people are going through because we've suffered through so much ourselves, she's very educated, which she accomplished on her own, she even earned a full ride to law school, she's very compassionate but very, very strong. She's always believed in me no matter what, I'm so proud of her and strongly support her nomination.

Sincerely,

Tonya D. Morrisette

Wife, Mom, BSN RN

TESTIMONY OF ELIZABETH A. ESCOBAR ON  
JUDICIAL NOMINATION OF NATASHA R. SHAW AS  
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT FAMILY COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT,  
STATE OF HAWAII

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

Hearing on April 1, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

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

I write to strongly support the confirmation of NATASHA R. SHAW as Judge of the District Family Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

I have known and practiced before Ms. Shaw since her initial appointment to the Family Court of the First Circuit as a per diem judge in 2019. Ms. Shaw is a person of integrity and has a great judicial temperament. As a former Deputy Attorney General, State of Hawaii, I frequently appeared before Ms. Shaw with a significant caseload. Ms. Shaw was always well prepared for our robust docket while still managing private actions with ease. Ms. Shaw consistently applied the law to the facts presented and entered decisions accordingly. Ms. Shaw's decision making approach is balanced and based on legal precedent, making it apparent that she is not influenced by political pressure or influence.

Ms. Shaw is known professionally for having a reputation of fairness and treating parties and attorneys with a great deal of respect while commanding control over her courtroom. Ms. Shaw's inquisitive questions to counsel and parties throughout cases strongly indicated that Ms. Shaw has a firm understanding of the legal matters before her. On numerous occasions I witnessed difficult attorneys and pro se parties interact with Ms. Shaw. On every occasion she handled the difficult person(s) with professionalism and respect, never once losing her composure. I have seen Ms. Shaw effectively diffuse tense pro se parties by simply making the extra effort to explain the process or reassure the party that they are being heard. I believe this is an invaluable trait for a member of the Judiciary. I have witnessed Ms. Shaw's sincere concern and compassion as inmates meet their child for the first time. It is obvious that Ms. Shaw has not lost touch with the people who are affected by her decisions and that she appreciates the gravity of her role.

Thank you for your service and work on this extremely important committee. I strongly urge you to confirm NATASHA R. SHAW as Judge to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 5:06:08 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hung Nguyen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee:

My name is Hung V. Nguyen, and I am writing in support of Ms. Shaw’s candidacy for District Family Court Judge on the Island of Oahu. I am a practicing attorney in good standing with the Florida Bar. I have known Ms. Shaw for over 5 years and have worked with her on several occasions, including presenting at a CLE event in Washington, DC for the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association. In my experience, Ms. Shaw is an ideal judicial officer because of her judicial temperament, intellectual acumen, work ethic, and compassion. Her prior judicial experience only adds to her impressive resume. I also believe her life experience is crucial to a well-rounded judiciary. Her experience growing up as a minority who experienced racial discrimination is an asset in the pursuit of justice. I know there are other qualified candidates for this position but Ms. Shaw is an exemplary choice. Thank you for your consideration.



**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 5:43:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Divina Disanza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Natasha R Shaw is a phenomenal women. She is a perfect example of a mother, provider, mentor, friend, sister, daughter and a model citizen. I have known Ms. Shaw for over 28 years. I have watched her character thrive in every stage of her life. She has overcome many adversities and she has learned to move forward with such grace and strength. A perfect example of her success is portrayed in her amazing children. They are all so loving, respectful, kind, intelligent, and mentally strong just like their mother. If anyone is blessed to have Ms. Shaw as a friend. One will know the true meaning of friendship because she will be honest, supportive, nonjudgmental and she will never go against her integrity. I know she will be a fair and honest judge. She will lead with patience, compassion, moral and high ethics, honesty, empathy, and respect everyone. I am confident that the citizens of Hawaii will have a judge that one can be proud of.

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 8:03:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lori Tamanaha	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Hello. My name is Lori Tamanaha, a Court Officer with the Family Court TRO Unit (15 years). I am writing to you in support of Natasha R. Shaw for District Family Court Judge. I have known Judge Shaw for about 3 years since she became a per diem judge with Family Court in 2019. She filled in for the Special Division calendar often, even sitting as a fourth judge when Family Court had a fourth judge line for the division, so I was able to work with her on the Domestic Abuse calendar and get to know her.**

**She is one of the sweetest people I know. She is smart and kind and always willing to help out other courtrooms if she finished her calendar early. Her smile is contagious (though you can't see it nowadays because of our masks) and she has such a positive attitude. Being a Judge on the TRO calendar, she manages to stay calm and composed even when dealing with stressful/emotional situations. She is also very patient when dealing with difficult litigants. She treats litigants with respect and speaks/explains things in simpler terms instead of using legal jargon that is difficult to understand. Litigants hardly left the courtroom mad or storming out after her orders, and I think it's because she explains her ruling to them. Judge Shaw really cares about people and the work she does and performs her duties in a respectful, fair and impartial manner. She would make an outstanding full time Judge if selected.**

**Thank you for your time**

**Re: Appointment of Natasha R. Shaw, Esq.**

Gentlemen:

I am a Circuit Court Clerk at Kapolei writing in support of the appointment of Natasha R. Shaw, Esq.

Since her appointment as a Per Diem Judge at Family Court, Judge Shaw has sat on the bench on almost all dockets at Family Court. She is very well educated, upholds the law, and has extensive trial experience. Throughout her term(s) at Family Court, she has presided expertly in numerous contested legal matters and difficult trials. She prepares for court, carefully reviews each case and may conduct her own legal research to ensure that justice is obtained in every single case.

I observed her to be intelligent, knowledgeable, compassionate, fair, impartial, effective, honest, hardworking, polite, professional, and treats people fairly and with respect. I believe she gives careful thought to her decisions and they are based on sound legal analysis.

Her education, experience, and temperament all make her the right person for this important job.

Our judicial system is in need of more judges who possess these qualities; therefore, I wholeheartedly recommend and support the appointment of Natasha R. Shaw, Esq. as District Family Judge of the First Circuit.

I thank you for giving me this opportunity to submit my letter of support.

Sincerely,

Norwma Lee  
Family Court, Juvenile Division

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 9:14:56 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Charles W. Crumpton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Senate Judiciary Committee Chair and Members;

It is truly an honor and pleasure to submit this unconditional support for Natasha Shaw’s appointment as a judge of the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Natasha Shaw, professionally and personally, for at least ten years, and have had the first-hand opportunity to observe her exceptional professionalism, intelligence, integrity, good judgment, ethical dedication, communication skills and people skills. She has, when most challenged, always had the courage and conviction to make and stand behind challenging decisions with wisdom and compassion, and with devotion to the Rule of Law. I have personally observed Ms. Shaw to have consistently exhibited impeccable character, conscience and humanity in her service as an attorney and as a per diem judge, even when most difficult. She has also consistently treated all involved – judges, court staff, opposing counsel and parties, clients, witnesses and others – with respect, understanding and dignity. Ms. Shaw exemplifies the qualifications, attributes and professional and personal qualities of most value in the difficult role of fairly, responsibly and humanely resolving legal conflicts that are also human conflicts in the legal and judicial forum. Based on Ms. Shaw’s qualifications and my more than 43 years of experience serving as a civil litigation attorney, and 37 years of experience as a mediator and arbitrator in the Hawai’i State and Federal Courts, in various administrative roles in Hawai’i Judiciary and State Bar Association committees and entities, and in teaching and training of conflict resolution locally, nationally and internationally, I can recommend and support her appointment as a judge of the District Family Court of the First Circuit wholeheartedly and without reservations or conditions. There is no question that her service in that role will further the standards, interests and values of the Judiciary and the community, and will exemplify fairness, responsibility and humanity to all those involved and affected.

I would be glad to provide any additional information requested, and to address any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles W. Crumpton

Crumpton Collaborative Solutions

1251 Heulu St. #1001

Honolulu, HI 96822-3087

PH: (808) 284-9209

E-mail: [crumpton@chjustice.com](mailto:crumpton@chjustice.com)

URL: [www.crumptoncollaborativesolutions.com](http://www.crumptoncollaborativesolutions.com)

Websites: [www.nadn.org](http://www.nadn.org); [www.accord3.com](http://www.accord3.com); [www.acctm.org](http://www.acctm.org); [www.mediate.com](http://www.mediate.com)

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 9:48:22 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
LORI ANN DIAZ	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 30, 2022

Good morning Senate Judiciary Committee:

I have worked for the Hawaii State Judiciary for the past 35 years. I have had the opportunity to work closely with the Honorable Natasha R. Shaw as she performed her duties as a per diem judge in Family Court.

I am writing to you to support Natasha R. Shaw's nomination as a judge for the Family Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawai'i.

Judge Shaw has been a per diem judge for some time, and I have had the opportunity to work with her as her court clerk on many, many occasions. As a result, I have been able to observe her as she sat on the bench. The following are my observations of Judge Shaw.

Judge Shaw is very capable and knowledgeable as a family court judge. Whenever she sits on the bench, she has been fully prepared as she has spent her own time in reviewing the records and files of the parties she has scheduled on her calendar. Judge Shaw demonstrates excellent judicial

demeanor, treats all parties fairly and respectfully when she applies the law, and ensures the parties understand her reasons for her application of the law in their cases when making her decisions.

In addition, Judge Shaw is very appreciative of judiciary employees. She ensures that while we are doing our best, we are not taken advantage of by any party or attorney. Judge Shaw appreciates our knowledge of the procedures and takes the time to understand and apply any new laws and/or procedures that arise. She is respectful of our responsibilities and is always willing to listen if we have issues with parties or attorneys. Judge Shaw ensures that those issues are resolved and if not, tries very hard to reconcile the parties with the issues.

I fully support her nomination and would respectfully request that you appoint her as a judge in the Family Court, First Circuit, of the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,

Lori Ann Diaz

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 10:00:06 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Levi K. Hookano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Natasha Shaw’s appointment to the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

Ms. Natasha Shaw stands out as a fantastic choice to serve in the role of a district family court judge due to her experience as a family court per diem judge, extensive legal practice experience, and her commitment to public service.

Ms. Shaw's experience as a per diem family court judge from 2019 to present prepared her well to serve as a full time judge. She gained extensive time on the bench, chosen to fill the full time vacancies in the Special Division due to a number of judicial retirements. Ms. Shaw will continue to serve faithfully and apply the law fairly, evenly, compassionately, and immediately.

As a practicing attorney for more than 12 years, Natasha assisted clients with estate planning and probate needs, real property issues, and alternative dispute resolution preparation. These practice areas are heavily focused on individual people, and require compassion, tact, and intelligence, all of which will be a tremendous asset on the family court bench.

Finally, Ms. Shaw's commitment to community service is a key aspect of her qualifications. She credits this passion for public service to her dad, who served in the US Army. She grew up volunteering at homeless shelters, domestic abuse shelters, and care homes and would help cook, clean, serve food, dress up as elves during Christmas and sing carols to the residents of wherever she volunteered. Continuing to adulthood and her legal professional life, Natasha established an excellent track record, including volunteering for HSBA Law Day programs, the American Judicature Society, and the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association. She also volunteers as a judge for the Hawaii State Middle/High School Debate competitions, the Iolani School Fair, and many other activities. There is no doubt that even while on the bench, she will continue her commitment to volunteering in the community.

Ms. Shaw is a well-rounded attorney who excels at her craft. I have every confidence that she will serve honorably as a judge at the District Family Court of the First Circuit and I fully recommend her confirmation.





**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 10:05:40 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Carene Chrash	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the nomination of Natasha R. Shaw to the District Family Court of the First Circuit and urge your confirmation of her appointment. I have known Natasha for eight years on a personal level and in that time have come to know her well and respect her very much. Her intellect is keen, commitment to service is deep, and she exhibits integrity and a sense of fairness in all that she undertakes. I cannot think of a better combination of qualities for a Family Court judge. She possesses an even-mannered, humble and respectful demeanor.

Her combination of character and intelligence suit her perfectly to meet the high standards of a Family Court Judge position and to serve our community well. I strongly and whole-heartedly support the confirmation of Natasha R. Shaw to the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

Sincerely,

Carene M. Chrash

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 1:01:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susannah Savitsky, Esq.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

It is my true honor to be able to recommend Natasha Shaw for a judicial position. I have had the pleasure of knowing Natasha since we began Stetson University College of Law together in 2005. Natasha was one of the rare students in our class who managed to excel in her studies while simultaneously raising a family (including a pregnancy while in law school), chairing an academic club and assisting other students with their studies.

Natasha has always been an extremely family-focused person and always treats others with respect, empathy and dignity, no matter their situation. She is a wonderful attorney whose legal skill is topped only by her compassion and sense of justice.

I have absolutely no doubt that she will be an amazing asset to the people of Hawai'i if she assumes the bench. Our justice system needs more judges like her!!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

***Susannah C. Savitsky***

Susannah C. Savitsky, Esq.

Partner

Bates-Buchanan & Savitsky Law Group, PA

333 S. Tamiami Trail, Suite 298

Venice, FL 34285

941-799-3015

Susannah@LadyLawyersFla.com

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 1:04:27 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gina Drewes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of my friend, the current Per Diem District Family Court Judge, Natasha Shaw.

I have been a retail business owner in Hawaii for 35 years. I have known Natasha for 12 years through our children. Her daughter attended kindergarten through 5th grade with my niece and then 'Iolani School with my son. Her son is also in the same Boy Scout troop as both of my boys.

Natasha and I have interacted both professionally and socially over the years. In my eyes Natasha is a strong and kind person who I admire greatly. She has a knack for always saying and doing the right thing.

I believe children learn their values and belief of right and wrong from their parents, and I have seen what a great example Natasha has set for her own children. She has raised three extremely bright and well-balanced children who respect and love her.

I believe she will be an excellent role model for the court as well. Her knowledge and passion for doing what is right will benefit everyone who comes into her courtroom.

I hope you allow her to become a full-time judge, as we need more strong, capable and compassionate women for the community to look up to.

Thank you for your consideration,

Gina Drewes

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 1:12:50 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Evie-Ann Parker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 30, 2022

Hawaii State Senate Judiciary

Senate President Ronald D. Kouchi, Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Jarrett Keohokalole, and Members of the Hawaii State Legislature

Thank you for the opportunity and consideration to submit my written comments on behalf of Judicial Nominee Natasha R. Shaw.

Since 2005, I have held the capacity of Circuit Court Clerk in the Second Circuit, and from 2014 as a Family Court Clerk in the First Circuit. Over the years, I have had the privilege of working with various full-time Circuit Court and Family Court judges as well as part-time per diem judges.

When I was introduced to Judge Shaw, she presented herself as a kind, caring, compassionate person in the office. I'm pleased that I had the opportunity and privilege to sit with her in court as she demonstrated her professionalism in presiding over Family Court cases. She takes the time to review and prepare for each case in advance to have an understanding of what the families or parties seeking assistance from the court. Upon hearing from respective parties, counsel, facts, and evidence presented, she applies her knowledge of the law, procedures, and understanding to make a fair and impartial decision in each case.

Judge Shaw has clearly demonstrated that she has the experience and credentials to preside over Family Court cases as a full-time judge. I have the utmost confidence that she will be a valuable asset to the Judiciary.

Thank you your time and consideration.

With kind regards,

Evie-Ann Parker

Circuit Court Clerk

Family Court, First Circuit



# STETSON LAW

Committee on the Judiciary  
415 S. Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
March 30, 2022

Dear Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

I am writing this letter to support the confirmation of Natasha Shaw to the District Family Court of the First Circuit. I had the pleasure of getting to know Natasha as a first-year student at Stetson University College of Law when she was enrolled in my Research and Writing class. I also worked with her on an independent research project later in her law school career. I was always impressed with Natasha's strong work ethic, her compassion for others, and her love of the law. But I think what set her apart from her classmates was her ability to thoroughly consider her assessment of the law from both sides in a patient and objective manner. This skill will certainly serve her well as a judge for the Family Court.

I have enjoyed watching Natasha's career take off over the last 14 years. Her accomplishments have been many as you can see on her resume, but Natasha remains that same hard-working, compassionate person I knew as a law student. I cannot think of a more qualified person for this position, and I urge this Committee to confirm Natasha. I have no doubt she will be an excellent jurist and will serve the State of Hawaii and the families that appear before her with integrity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine J. Cameron".

Catherine J. Cameron, Professor of Law  
Stetson University College of Law  
1401 61<sup>st</sup> Street South, Gulfport, FL 33707  
March 30, 2022



**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 2:26:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maura Okamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I write in strong support of Natasha Shaw's appointment to the Family Court. As a retired per diem judge I know the qualities needed for this position. I have known Ms. Shaw for over 10 years and I was happy to encourage her to apply for the position of per diem judge several years ago. Since her appointment to the Family Court as a per diem judge I have heard nothing but good reports from other Family Court judges that I know, and also from the court staff. Ms. Shaw has the deep knowlege and understanding of family law to make her very well qualified for this position. She has a great deal of compassion for all who come before the court, but she is also decisive and able to make the often difficult decisions necessary. She possesses the necessary demeanor for this position. She shows respect for all who come before her, and is also able to command the necessary respect for the Court.

Natasha Shaw will serve the State of Hawaii well in the position of Family Court Judge.

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
Senate President  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 409  
415 S. Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear President Kouchi,

I am Steven K. Sugai.

On behalf of my 92-year-old mother, Setsuko Y. Kaneshiro, we are recommending Attorney Natasha R. Shaw for the judicial position within the District Family Court.

My 92-year-old mother was a client of Attorney Shaw when my sister died suddenly without a will. Setsuko does not speak English very well but became the personal representative for my sister's estate.

Our family was referred to Attorney Shaw.

Attorney Shaw was understanding, displayed thorough knowledge of the laws, kept us updated on the status of our case, and guided us through the legal process to include recommending an accountant to file required tax documents for closure of my sister's estate.

Attorney Shaw listened to us, gave us a clear path to follow in our legal journey, and was always available to answer questions.

We feel from our experience with Attorney Shaw that she would be an excellent Judge.

Sincerely,

Steven K. Sugai

Senate Judiciary Committee,

I highly recommend Judge Natasha R. Shaw for the vacant position at the District Family Court of the First Circuit (Island of Oahu).

I am a Court Clerk at Family Court in Kapolei and have had the privilege of clerking for Judge Shaw in the Special Division while she presided over Temporary Restraining Order proceedings.

Judge Shaw would be a tremendous asset to Family Court as she is intelligent, compassionate, and impartial. These attributes are on display each time she is on the bench. The public deserves a judge that is able to intelligently, compassionately, and impartially view issues from all perspectives before making a decision.

Over the years, I have clerked for many per diem and full-time judges and I absolutely believe Judge Shaw is capable of becoming an excellent full-time judge.

Best Regards,

Jessica Bradley

**LAW OFFICE OF GALE L. F. CHING, LLC***Attorney at Law*

*The Arcade Building  
212 Merchant Street, Suite 330  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Email: galefching@gmail.com  
Tel: (808) 275-0208 Fax: (808) 275-0204*

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March 30, 2022

**[Via E-Mail (Senrhoads@Capitol.hawaii.gov) & Fax (808-586-6131)]**

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads

Chair

Hawaii State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**[Via E-Mail (Senkeohokalole@Capitol.hawaii.gov) & Fax (808-587-7220)]**

The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole

Vice Chair

Hawaii State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: JC 24

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District  
Family Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee,  
NATASHA R. SHAW, for a term to expire in 6 years

Dear Senator Rhoads and Senator Keohokalole,

I am pleased to have learned that Natasha R. Shaw, Esq. is the judicial nominee for the District Family Court position of the First Circuit Court of the State of Hawaii. This letter is an unsolicited letter in full support of the appointment and confirmation of Natasha R. Shaw.

I have known Ms. Shaw for a number of years and have had the privilege of working with her on cases in my private practice and as a fellow Per Diem Family Court Judge of the First Circuit. In working with Ms. Shaw on actual cases, she has always worked tediously and consciously on behalf of her clients. I have learned that Ms. Shaw is meticulous in her approach to work as she makes sure that every detail is taken care of. One can observe that at all Court hearings, Ms. Shaw is well prepared as she advocates on behalf of her client's position. At all times, Ms. Shaw has conducted herself in a civil and ethical manner to all parties and attorneys. She is well respected in her practice.

As a fellow Per Diem Family Court Judge, Ms. Shaw conducts herself in the same admirable fashion. She prepares thoroughly in order to be well versed on the pending issues in her cases. Her thoroughness in preparation greatly assists and is well appreciated by the parties and attorneys appearing before her. When I had the opportunity to personally observe Ms. Shaw preside on cases, I was quite impressed in the way she handled many of the stressful and emotional cases that often appears in Family Court. Despite the often stressful situations that

*LAW OFFICE OF GALE L. F. CHING, LLC  
ATTORNEY AT LAW*

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads  
Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole  
Vice Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

*March 30, 2022*

*Page 2*

exist in Family Court cases, Ms. Shaw as the presiding Judge always remained calm and focused. Ms. Shaw displays a calm judicial demeanor that is much needed on the bench.

I have no doubt whatsoever in Ms. Shaw's ability and competency to serve as a Family Court Judge. Ms. Shaw already has valuable judicial experience that she brings to the bench. She will be off and running once appointed.

Ms. Shaw will make an outstanding Family Court Judge and be a valuable asset to the Judiciary.

I hope that you will look favorably upon the confirmation of Natasha R. Shaw as the judicial nominee for the pending Family Court position. I regret that I am unable to be personally present to address you due to pending Court matters that conflicts with this proceeding. However, please do not hesitate at contacting me at (808) 271-8358 (cell) should you have any questions.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

LAW OFFICE OF GALE L. F. CHING, LLC

  
Gale L. F. Ching

March 30, 2022

Senate Judiciary Committee  
State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Karl Rhoads and Distinguished Committee Members:

I am writing to you in support of your consideration of Judicial Nominee, Ms. Natasha R. Shaw, for a position as Family Court Judge.

I have worked professionally with Ms. Shaw on several cases. It has been my observation that Ms. Shaw always keeps a calm demeanor, listens well, and has been able to resolve several difficult issues with clients, where each party came away from the process satisfied with the outcome.

Ms. Shaw's prior experience as an intern for the Honorable Amy M. Williams in Florida, as well as her experience as a law clerk for the Honorable Colleen Hirai, here in Hawaii, has given her a wide range of experiences applying the law to specific situations, as well as valuable hands-on training for this position as a Family Court Judge.

Her background in accounting would also be helpful. A working understanding of accounting and financial matters will likely be a part of some of the cases that come before her.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments related to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Gayle S. Tasaka

March 30, 2022

Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Ilse Pratt and I have been an officer with the Honolulu Police Department for the past 13 years. This letter is written in support of my friend Natasha R. Shaw, a nominee as a judge for a position with the Family Court and the District Court of the First Circuit Court of the State of Hawaii.

I have known Ms. Shaw for approximately 10 years, not on a business level but through our daughters playing sports and going to school together. I had an instant connection with Ms. Shaw and was drawn to her calm, positive demeanor; and also felt that we shared the same values.

Over the years I've seen Ms. Shaw grow as an individual and thrive in her career. I admired how she balance both her professional and personal life and seemed to do it with such ease. Ms. Shaw is a single parent of three beautiful children and they are her heart. She has done an amazing job raising them and I have no doubt they will all be a mirror image of her.

Ms. Shaw respects the law and always does what is right. I strongly support Ms. Shaw's appointment to the bench in either court. I believe she is compassionate, fair, yet stern and level headed and will be a perfect fit for the position.

Sincerely,

Ilse Pratt



March 30, 2022

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chairman  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary

RE: Testimony in Support of JC 24  
Friday, April 1, 2022, 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 016

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

I am submitting this testimony in support of JC 24.

I am a shareholder and director of the law firm of Char Sakamoto Ishii Lum & Ching, and have been practicing in the areas of civil, commercial, trust and probate litigation for 36 years.

I respectfully ask for your support in confirming Natasha Shaw's appointment as a family district court judge in the First Circuit Court, State of Hawaii.

Ms. Shaw and I have been on opposing sides in circuit court and probate court on legal family battles over assets and a myriad of other issues. What I respect about Ms. Shaw is (1) her efficient use of time (that she came to meetings willing and prepared to discuss the issues, share and review information, and consider reasoned and supported arguments of opposing counsel), (2) the courtesy, respect but firmness that she shows to other parties and counsel, and (3) her financial background and practicality to discuss realistic scenarios and outcomes.

For those reasons, she has also been recommended by other attorneys to serve as a court-appointed neutral master or court representative in a number of my cases involving multiple parties and multiple attorneys. And, again, for those reasons, Ms. Shaw will be an excellent family court judge.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Carolyn E. Hayashi



# THOMAS BUSH LAW OFFICE, LLLC

American Saving Bank Tower  
1001 Bishop Street  
Suite 1560  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Telephone: (808) 536-BUSH (2874)  
Facsimile: (808) 536-2875

E-Mail: [tom@tblawhawaii.com](mailto:tom@tblawhawaii.com)  
Web: [www.tblawhawaii.com](http://www.tblawhawaii.com)

March 30, 2022

Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Hawai'i State Capital, Room 409  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Chief Justice's Appointment Order No. 2022-2: Natasha R. Shaw

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

It is my pleasure to give my highest recommendation for Natasha R. Shaw, who has been appointed by the Chief Justice to fill a position in the District Family Court of the First Circuit. I have known Ms. Shaw professionally since 2015. My practice is 99% litigation, with approximately 50% of that time involving probate disputes, including trust disputes, conservatorships and guardianships.

In my litigation practice, I have known Ms. Shaw as opposing counsel, a court-appointed master and special trustee on numerous cases. While I may have co-counseled a case or two with her, she has generally been on the opposite side or acted as a neutral. I have observed her demeanor in the courtroom, in depositions, in meetings with counsel, in meetings with counsel and their clients, and at site inspections.

My more recent interactions with her have been in her capacity as a court-appointed master or special trustee where she has been sought out by contending parties in litigation because of her qualities of fairness, integrity and intelligence. I understand that since January 2019 she has served as Per Diem District Family Court Judge, which is not surprising to me, given what I have observed. By this I mean that in my cases involving her, I have recognized her concern that litigation serve the best interests of the parties – especially vulnerable persons subject to conservatorships and guardianships. At the same time, I have personally observed her exercise what I can only describe as a judicial temperament in tense situations when other counsel and even clients (including my own clients!) have acted in a hostile and disrespectful fashion. In these situations, she has kept her eye on the ball, helped calm the parties while not giving ground as to the proper course of conduct -- quite a special quality in my 30 years of experience as a litigation attorney in Hawaii.

Ms. Shaw stands heads and shoulders above her peers and is known for her work ethic, congenial demeanor, integrity and wisdom. I understand that she has been a per diem Family Court Judge for the last four years. With her extensive courtroom experience in probate and

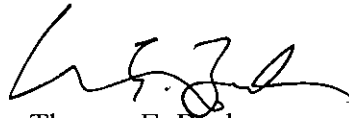
Senat Committee on Judiciary  
March 30, 2022

Page 2

family court, including substantial time on the bench, Ms. Shaw would be an excellent and obvious choice as a family court judge. Hawaii residents would benefit from her tenure on the bench. I strongly support her appointment without reservation.

Unfortunately, I will be on the mainland during her April 1, 2022 confirmation hearing, however, I thought it important to provide my testimony. Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions or any further information is needed.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. E. Bush', written in a cursive style.

Thomas E. Bush

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 8:09:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gene Oak	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Re: Nomination support of Natasha Shaw as the District Court Judge

I strongly support Natasha Shaw's nomination as the District Family Court Judge because she exhibits the qualities of a good judge in every way. She is extremely patient and thoughtful, and most importantly, she is a great listener. I have been very fortunate to know Natasha professionally, and her integrity and competence are highly respected by all mutual acquaintances.

I still remember clearly when I first spoke to her over the phone. I was in the position to call her for first time regarding a personal business-related issue, and I was rather nervous knowing that she was an attorney and a State Judge. I was trying to stay as sharp as I can to make sure that I respond to her properly, but soon into our conversation, I realized that she has her way of making her counterpart to feel comfortable by adjusting herself to your level of thoughts by patiently expressing her opinion. She is also extremely humble and honest and is not afraid to admit her weaknesses to find common interests to better relate to you as a communicator. Yet, she is very clear of her opinions, and always gets her point across at the end by somehow making you feeling better after having discussions with her.

These are the reasons why I think she would be a perfect Judge for the family court, and as a citizen, I strongly feel that we should have more Judges like her who has genuine interest to listen and guide people to understand in the court of law.

Sincerely,

Gene Oak

Testimony of  
**Craig I. Nakanishi**  
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

THE HONORABLE KARL RHOADS, CHAIR  
THE HONORABLE JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, VICE CHAIR

**JC24**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the  
District Family Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, NATASHA R. SHAW, for a term to expire in 6 years.

March 30, 2022

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

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of the confirmation of  
Judicial Nominee Natasha R. Shaw to the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Ms. Shaw since 2016 and during that time she has shown herself  
to be a person of highest standards of ethics, integrity, and morals. Ms. Shaw's prior  
legal experience in private practice and for the last several years as a Per Diem Judge  
of the District Family Court of the First Circuit demonstrate her keen understanding and  
application of the law. She has shown herself to be of impeccable character on and off  
the bench. Ms. Shaw portrays an unwavering dedication to justice and exhibits the  
compassionate temperament necessary to perform the duties and responsibilities of a  
Family Court Judge.

Therefore, I respectfully request your confirmation of Ms. Shaw to the District  
Family Court of the First Circuit.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Respectfully

Craig I. Nakanishi

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 10:22:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Colin K. K. Goo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have practiced law in Hawaii for more than thirty-nine (39) years in the areas of estate planning, guardianship and conservatorship, and probate and trust administration. I met Natasha Shaw when she clerked for the Honorable Judge Colleen Hirai and have followed Ms. Shaw's career as a sole practitioner and per diem judge. I have found her to be passionate in serving her clients and committed to the highest level of service to both her clients and the people who appear before her in Family Court. While I have had only one case before her in a Family Court guardianship matter, having gotten to know her before her appointment as a Family Court judge, it came as no surprise to me that she handled the case before her with the demeanor one expects from a judge. She was simultaneously compassionate and respectfully decisive in her decisions from the bench. Having had the opportunity to personally get to know Ms. Shaw since we first met when she clerked for Judge Hirai and to observe and experience her on the bench as a per diem Family Court judge, I strongly recommend confirmation of her appointment. She will be a very valuable addition to the Family Court bench as a full-time judge and a wonderful servant to the community she will serve in Family Court.

Law Office of Derek T. Kamiya, LLLC

Five Waterfront Plaza, Suite 345

500 Ala Moana Boulevard

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

main: (808) 536-5020

email: derek@dtkamiyalaw.com

March 30, 2022

Chair Karl Rhoads  
Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Hawaii State Capitol Conference Room 016  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Vice Chair Jarrett Keohokalole  
Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Hawaii State Capitol Conference Room 016  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: District Family Court, First Circuit; Judicial Nominee Natasha R. Shaw

Dear Chair Rhoads and Vice Chair Keohokalole:

As a personal friend of Mr. Shaw's for several years and as a fellow solo practitioner, I can say without hesitation that I can think of no one better suited for the Family Court Bench.

While I did not have the opportunity to have a case directly with Ms. Shaw, we consulted with each other extensively on issues involving the solo practice and matters of general case strategy. While she is clearly an exceptional practitioner with impressive analytics what always stood out is her integrity and honesty and the insecurity that comes with always striving to do the right thing. Such qualities and in particular, her moral compass, makes for an impressive Judicial Nominee in my humble opinion.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my strong support for Judicial Nominee to the District Family Court, First Circuit, Natasha R. Shaw.

Very truly yours,



Derek T. Kamiya  
Law Office of Derek T. Kamiya, LLLC

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 6:56:20 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ross Takata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing on behalf of Natasha Shaw, judicial nominee for the District Family Court position.

I have known the candidate for nearly 15 years now and have grown to respect her character and strong family values. She is the working mother of very well rounded and intelligent children. She leads and teaches by example, which is becoming increasingly difficult to find in these trying times.

There is no doubt that Ms. Shaw is not only capable, but will flourish and exceed all expectations, if given the opportunity in this position. Her professionalism, drive, and strong moral character is exactly what the State of Hawaii needs and will benefit from if given this opportunity.

Respectfully,

Ross Takata

JC 24; Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, NATASHA R. SHAW

Testimony in Support by Robert M. Yamauchi

Presented to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Friday, April 1, 2022, 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

Natasha R. Shaw is an outstanding individual who is exceptionally qualified to serve as a District Family Court Judge, and I strongly support her confirmation to the District Family Court of the First Circuit. I have known and worked closely with Ms. Shaw for more than 12 years, first, as a member of my law firm, and next, as co-counsel and opposing counsel during her time in private practice.

Ms. Shaw possesses the unique combination of legal intellect, work ethic, humility, fairness, judicial temperament, empathy, and kindness to serve as District Family Court Judge and, if confirmed, she will be an exemplary member of the Judiciary.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit my testimony in support of Ms. Shaw's confirmation to the District Family Court of the First Circuit.



# DAVID W.H. CHEE

Attorney at Law  
1001 Bishop Street  
ASB Tower, Suite 585  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Facsimile No. 808-208-8689

David W.H. Chee  
Telephone: 808-539-1150  
Email: [dchee@dcheelaw.com](mailto:dchee@dcheelaw.com)

Christine S. Prepose-Kamihara  
Telephone: 808-784-4963  
Email: [cprepose@dcheelaw.com](mailto:cprepose@dcheelaw.com)

March 31, 2021

Senate Judiciary Committee  
Sen. Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Sen. Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Re: Confirmation of Natasha Shaw to District Family Court

Dear Senators:

I am an attorney who has practiced in Hawaii for 29 years and do much of my work in the Hawaii District Courts.

I am pleased to support the confirmation of Natasha Shaw to the District Family Court. Natasha is smart, hard-working, and compassionate. She has the necessary character and work-ethic to make an excellent Family Court judge, and I know that she will devote her entire self to serving the families that come before her as a judge.

Natasha will make the Judiciary and the State of Hawaii proud.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

/s/ David Chee

David W.H. Chee

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 8:09:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Blue Kaanehe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chief Justice Recktenwald and members of the Judicial Selection Commission:

It is my utmost privilege and honor to enthusiastically support the consideration and confirmation of Natasha R. Shaw to the District Family Court of the First Circuit. I have known Ms. Shaw for approximately ten (10) years from our membership with the Korean American Bar Association Hawaii (KABAH). During the course of which, Ms. Shaw has repeatedly demonstrated her commitment to pro bono advocacy and access to justice to citizens who are underserved. Ms. Shaw is also an extremely good mother and would often bring her children to various KABAH functions.

As president of KABAH, Ms. Shaw analyzed complicated and heated issues. Despite passionate and emotionally charged arguments, she exhibited unbiased and impartial temperament. Ms. Shaw has all the credentials of being an outstanding judge.

Thank you for this opportunity to strongly support Ms. Shaw's nomination.

Sincerely,

Blue Kaanehe

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 9:18:59 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Turner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Natasha Shaw Esq. was referred to me in 2017 by Thomas Rulon Esq., when I was named as the Personal Representative of an estate

Natasha's legal skills and personal qualities proved to be exemplary. Her ability to make sound and accurate decisions when dealing with people of different personalities, backgrounds and motivations was noteworthy.

She will be an excellent Judge and a credit to the Hawaii judicial system.

John T. Turner

Sergeant Major, U.S.M.C. (Retired)

**JC-24**

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 9:29:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lisa Bail	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This testimony is in strong support of the nomination of Natasha Shaw, who I know by reputation as an upstanding member of the legal community, and personally from our service together on the Civil Justice Committee of the American Judicature Society.

March 30, 2022

Senate President Ronald D. Kouchi & Members of the Hawaii State Legislature  
Hawaii State Capitol

Re: Judicial Nominee **Natasha R. Shaw (Bill JC 24)**

I have worked in Family Court for the past 18 years & I have numerous opportunities to work with & to observe various judges. Please allow me to share my opinions & observations of Natasha R. Shaw.

Firstly, **Judge Shaw is poised on the bench.** In Family Court, tensions are high, emotions are both raw and complicated, and people are faced with overwhelming procedural processes. Judge Shaw brings a stabilizing spirit. She is firm, yet patient with pro se litigants, she is respectful to practicing attorneys, and she is balanced when assessing the merits of the cases. This is key because the calm manner in which she conducts herself results in harmony and order which is crucial when working to untangle the complex issues facing people in Family Court. She controls her emotions & consistently conducts herself in a professional manner.

Secondly, **Judge Shaw prepares for her cases.** I have witnessed Judge Shaw come in to prepare even on days when she is not "on calendar". She reviews files, pleadings, & past hearings to understand more fully what she is walking into. She asks questions and discusses matters with other judges and court clerks. She is also dependably on time for court. This quality is key because it is evidence that she truly cares; not so much about "looking good" but more about DOING good. Judge Shaw understands that peoples' lives are affected by the decisions she makes. She prepares because she cares.

Finally, **Judge Shaw has experience.** There is something to be said about having "been there, done that". Judge Shaw's recent & frequent involvement with Family Court cases gives her an understanding that one can only gain from actually doing the job. She has already handled various calendar types & has been spot-on with applying the varying legal standards of proof. Legally she is well-informed & on the record she is prepared to properly apply the law with a pleasant demeanor. Her decisions are just & she continues to sharpen her skills & gain proficiency. She balances "getting through the calendar" with giving each side the appropriate amount of time necessary to present their case.

In conclusion, **I enthusiastically support the appointment of Natasha Shaw.** Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Aloha,



Frances Teves  
Court Clerk

**LATE**

Melanie Jordan  
*Honolulu resident and professional since 1999*

March 31, 2022

RE: Nomination of Judge Natasha Shaw for District Family Court Judge on O'ahu


Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,

I strongly support the nomination of Natasha Shaw to the vacancy on the O'ahu District Family Court. I have known Judge Shaw for twelve years and in that time have come to recognize and respect her as a friend, life mentor, and fellow parent who has raised three exceptional children while successfully pursuing a career in law. I believe her intelligence, honesty, strong work ethic, firm yet lighthearted character, and her remarkable empathy and her undoubted belief in what is fair and just will be an ideal fit for Family Court.

I care very much about my community and the future of Hawai'i. I want my children to be able to continue to enjoy the kind of environment in which they grew up—reveling in the quality of life and safe communities that our family has cherished over the past twenty years.

I am confident that Natasha Shaw's combination of character, experience, and intellect meet the highest standards required to serve as a member of Family Court and her dedication to family and community will greatly benefit the future of O'ahu.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanie Jordan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melanie Jordan

March 31, 2022

Committee on Judiciary  
State of Hawai'i Senate  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: In VERY STRONG SUPPORT of Natasha R. Shaw as District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit**

Dear Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

I write to express my **very strong support for Natasha R. Shaw** to serve as a District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit. I was raised in Hawai'i and have practiced law with highly regarded attorneys at a global law firm, a Fortune 50 company, and a prominent Honolulu law firm.

I have known Ms. Shaw since she became the President of the Korean American Bar Association of Hawai'i (KABAH) in 2017. Since that time, I have been impressed with her energy, her diligence, her generosity, and her commitment. For example, she created the KABAH website, she excelled at collaborating on several KABAH events, and she energized KABAH with her leadership, her spirit of working together, and her follow-through. I also enjoyed getting to know Ms. Shaw on a personal level because she is humble, grounded, devoted to her family, and dedicated to doing good in the world. I am amazed and pleased at how she succeeds in managing her commitments while maintaining her own wellness so that she can continue to thrive and contribute.

I was thrilled when Ms. Shaw was sworn in as a Per Diem District Family Court Judge in 2019. At the time, I thought that she had the skills, intelligence, experience, temperament, and commitment to service to be an extremely good fit for the position, and I continue to believe so today. From what I know of Ms. Shaw, she has the intellectual and emotional capacity, the patience, the thoughtfulness, and the carefulness needed to make difficult decisions when the stakes are high.

Thank you very much for your consideration of Ms. Shaw to serve as a District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Chang', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Connie Y. Chang



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

**Natasha R. Shaw**  
**District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit (JC 24)**

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair  
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Rhonda L. Griswold  
President-elect, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Friday, April 1, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference  
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the nomination of Natasha R. Shaw for the position of District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit.

The HSBA Board of Directors followed its multi-step process to inform the confirming authority of its findings on this appointment.

- 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; 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.

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- Submittal of a report by the three-person review subcommittee to the President, and subsequently to the entire Board.
- 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 to determine if the nominees is qualified or unqualified.
- Submittal of the HSBA Board's recommendation to the confirming authority.

The HSBA President-elect and the Executive Director met with Ms. Natasha Shaw on March 30, 2022 to discuss the subcommittee's findings. On March 31<sup>st</sup>, Ms. Shaw was interviewed by the HSBA Board of Directors in executive session.

Documentation submitted by Ms. Shaw 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 Ms. Shaw in all categories of the HSBA criteria which include:

- Integrity
- Diligence
- Legal knowledge and ability
- Professional experience
- Temperament
- Financial responsibility
- Public service
- Ability to fulfill the responsibilities and duties of the position

The task of the HSBA was to determine the qualifications and suitability of the Nominee utilizing in large part, the judicial appointments criteria of the American Bar Association. The criteria are not ranked in terms of importance as it is used universally to review the qualifications of appointees for trial and appellate positions. The determination of qualified or unqualified is based on a totality of the documentation received, member and reference comments, and the interview of the individual appointed.

After obtaining a Master's degree in Business Administration and a law degree, the Nominee, Natasha Shaw, served as a law clerk for the Chief Judge of the First Circuit who was also the Probate Judge. During her tenure as a law clerk, Ms. Shaw's assignments focused on general areas of law involving estate, probate, trust conservatorship, and guardianships in civil litigation proceedings.

Thereafter in private practice, Ms. Shaw continued specializing as a litigator in trusts, probate, and real estate matters. She later broadened her areas to civil litigation practice to personal injury, and contested conservatorship and guardianship.

At the present time, the Nominee is a solo practitioner whose practice is almost exclusively devoted to litigation. Ms. Shaw is also currently in her fourth year serving as a Per Diem District Family Judge. Case assignments may involve matters on suspected child abuse and neglect, status offenses, termination of parental rights, adoptions, guardianships, and domestic relations cases that include divorce, child support, paternity, custody, and family violence. While assigned to the Special Division, Ms. Shaw developed a manual for her personal use which has since been shared as a training manual for other Family Per Diem Judges.

Ms. Shaw was raised by a single father, who instilled in her and her siblings the importance of community service. Ms. Shaw has an exemplary record of service to the legal community through her membership and leadership positions in the HSBA, the American Judicature Society, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, and the Korean American Bar Association Hawaii. During her tenure as the KABA President, the Nominee built cohesion and unity among its membership which led to the creation of its first website and the establishment of a mentoring program for newly admitted KABA attorneys.

Ms. Shaw is known for her diligence, exemplary work ethic, professional demeanor, and ability to handle the intense and emotional situations that arise in Family Court.

After a review of all documentation submitted and the interview of the Nominee, which included dialogue and questioning relating to her background, experiences, and reasons for pursuing the position of District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit, the Board of the Hawaii State Bar Association found Ms. Natasha Shaw to be **QUALIFIED** for the position of District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit.

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

