

JC1



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

Subject: Confirmation of SHERRI-ANN L. IHA to the District Court

Date: Tuesday, August 3, 2010, 1:30 p.m.

From: Representative Glenn Wakai 

The evidence is irrefutable – Sherri Iha has all the makings of an exemplary judge. I have personally witnessed Ms. Iha in action and always came away impressed with the preparation she put into her cases, her even temperament, and compassion for victims. I can think of no one more qualified to administer justice in our District Courts. I highly recommend her for confirmation by your committee.

I can vouch for Ms. Iha's keen understanding of the law and its applications. I met her a dozen years ago, during my former life as a news reporter. I had a front row seat to some of the best and worst legal arguments uttered in Hawai'i courtrooms. Ms. Iha consistently put forth compelling and substantiated arguments. She quickly distinguished herself as a shooting star at the Prosecutor's Office, by convicting many of the state's most notorious criminals. Her role has since evolved to training other budding crime fighters. I know many young prosecutors who have blossomed under her nurturing tutelage.

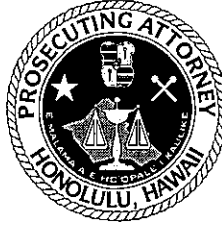
During my decade of news reporting, I found Ms. Iha to be a tireless prosecutor who has dedicated her life to keeping the public safe. Above all, her greatest attribute is her ability to be fair and reasonable. Ms. Iha's integrity is impeccable.

I sincerely hope I have conveyed my enthusiasm for Sherri Iha's judicial confirmation. If there is any part of this letter that needs clarification, I can be reached at 586-6220. I really admire Ms. Iha and thank you for this opportunity to support her for confirmation to the bench.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALI'I PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
AREA CODE 808 • 768-7400

PETER B. CARLISLE
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



DOUGLAS S. CHIN
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

THE HONORABLE BRIAN TANIGUCHI, CHAIR
SENATE JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
Twenty-fifth State Legislature
Interim of 2010
State of Hawai'i

August 3, 2010

RE: JC 1; APPOINTMENT OF SHERRI-ANN IHA.

Chair Taniguchi, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney submits the following testimony in strong support of the appointment of Sherri-Ann Iha to the District Court of the First Circuit.

Sherri has been a valued part of our department for the past eighteen years. During this time Sherri has successfully handled a variety of cases and has gained extensive trial and legal experience in district and circuit court. Her cases have included murder, assault, robbery and burglary cases. For the past three years, she has served as the Misdemeanor Jury Demand supervisor which requires her to mentor and oversee deputy prosecutors who are learning how to try cases before a jury. She has diligently handled this responsibility by providing needed advice and assistance to her deputies.

Sherri's commitment to public service is illustrated in her numerous community service activities. She has been active in the New Hope Christian Fellowship Children's Ministry and the Kaelepulu PTSA. She has also served on the Board of Governors of 'Iolani School and the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce. We believe her dedication to serve her community will contribute to her success as a judge.

For these reasons, we strongly support the confirmation of Sherri-Ann Iha and thank you for this opportunity to testify.



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

SHERRI-ANN L. IHA
District Court Judge, First Circuit Court

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice-Chair

Hearing: Tuesday, August 3, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.
Conference Room 229
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association appreciates the opportunity to comment on the qualifications of Sherri-Ann L. Iha for the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit.

In evaluating judicial nominees, the HSBA Board utilizes a modified version of the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. These Guidelines include the following criteria: integrity, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, diligence, financial responsibility, and public service, collegiality and writing ability. The HSBA Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified."

As part of its procedures for evaluating and taking positions on judicial and executive appointments, the HSBA Board utilizes a subcommittee of HSBA Board to review materials presented by the nominee and input from members. The subcommittee is also tasked with checking references and contacting others who have knowledge of the nominee's experience and qualifications. The full Board reviews the materials prepared by this subcommittee, the complete materials submitted by the nominee and members and conducts an interview of the nominee.

Taking into consideration all of the information presented by and about the nominee and an interview with the nominee, the vote of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association found Sherri-Ann L. Iha to be qualified for the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit.

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July 30, 2010

Via Email: JGOTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Conference Room 229
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **JC 1: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA**

Hearing: August 3, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.

Dear Committee Members:

Hawaii Women Lawyers (HWL) strongly supports the appointment of Sherri-Ann Iha to the District Court of the First Circuit, not just because she is a woman, but because she is an experienced attorney whose background demonstrates her commitment to the legal profession and the community at large.

Ms. Iha is extremely accomplished and was a recipient of an award for having won the most jury trials in one year in the prosecuting attorney's office. She is respected as a dedicated and effective attorney throughout her 10 years of solid experience as a deputy prosecuting attorney. Members of HWL have expressed that Ms. Iha's mastery of the procedures in the courtroom, together with her even temperament, equip her well to show an exemplary demeanor on the bench.

As a deputy prosecuting attorney for approximately 10 years, Ms. Iha has demonstrated the ability to be a good judge. Members of the HWL have expressed that she has an even and reasonable temperament and, therefore, would have an appropriate demeanor on the bench. She is respected as a smart attorney who knows her way around the courtroom. Ms. Iha has won an award for doing and winning the most jury trials in one year in the prosecuting attorney's office.

HWL is very concerned that the number of women on the bench does not adequately represent the number of women in the community or the women in the bar. Increasing opportunities for qualified women in the judiciary is one of our organization's most important tasks.

HWL is a nonprofit business organization made up of female and male attorneys. The purposes of HWL, as set forth in our Articles of Incorporation, are to (1) improve the status of women in the legal profession; (2) increase the number of women attorneys in positions of authority and

responsibility; and (3) promote the advancement of all women. Our mission is to improve the lives and careers of women and children in Hawaii. HWL supports qualified women candidates in connection with those purposes. Increasing opportunities for, and improving the visibility of, qualified women in the judiciary are important goals for HWL.

HWL's policy is not to endorse any candidate, simply because that candidate is a woman. Instead, HWL's policy is to support *qualified* female candidates. Accordingly, HWL urges you to confirm the appointment of an eminently qualified and experienced candidate such as Sherri-Ann Iha to fill a vacancy at the District Court or District Family Court of the First Circuit.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ruth Oh".

Ruth Oh

President
HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lane Hornfeck".

Lane Hornfeck

Judicial Equity Committee Chair
HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS



Iolani School

OFFICE OF
THE HEADMASTER

July 28, 2010

Testimony for Judiciary and Government Operations Committee
Tuesday, August 3, 2010

**Re: Sherri-Ann L. Iha, Judicial Nominee
District Court of the First Circuit**

Ms. Sherri Iha has asked me for a letter of support for Senate confirmation as a judge in District Court of the First Circuit. I am extremely pleased to do so.

Ms. Iha has served on the Alumni Association Board and for the past two years was elected President of the Alumni Association. As President of the Alumni Association, she was an ex-officio, voting member of the Iolani School Board of Governors and attended meetings and activities of the Board. Her thoughts and ideas were very much appreciated by the Board of Governors and she quickly earned the respect of other Board members.

Ms. Iha maintains a friendly, calm and reserved demeanor. Her personality masks a person who is insightful and intelligent, one who can see issues from multiple vantage points. She is objective and fair and diplomatic in her approach with others. Most important, her integrity is beyond reproach.

The Judiciary would be well served by Ms. Iha. Not only would she render appropriate decisions in her courtroom, but she would also represent herself, the Judiciary and the State of Hawaii very well in the community. I recommend her to you enthusiastically.

Yours truly,

Val T. Iwashita, Ed.D.
Headmaster



July 30, 2010

TESTIMONY FOR: JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 pm
State Capitol Conference Room 229

Re: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,
Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Submitted by: Jenai Sullivan Wall, Chairman and CEO, Foodland Super Market, Ltd.

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair,
and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I am writing this letter in strong support of Sherri Iha who is being considered for a judgeship in the District Court of the First Circuit. I have had the pleasure of getting to know and work with Sherri over the last two years during which time she has been the alumni representative on the 'Iolani School Board of Governors.

Sherri is bright, loyal, honest, and dedicated. Approaching problems thoughtfully, she poses excellent questions and willingly shares insight and ideas. Sherri has a professional demeanor and is always respectful of others. I have been especially impressed by her integrity and ability to weigh alternatives and balance perspectives as we come to decisions.

I believe Sherri's knowledge and character will make her an excellent judge and I am pleased to recommend her without reservation. Please feel free to contact me should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Jenai Sullivan Wall
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

From: Marc Nakamura [mtnakamu@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 10:17 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann Iha

Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Marc Nakamura and I am writing in strong support of nominee Sherri Ann Iha. I've worked with Sherri at the Prosecutor's Office for the past 3 years and found her to be knowledgeable in the law, familiar with court rules and procedure, and most importantly, a person who has the legal experience to be able to answer difficult questions posed to her by other trial deputies. While I am saddened to see Sherri leave, I know that our office's lost is the Judiciary's gain. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the nominee.

From: Maeshiro, Laura [lmaeshiro@honolulu.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 11:14 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: SHERRI-ANN IHA 8/3 Testimony

TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,
Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Submitted by: Laura Maeshiro, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I am a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu, State of Hawaii. Ms. Sherri-Ann Iha was my direct supervisor from January 2008 to October 2008 in the misdemeanor jury trials team in the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney.

I strongly support Sherri-Ann Iha's nomination. As a supervisor, Ms. Iha gave newer deputies like myself guidance in all areas from charging a case, how to handle various motions before the court, and of course all issues relating to trial. Ms. Iha is someone I have looked up to, because she *knows and understands the law*, and everything she does is with the utmost professionalism, and with respect for all those around her.

Since then, I have worked alongside her in the felony trials division, and she continues to be a role model through her leadership within the office. I have a great deal of respect for her as she is not only an accomplished trial attorney, but a wonderful mother who has strong family values.

From my very first day at the Prosecutor's office, I have appeared before numerous judges. I have handled numerous cases. I can fully understand the importance of fairness, impartiality, professional conduct, and *knowledge of the law* that should be present with all judges. A judge should be one that is knowledgeable, with the appropriate character – someone who the community can look up to. Sherri-Ann Iha possesses all these traits, and is strongly suited for the very important role of a judge.

For these reasons, I strongly support SHERRI-ANN IHA, and respectfully ask that she be confirmed to the District Court of the First Circuit.

From: Derek & Wendy Ching [ching@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 8:06 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: *****SPAM***** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT

Submitted by: Derek Ching

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

Thank you for the opportunity to share a few reasons why I think **Sherri-Ann Iha** would make an excellent choice as a judge for the District Court of the First Circuit.

Sherri and I both served on the 'Iolani School Alumni Association Board of Directors together, and she is currently the organization's President. I find it so appropriate that Sherri serves in a position to honor and continue the school's "One Team" philosophy and legacy of integrity and excellence, because those are her values as well. During my term as president, Sherri served as vice-president and brought a fair, level-headed, organized and extremely reliable energy to our team. These values and her experiences as a mother, wife and community member translate into meaningful and effective ways for our alumni and their families to connect. She celebrates the 'Iolani community with the same care and compassion she has for our greater community.

I know Sherri would be a valued addition to our judicial system. Thank you for your kind consideration and please feel free to contact me at this email address or 352-2288 if you would like more information.

Mahalo,
Derek Ching
Director of Systems Operations
NOAA National Weather Service

PORTER TOM QUITQUIT CHEE & WATTS, LLP

TELEPHONE:
(808) 526-3011

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
2125 DAVIES PACIFIC CENTER
841 BISHOP STREET,
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
E-MAIL: davidchee@btqqlaw.com

FAX: (808) 539-1189
(808) 526-0121

July 26, 2010

TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing

Tuesday, August 3, 2010

1:30 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,
Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT

Submitted by: David W.H. Chee

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and
members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I apologize for not delivering this testimony in-person. I am presently out of town and will be
off-island on the date of your confirmation hearing. I am disappointed that I will not be able to
testify before you to support my friend and colleague, Sherri-Ann Iha.

I have known Ms. Iha for over 20 years since we were classmates at the William S. Richardson
School of Law at the University of Hawaii. Over that time, I have grown to know much about Ms.
Iha's legal ability and character. Since most of my legal practice is in the District Court, I know
that Ms. Iha is extremely well suited to serve as a judge in that Court.

In my view, the District Courts of the State of Hawaii are, more than any other Court, the people's
court. If a Hawaii resident has a legal problem, it is likely that he or she will have that problem
resolved by the District Court. The judges of the District Court must serve not only as judges, but
as representatives of the Judiciary for the general public. When ordinary citizens appear in
District Court, they must be given both the feeling and understanding that their judge understands
their issues and has heard their case fairly. The only way this is achieved is through the judges
of the District Court, who must explain the legal system as well as their decisions to the people
that come before them.

Ms. Iha is uniquely qualified to serve as a District Court judge. Born, raised, and educated in
Hawaii, she has all of the qualifications for the job. She communicates effectively with people at
all levels of education and stations in society. More importantly, Ms. Iha, more than anyone else
I know, has always had a common-sense approach to the world and the law. With an excellent
legal background and a thorough understanding of Hawaii's people and the social and economic
issues we all face, I know that Ms. Iha will provide the wisdom and judgment to the persons that
come before the District Court in a Hawaiian style that will make people feel that their problems

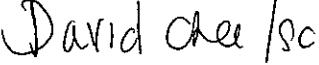
To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and
members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

July 26, 2010

Page 2

have been fairly resolved. I know that Ms. Iha will make the Judiciary and the State of Hawaii
proud.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David chee /sc".

David W.H. Chee, Esq.
DWHC/sc

TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,
Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Submitted by: Susan Murata, Head Librarian, Kapi'olani Community College Library

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Ms. Sherri Iha for the position of First Circuit Court Judge. I have known Ms. Iha for over fifteen years – first as a fellow Jaycee member, and then later as she organized a multitude of volleyball tournaments and various fundraisers. When I met her, she was the president for the Japanese Chamber of Commerce Jaycees and she was soliciting volunteers to assist with one of her numerous community service projects. She was cheerful, organized, and very much aware of the positive impact her projects would have and was very persuasive in drumming up the support needed to assist with the community service project at hand. She garnered support and formed several teams to support the American Heart Association “Relay for Life”; gathered volunteers to paint Palama settlement; organized envelope stuffers and posted flyers for the Honolulu Zoo fun run; volunteered with the Sisters Offering Support for their silent auction for several years; served food and cleaned up trash for the Waikiki Aquarium concert series over a period of two years; painted storm drains; and raised numerous funds by coordinating 3-4 volleyball tournaments per year for at least five years. These are not inclusive of the community service she has done, only the ones that I happened to be involved in.

Ms. Iha is organized, persistent, and can persevere in her goals to accomplish a positive objective. She has strong decision-making skills and does not shirk at hard work. Herding volunteers and finding enough bodies to show up for any of the above activities showcases her strong interpersonal skills and her ability to have others work toward a common cause. I believe these would be excellent qualities in a judge as she would also be fair, consistent, and have a strong awareness of her responsibilities.

Ms. Iha has shown dedication to the community with her numerous service activities and her work as a prosecuting attorney. She continues to balance her duties and at the same time, raise her young family. I would strongly recommend her for the position. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 808.734.9267 if you have questions or need further clarification.

Sincerely,

Susan S. Murata

From: Stan Masamitsu [smasamitsu@tonygroup.com]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 5:20 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: SHERRI-ANN IHA 8/3 Testimony

TESTIMONY for: JC1-JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday August, 3, 2010
1:30pm
State Capitol Conference Room 229

Re: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA.
Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT
Submitted by: Stan Masamitsu, President, Tony Group

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and the members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Sherri-Ann L. Iha for the position of First Circuit Court Judge. I have personally known Sherri for almost 15 years. I had first met her as a member of the Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce where she was serving as its Membership Development Vice President. As she took on more responsibilities in the Chamber over the years (Executive VP, President, Chairman of the Board), I have grown to respect her even tempered demeanor and efficient management style. My initial participation in community service after I moved home from the mainland was with the HJJCC, and Sherri was very influential in getting me involved in philanthropic endeavors.

Later, I had the privilege of getting to know Sherri better on a personal level when our families were neighbors for several years. There, I found her to be friendly, conscientious, and down to earth, and her presence in the neighborhood was missed when she moved back a few years ago to Kailua to be closer to her parents.

I strongly support Sherri L. Iha for the position of First Circuit Court Judge. She is of the highest character and I believe that her professional and personal background, as well as her passion for public and community service, makes her an ideal candidate for the position.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 680-7195 or smasamitsu@tonygroup.com if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Thank you.



'Iolani School

Office of Institutional Advancement

Submitting for Consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,
Judicial Nominee: **Sherri-Ann L. Iha IHA**

Position: Very Strong Support

Submitted by: Jane R. Heimerdinger, Director of Institutional Advancement, 'Iolani
School

Jane R. Heimerdinger
7/26/10

From: Uyema, Lynne Goto [luyema@honolulu.gov]
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2010 4:37 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha - JC 1

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chairman
Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

Re: SHERRI-ANN L. IHA
Nominee for District Court Judge of the First Circuit
Senate Confirmation Hearing: August 3, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.

Measure: JC 1 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii, Judicial Nominee, Sherri-Ann L. Iha

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I am respectfully submitting my whole-hearted support for the nomination of Sherri-Ann L. Iha to the District Court of the First Circuit. I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Sherri for the past 18 years, and I am convinced that she will make an excellent addition to the District Court.

Sherri and I started together at the prosecutor's office in 1992. Her enthusiasm and positive outlook have remained unchanged to this day. She tackles everything with gusto and optimism. I admire her ability to undertake the most difficult of tasks with a huge smile on her face, never letting the pressure get to her. In fact, in all my years with Sherri, I can honestly say that I have never seen her lose her temper or sense of humor while under stress. She truly has the perfect temperament and disposition for the bench!

Sherri's various assignments in our department have also provided her with a wide range of experience that few others possess. Her many years in the courtroom and in trial provide her with a wealth of knowledge and experience. Her years as a supervising attorney provide her with an administrative background and experience in dealing well with various personalities. As a supervisor, she has had to make difficult decisions in difficult situations. Her decisions have always been well analyzed and well researched as she takes the time to gather all the facts before reaching a conclusion. These experiences have truly helped prepare her for the rigors of the bench and have provided her with many of the skills a judge should possess.

Sherri is also civic minded and truly believes in giving back to the community. She is not one who simply spouts rhetoric; she rolls up her sleeves and actually gets involved. She has been heavily involved with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce as well as with Iolani School's alumni association. She is the "go to" person in our office as the coordinator of office events as she believes in fostering a sense of community amongst the employees. She reaches out to people of all walks of life and truly cares about their lives and interests. I believe her heavy involvement in the community makes her an even better judge as she keeps her finger firmly on the pulse of what is going on in the community. She doesn't have a vague idea of what is happening in the neighborhoods; she has first-hand knowledge because she is out there working in the neighborhood. No one could ever accuse of her living in an ivory tower. I have no doubt that her commitment to community involvement will continue to play a central role in her life and that her enthusiasm will continue to encourage others to do the same.

Above all, Sherri has the heart and soul of what I believe it takes to be a good judge. She cares about people, and she loves the law. She values the judicial process and is dedicated to maintaining the integrity of the system. Because she values the process as much as she does, you can rest assured she will strive to uphold those same standards and values. Sherri's compassion, drive, optimism, and experience make her an excellent candidate for the bench. As a judge, she will be sure to infuse her energy and spirit into the system and community she dearly loves. She will do so with dignity, honor, passion, patience, and integrity...and a smile!

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne Goto Uyema

TESTIMONY FOR: JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,
Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Submitted by: Kelly Kanja
95-506 Awiki Street
Mililani, HI 96789

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I'm writing this letter to express my full confidence and support for Sherri-Ann Iha. Knowing her for more than 12 years, she has been one of my closest friends and confidants. Over the years, our families have gone on many outings and picnics, even doing volunteer work together. Through this, I have known Sherri to be a very loyal and family oriented person. She is convicted to doing the right thing, and it readily shows in her daily life.

I know that Sherri will be a fair and well respected judge. She is patient listener, and will make a difficult decision when called upon to.

Sincerely,

Kelly Kanja

From: JGO Testimony
Subject: FW: TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing

From: Mike Darcey [mailto:mike@darceybuilders.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2010 6:41 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing

TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing

Tuesday, August 3, 2010, 1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT

Submitted by: Michael Darcey

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

Honorable Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations,

We had the privilege to work with Sherri, when unfortunately, one of our company vehicles had been stolen from our yard. She was the prosecution for the case and remember her to be quite diligent with the details and knowledgeable with the law. She gave us regular updates of what was happening at each step of the way and was quite pragmatic with what we could expect to happen. Unfortunately, our case did not prevail.

Since that time, we have come to know Sherri from more of a personal facet, through her involvement with the Iolani Alumni Association and as a friend who has adopted a dog we could not take with us when we moved to downtown. Through those associations, we have witnessed her loving nature and concern for people in general. She is a thoughtful mother and makes sure that her children are raised in a loving household with the proper guidance teaching them smart decision making. Her children are exposed to many different experiences and strong relationships with family and friends. She is outgoing and friendly and often gets recruited to lead because of her innate drive to "do the right thing".

Sherri epitomizes the traits that I consider paramount for someone to rule over a courtroom. She is knowledgeable about the law, and her interpretation of what is fair is accurate. She is a stickler for detail but can easily pull herself out to view the big picture as well. She is organized and creates order out of chaos, but is also willing to understand the human element in the equation that is not always so black and white but many shades of gray as well.

I rarely write letters of recommendation, because quite frankly folks that have asked me are not deserving. I write this letter of recommendation quite sincerely as an exception

to the rule because I know that Sherri Chun is all the things that I have listed here. I would welcome any questions, comments or concerns you may have about anything I have said here. I can be reached at Darcey Builders, Inc. 808-524-2903 or on my mobile phone 808-864-4664.

Truly,

Mike Darcey.

Mike Darcey

Darcey Builders, Inc. - Smart Building Solutions!

501 Sumner Street, Suite 605

Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

(808) 524-2903 Phone

mike@darceybuilders.com

MBE (Minority Business Enterprise)

Clifford W. Wong
Retired Instructor Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard
930 Lemiwai St Wahiawa HI 96786
622-2915

26 July 2010

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and the members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

Re: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA.

Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT

I am writing in support of the nomination of Sherri Iha for the position of District Court of the First Circuit. Ms. Iha has been a member of New Hope since 1999. She starting serving in the Children's Ark in 2001 and has for a number of years taken on the task of coordinating the volunteers for the Saturday Children's Ark team.

I feel that Ms. Iha would be and extreme asset to our Court system. I know that she is very hardworking and would be impartial. She has great values, such as one who loves and fears God, loves her family and others like family too, and has her priorities straight.

I know that you have been doing a fantastic job and that you are a great judge of character, and decisions you have made has moved Hawaii forward. And this is why I am putting my support behind Ms. Sherri Iha and strongly recommend her for the position of District or Family Court Judge..

Thank you, and May God Bless You!
Clifford W. Wong

July 27, 2010

(Via Email: JGOTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov)

TESTIMONY FOR:

JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229, 415 South Beretania Street

Re: Testimony *in Support of* Measure Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, **Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA**

Submitted by: Adrienne Y. Shimonishi Elkind, Esq.

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I am writing to express my support for the confirmation of Sherri-Ann L. Iha to the District Court of the First Circuit. Although I am also a lawyer, I have not worked with Sherri in the legal area, but have served with Sherri on the 'Iolani Alumni Association Board of Directors. I have worked closely with Sherri in that capacity, serving under her as Vice-President, while she has served as President for our Board for the past two years. Sherri has proved to be an effective, dedicated and hard working member of the Board, not only in her capacity as President, but also as a general Board member. As a general Board member, she actively served on various committees and worked hard at Board-sponsored events and in contributing to the overall success of the Board. As a President, she has had to deal with difficult issues and conflicts of personalities, and has done so in a diplomatic, fair and effective manner. She is always striving for "better", and does not just accept the status quo, searching for new and better ways that the Board can get involved and fulfill its mission. She serves on the Board, not just for personal reasons, but primarily for the good of the Board and the alumni/ae of 'Iolani School.

On a more personal level, Sherri is an honest and caring individual. She is also strong, intelligent, capable, and ready and willing to take on any task presented to her. Sherri would serve the District Court Judge position well, and be an asset to the Hawai'i State Judiciary.

Sincerely,



Adrienne Y. Shimonishi Elkind, Esq.

Lanson K. Kupau, Esq.
999 Bishop Street, Suite 2600
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: 808-535-5742 Cell: 808-294-4045
Email: lk@ksglaw.com

July 27, 2010

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi
Chair, Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
State Capitol Conference Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I write this letter in strong support of the nomination of Ms. Sherri-Ann Iha for District Family Court of the First Circuit.

I am a partner with the law firm of Kobayashi, Sugita & Goda and have known Ms. Iha for nearly 20 years. When I first met her, we were adversaries. I had just started as a new deputy with the Public Defenders' Office and she was a new deputy with the Prosecutor's Office. Despite being on opposite ends of the bench, I quickly realized that she was different. She was tough when she needed to be, possessed a thorough understanding of the law, displayed compassion when the facts warranted it, but most importantly, she was fair. The qualities she displayed two decades ago have only become more apparent. Having continued relationships with many criminal defense counsel, I have only heard praise and respect regarding Ms. Iha, and well deserved.

In addition to having the intellect and temperament to be an excellent judge, I have the privilege of knowing her on a personal basis. She is a dedicated wife, loving mother, devout Christian and gives tirelessly to various community projects. Be it volunteering for her children's school fundraiser, picking up trash in Chinatown, or organizing fundraising teams for Big Brothers Big Sisters, Ms. Iha possesses all the qualities your Committee would want in a judge and person.

She is well deserving of an opportunity to serve our community and would make our judiciary proud.

With much gratitude and Aloha,

/s/ Lanson K. Kupau, Esq.

TESTIMONY FOR: JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010, 1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,
Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT

Submitted by: Stacey M. Takanishi, University of Hawaii, College of Education Instructor

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and
members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I write in strong support for the confirmation of Ms. Sherri Iha, as a Family Court judge. Over the
past 29 years in which I have known Ms. Iha, I have seen that her moral and ethical integrity have
been uncompromised. Her actions have always reflected fair, empathetic, and sound judgment and
consideration; needless to say, her character is beyond reproach.

Ms. Iha has an exemplary work ethic that demonstrates her professionalism and passion for
upholding the law. Her experiences as a prosecuting attorney in both supervisory and litigation
(bench and jury) trials have given her a solid foundation that will serve her well as a Family Court
judge. Ms. Iha continuously seeks professional development opportunities to improve the
knowledge, skills, and dispositions required of people in her profession and shares her enthusiasm
as she serves as a mentor to high school students aspiring to practice law.

Ms. Iha is well-known and highly respected in the community for her leadership and commitment
to public service endeavors. She participates actively in service organizations such as in her
membership and tenure as President of the Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce, weekly
volunteer work for children's bible study group meetings, service as President of an Alumni
Association, and as a member of the 'Iolani School Board of Governors. She is well known in the
community for her altruism and positive contributions through service projects. As Ms. Iha brings
people together, she energizes and focuses them to help make a difference for others.

In addition to her roles as a prosecuting attorney and community leader, Ms. Iha has been able to
cultivate a warm and loving family, efficiently balancing the needs of both professional and
personal endeavors. She and her husband provide their children with enriching experiences and
surround themselves with a wealth of friends and family. I know can always count on her for her
honesty and friendship.

Thank you for considering Ms. Sherri Iha's confirmation as a Family Court judge. I believe that
she is the best candidate and that her selection will benefit the public in many ways. Please do not
hesitate to call (808-223-3595) or e-mail me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Stacey M. Takanishi

From: Takata, Kevin [ktakata@honolulu.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 9:59 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Confirmation of Sherri-Ann Iha to District Court Judge; Tuesday, August 3, 2010 at 1:30

Dear Senators:

Sherri-Ann Iha has the legal knowledge, intelligence and experience to be an excellent judge and I urge you to confirm her nomination to the Honolulu District Court. Having worked together at the Prosecutor's Office for many years, I have seen her progress from handling traffic cases to major felonies, to where she is now supervising and training less experienced deputies in the art of conducting jury trials.

In addition to her professional skills and ability, Ms. Iha is also a good, decent and compassionate person, attributes that are necessary to be a good judge. She is a devoted wife and mother, active in the community, and organizes all our Administrative Professional Day (formerly known as Secretary's Day) luncheon and festivities. Our loss will be the judiciary's gain.

Kevin K. Takata

Department of the Prosecuting Attorney
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
1060 Richards Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone: (808)768-6458
Fax: (808)768-7513
email: ktakata@honolulu.gov

Via Email: JGOTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

July 28, 2010

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Chair, Senate Judiciary and Government Operations Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Appointment of **Sherri-Ann Iha** to the District Court of the First Circuit
Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, August 3, 2010, 1:30 p.m.

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter in support of Sherri Iha's judicial nomination to the District Court of the First Circuit. I have had the privilege of working with Sherri at the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for approximately 10 years.

Sherri and I have never been in the same unit; nevertheless, she has always been willing to help cover many hearings and motions for me and numerous other prosecutors. Sherri has much trial and courtroom experience that has helped to prepare her to become a District Court Judge. The number of years that she has spent at the Prosecutor's Office clearly shows her commitment to serving the public.

Besides her work at the Prosecutor's Office, Sherri is involved in a number of community activities. She is on the Board of Governors for Iolani School, assists the PTSA for Kaelepulu School, runs the New Hope Children's Art, and is a monthly blood donor to the Hawaii Blood Bank. Sherri is willing to put her blood, sweat and effort into everything she does.

For all of these reasons, I support the judicial nomination of Sherri Iha to the District Court of the First Circuit.

Sincerely,
Trish K. Morikawa
768-7400

Franklin D. Pacarro Jr.
Department of the Prosecuting Attorney
1060 Richards Street, 10th Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

July 27, 2010

TESTIMONY FOR: JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT

Submitted by: Franklin Don Pacarro, Jr., Acting First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I whole-heartedly support the nomination of Sherri L. Iha (Chun) to the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit. I have known Ms. Iha for over seventeen years and have had the privilege to mentor and work with her in our office. Over the years as her supervisor, I have seen her grow as a person and as a deputy prosecuting attorney. She has excellent presence in the Courtroom because she is intelligent and possesses the people skills to relate to juries, judges and other attorneys. Through her hard work and dedication she won the highly coveted "Top Gun" award in our office for the most convictions as charged in a year. That year she did over a dozen jury trials. Miss Iha represents many trial attorneys in our office who are work horses and do not clamor for the high profile cases, rather she believes every case is important despite a lack of notoriety.

Ms. Iha will be an excellent judge because she is skilled in evidentiary matters. As for her legal knowledge and experience, she is tasked with training the newest deputies that come to our division. She trains them in how to lay foundation in evidentiary matters, jury selection, opening statement and closing argument. Attorneys who are able to master all of these disciplines make excellent trial lawyers as well as judges.

Miss Iha is a great role model for woman as she was the second female President of the Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce, the third female President of the Iolani Alumni Association, and she was in the second co-ed graduating class of Iolani School. Two years before she entered, Iolani was an all boys' school. She has also volunteered to

raise money for such worth causes like the Kaelepulu PTSA, the Special Olympics and the Big Brothers and Big Sisters' Organization.

I have known her to be fair and honest in dealing with other people, whether it be, other attorneys, staff or members of the public. Her integrity is impeccable and her diligence is unquestioned. Ms. Iha is an evened keeled person who does not get flustered under pressure and she will be able to make the difficult decisions. As to judicial temperament, she will make an excellent job because she does not lose her temper and is beyond holding grudges.

I believe Ms. Iha to be financially responsible because she has handled many events in our office over the years including Secretaries' Week and our Christmas events. Her father is a CPA and her husband is a Financial Advisor, she is of the most fiscally responsible persons that I know. As for her health, I believe she is in good health and works out regularly. Ms. Iha will be a welcomed and a strong asset to the judiciary because she will do what is just and right. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on this nomination. Please feel free to contact me at 768-7474 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Franklin Don Pacarro Jr.
Acting First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

From: Kekina-Cabaniero, Tana [tkekina@honolulu.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2010 12:46 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Confirmation of District Court Nominee Sherri-Ann Iha, August 3, 2010, 1:30 pm

VIA EMAIL

Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations
State Capitol, Room 229
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Confirmation of District Court Nominee Sherri-Ann Iha

Dear Chairman Taniguchi and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter in strong support of Sherri-Ann Iha's appointment to the District Court of the First Circuit.

I am a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney and have known Sherri-Ann in a professional capacity for 15 years. Sherri-Ann will make an excellent District Court judge. She is well-versed with the law, court procedures, evidence rules and case law. She is organized, hard-working and always prepared.

Sherri-Ann is respectful to everyone, regardless of rank. She is not arrogant, boastful or vindictive. Sherri-Ann would serve the interests of justice with the fairness intelligence, compassion and honor that judicial office requires.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tana Kekina-Cabaniero

Tana Kekina-Cabaniero
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Community Prosecution
1060 Richards Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808)768-6447
tkekina@honolulu.gov

From: chun@hhsaa.org [chun.hhsaa@gmail.com] on behalf of Christopher Chun [chun@hhsaa.org]
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2010 4:12 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 - JGO Committee Hearing

TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, **Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA**

Position: **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Submitted by: Christopher Chun

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

Please accept my written testimony in support of the confirmation of Sherri Iha as District Court Judge of the First Circuit. I have a unique perspective in that Sherri is my sister. As you may be aware, most siblings would have a hard time stating (yet alone testifying) that their brother/sister has treated them fairly in life. However, I can honestly state that this is not the case with my sister. I believe that she has all the qualities that would enable her to be an outstanding District Court Judge. Because of our age difference (8 years) she has served more of a “motherly” figure for me rather than an older sister. In that capacity, she has always treated me with fairness and compassion, two characteristics that I believe are essential for a Judge to have.

As a bit of background, like my sister, I am a licensed attorney in the State of Hawaii. Following my graduation from the William S. Richardson School of Law, I served as a practicing litigation attorney in a private Honolulu law firm. I have made countless courtroom appearances, and based upon those experiences, it is clear to me that my sister shares the same qualities as those Judges that I have appeared before.

In fact, it is my sister, who I have to thank for all I am blessed with today. I have continually followed in her footsteps beginning with my high school graduation from Iolani, attending law school at the William S. Richardson School of Law, and culminating in my legal career. It is this education and career path that paved the way for me to reach one of my career goals earlier this year. I am hopeful that her position as a District Court Judge will allow her to touch and help others in a similar fashion to what she has provided to me.

Thank you for your time,

Christopher Chun

Rowena Anelaaulii Somerville, Esq.
1302 Aloha Oe Drive
Kailua, Hawaii 96734
(808) 263-3251
hirowena@yahoo.com

July 29, 2010

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

RE: Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann Iha for the District Court of the First Circuit,
State of Hawaii

Dear Chairman Taniguchi and Vice-Chairman Takamine

I am writing in strong support of Sherri-Ann Iha's judicial nomination to fill the vacancy at the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii

Ms. Iha was a colleague of mine for nine years. She is a highly skilled and effective trial attorney and has an impeccable reputation both in and out of the courtroom. She is an excellent candidate for the District Court and Family Court positions.

Ms. Iha carries out her job with extreme professionalism and she exhibits patience and respect towards others. She is always prepared and very organized. She has vast trial experience, and is very comfortable in the courtroom. She has the ability to argue any legal issue at a moment's notice because she prides herself in knowing the most current rules, statutes and case law. Ms. Iha performs her duties as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney with fairness, integrity, and compassion. These traits would serve her well in the District Court and Family Court.

Aside from her extensive courtroom experience, Ms. Iha is also an excellent advisor and trainer. She served as my "mentor," and she was an invaluable resource to me when we were both assigned to the Felony Trials Division. She taught me how to better evaluate cases in order determine the most effective strategy for prosecution. She would welcome questions from anyone, and was able to answer anything from case law to Honolulu Police Department and court procedures. This ability has not gone unnoticed. She has conducted numerous trainings in other jurisdictions and currently serves as the Team Captain for the Misdemeanor Jury Demand team. She is responsible for training all of the new Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys to practice in court.

Ms. Iha has chosen to dedicate herself to public service. She has worked tirelessly and selflessly for the public for over sixteen years, and she truly believes in the judicial system. For these reasons, I ask for your favorable consideration of the

appointment of Ms. Iha to the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii. I thank you for the opportunity to provide these written comments. Should you have any questions, I can be contacted at the above numbers.

Very truly yours,

Rowena A. Somerville

LYLE S. HOSODA & ASSOCIATES, LLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

345 Queen Street, Suite 804 ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone: 524-3700 ♦ Facsimile: 524-3838

Lyle S. Hosoda

Raina P.B. Gushiken
Kevin T. Morikone

July 30, 2010

Via E-Mail: JGOTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Senate Judiciary Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
State of Hawaii

RE: Sherri-Ann L. Iha - Judicial Selection

Dear Honorable Committee:

I write in support of Ms. Sherri-Ann L. Iha to be Judge of the District and/or Family Court Judge for the First Circuit, State of Hawaii. I have known Ms. Iha professionally for about 15 years. I went to trial for a week against Ms. Iha and was able to observe her legal, trial, personal and other skills throughout the case.

I have also socialized with Ms. Iha and her family. I hired Ms. Iha's brother as an associate for our firm approximately 5 years ago. I have practiced before Ms. Iha's mother, Janice Chun at the Department of Labor. And, I sit on the Board of Directors and Mid-Pacific Country Club as Legal Counsel with Ms. Iha's father. I have a high regard for Ms. Iha and all members of her family. I believe that Ms. Iha would make an excellent addition to the State of Hawaii judiciary.

Ms. Iha has been practicing law in the State of Hawaii for 19 years now, primarily at the Prosecutor's Office. In her position, as an experienced deputy prosecutor, she mediates daily in the plea bargaining process. I have experienced and reviewed her written work in the case we had against one another. Her legal analytical skills make her a good candidate to be a judge. She is also a good decision-maker, gathering as much relevant information as possible, and then making a decisive, educated and informed decision. Finally, she is a leader and organizer of people. She is supervising many less experienced deputy prosecutors and staff.

Senate Judiciary Committee
State of Hawaii
July 30, 2010
Page Two

Ms. Iha possesses the integrity and moral courage to be a judge. Ms. Iha is intelligent. She has wisdom through years of experience. She has always been compassionate and extremely fair in all cases.

I believe that Ms. Iha has the appropriate and necessary judicial temperament for the job. I tested her directly on this during our trial. I challenged her many times to see if she would lose her temper or control. She never did. I believe that she will conduct herself well and make fair decisions.

Ms. Iha's honesty and trustworthiness have never been in question. She is a fine person and fine lawyer. I have never heard anyone say anything about Ms. Iha being dishonest or not trustworthy.

Ms. Iha and I also attend the same church, New Hope at Farrington High School. Ms. Iha is active in the church, and has been serving in the Children's Ark since 2001.

Ms. Iha also serves the community. She has asked for my assistance and kokua in various of her community activities and projects. Most recently, she serves on either a Board or Committee for Kaelepulu Elementary School in Kailua. She has chaired the annual carnival and Fun Day and was an integral part of the fund raising team.

Should you wish to discuss Mr. Iha any further, please feel to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lyle S. Hosoda', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Lyle S. Hosoda

From: lnoki@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 8:52 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Confirmation hearings for Sherri-Ann Iha, Steven Nakashima, Matthew Viola and Michael Tanigawa

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,
Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT

Submitted by: Linda Okimura, 95-1096 Hakala Street, Mililani, HI 96789

TO: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

Request your consideration and confirmation of Sherri-Ann L. Iha, to the District Court of the First Circuit. Below are excerpts of the letter I submitted to The Honorable Ronald T. Y. Moon, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Hawaii, in June 2010, in support of Sherri's nomination.

Sherri is an excellent candidate for this position. As her "calabash" aunt, I have known Sherri since she was born and spend a lot of time with her and her family. Not only is Sherri an extremely confident, independent, dedicated and assertive individual, she is very composed as well. I truly admire her ability to remain calm and poised, no matter what the situation. She has been at the Prosecuting Attorney's office for many years and though I have not personally seen her in action, I value her opinion and "common sense" attitude.

As mother to two lovely girls, aged five and seven, Sherri impresses me in how she manages to be a professional attorney, very active in community affairs (as evidenced in November 2009 when she organized a Christmas craft fair for the Kaelepulu Elementary School) and church projects. She spends quality time with her daughters, her supportive husband and her extended family and friends. We benefit from her organizational skills since she often gathers family and friends to attend a variety of events, not to mention special holidays.

I strongly urge confirmation of Sherri-Ann Iha. She would be a credit to this distinguished position and to the State of Hawaii.

Very Respectfully,
Linda Okimura

From: Miyahira, Darryl [dmiyahira@honolulu.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 8:56 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Nomination for Sherri-Ann L. Iha

Importance: Low

Dear Senators: I strongly support the nomination of Sherri-Ann Iha for District Court Judge. I have been practicing law since 1985, in civil and in criminal courts, and I am impressed by Sherri's abilities in court, and her knowledge of the law, and her temperment and character. Because she is a wife and mother, and a lawyer, she possesses perspective about society and the legal system that enables her to fairly and open mindedly relate to lawyers and litigants. Ms. Chun has conducted herself with dignity and with respect for other lawyers, victims and defendants, witnesses and court staff.

Thank you for considering my comment. Very Respectfully Yours,
Darryl Miyahira. 561-4704.

July 29, 2010

Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
Hawaii State Senate, Twenty-Fifth Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of
the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT

Submitted by: PETER J. MARRACK

Dear Senators,

I recommend that you confirm nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha to be a judge of the District Court of the First Circuit of the State of Hawaii. I have known Sherri as a co-worker at the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu and as a friend since 1992. At work, Sherri has always shown a willingness to assist others when they need help even when it means more work for her.

Sherri's career as a deputy prosecutor shows a commitment to serving the people of the State of Hawaii. Her career has also provided Sherri with a lot of courtroom experience.

Thank you for your consideration of my comment in your decision.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Marrack

IN SUPPORT

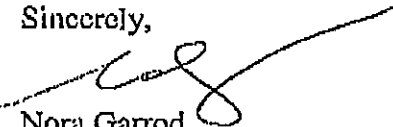
RE: SENATE CONFIRMATION HEARING FOR SHERRI-ANN CIUN IHA
HEARING DATE: August 3, 2010, at 1:30 P.M., Room 229

To the Senate Judiciary and Government Operations Committee
Fax: 586-6659

Ms. Iha is an excellent choice for service on the bench. She is an experienced trial attorney who has boundless energy and exceptional organizational skills. She is resourceful, dedicated, and active in the community.

Ms. Iha will be an asset to District Court and I strongly support her confirmation to the District Court bench.

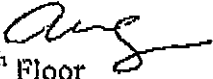
Sincerely,



Nora Garrod
c/o 1060 Richards Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

July 28, 2010

TO: The Senate Judiciary Committee

FROM: Armina Ching, Esq. 
1060 Richards Street, 9th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Senate Confirmation Hearing of Sherri-Ann Chun Iha to the District Court
Of the First Circuit position, Tuesday August 3, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in Room
229 of the State Capitol

This letter is to inform the Senate Judiciary Committee, that I fully support the confirmation of Sherri-Ann Chun Iha to the District Court First Circuit Judicial position. I have known Ms. Iha for years and I believe that she is well qualified for this position. As a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Ms. Iha is well respected by her peers. She is familiar with litigation and has been a trial deputy for many years.

From: Gayla Evora [GEvora@starnlaw.com]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 11:43 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Testimony for: JC1 - JGO Committee Hearing on August 3, 2010 (Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann Iha)

TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, **Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA**

Date and Time of Hearing: Tuesday, August 3, 2010, 1:30 p.m.

Please: State Capitol Conference Room 229

Position: **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Submitted by: Gayla Evora

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

It is a privilege to give my comments to you about Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann Iha.

I first met Sherri three years ago when her daughter and my son entered kindergarten together at a small school in Kailua. My first impression of Sherri was that she was very helpful and always volunteering at the school during class parties and fundraising events. She has since proven to be the most hardworking and dedicated parent in the school with respect to bettering resources and educational opportunities for the children. I have never before witnessed a parent work so tirelessly to help raise money at our school. For example, over the course of several months during a cookie fundraiser, she would personally deliver cookies to parents' homes each night to make it more convenient for the families and, of course, as an added incentive for those families to participate. She also single-handedly organized and implemented a huge craft fair which raised additional funds so that we could hire part-time teachers for physical education, music and art. In addition to her fundraising involvement, she has also served with me a class room parent, PTSA member and School Community Council member. These activities have demonstrated her leadership abilities, creativity and dedication to causes.

Sherri and I have since become good friends, and I cherish her friendship. Words I would use to describe Sherri are dedicated, articulate, compassionate, smart, ethical, tough, fair, hardworking, loyal. Although my opinion of Sherri comes from a personal perspective and not a professional one, I believe these wonderful qualities she possesses should be essential for all judges. She has continually demonstrated her tenacious spirit at school and community meetings with respect to always doing what is right and fair and, most importantly, what is in the best interests of the children. Also, within that fighting spirit she has always been open to discussing others' viewpoints and ultimately coming together to reach the goal.

Sherri Iha is a perfect choice for a district court judge. I strongly urge you to confirm her appointment.

Sincerely,

Gayla Evora

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From: Landon Murata [landon_murata@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 3:19 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: TESTIMONY FOR: JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing

TESTIMONY FOR: JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT

Submitted by: Landon M. M. Murata, Esq.

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

It is an honor and a pleasure to be writing in support of Sherri-Ann L. Iha for the position of District Court judge. I have known Sherri for some time now. I first met her in 2003, while I was clerking for the Honorable Virginia Lea Crandall. After my clerkship, I was hired by the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney and have worked there ever since. In this time, I have come to know Sherri quite well. I often find myself going to her for advice both personal and professional.

I consider myself a rather good judge of people; their intelligence, integrity, and general sense of fairness. In my opinion, Sherri is exactly the type of person we need on the bench. Her integrity is above reproach. Her work ethic is excellent. Her sense of justice and fair play is spot-on. She analyzes matters not only from a theoretical legal standpoint but a practical one as well; something that all judges must be able to.

It is difficult, even for an attorney, to put to words everything about a person that they admire and respect. As I am sure there are many letters of support that you will be reading during the confirmation process I have attempted to be as succinct as possible. Please do not take that to mean my support for Sherri is anything less than total and unequivocal. Should you choose to approve her for this position, she will make an excellent judge and the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney will lose an exceptional attorney.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments.

From: Vince.S.Kanemoto@hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 3:32 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Testimony For First District Court Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha

TESTIMONY FOR: JC 1 - JGO Committee Hearing
DATE: Tuesday, August 3, 2010
TIME: 1:30 p.m.
PLACE: State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,
Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Submitted by: Vince S. Kanemoto

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I strongly support the nomination of Sherri-Ann L. Iha to the district court bench. I have known Sherri-Ann since the 1990s, when we were colleagues at the Honolulu prosecutor's office. Sherri-Ann is a diligent, intelligent individual who is well qualified to become a judge. In addition to the tremendous amount of courtroom experience that she has gained during her tenure as a deputy prosecuting attorney, I have always known her to be ethical and serious about the discharge of her public duty as a prosecutor. Also, I believe that her temperament is more than appropriate for the bench. Accordingly, I humbly ask that this committee confirm Sherri-Ann's nomination to the district court. Thank you very much for your consideration of my testimony.

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Amy Murakami
c/o Department of the Prosecuting Attorney
1060 Richards Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Committee on Judiciary and Government Affairs
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

re: In Support of Sherri-Ann (Chun) Iha
Hearing on August 3, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.

Dear Chairman Taniguchi and committee members:

I am writing in strong support of Sherri-Ann Iha for the position of District Court Judge. Ms. Iha is a strong minded individual who also has great compassion. She knows when to be firm and when to seek compromise. Her years as a prosecutor taught her to seek justice for victims. But she never forgets that the defendant is also a person.

Ms. Iha has been an active member of the community and finds ways to give back to the community. I have known Ms. Iha since law school. Even at the law school, she and her friends would seek ways to bring the law school students closer by organizing events. Her community service continues both through her job as well as such organizations as Iolani schools.

Ms. Iha will be a decisive jurist. While she is proficient in the law, she always maintains a common sense approach to the law. Her common sense will serve her well on the District Court bench where most of the litigants are regular members of the public, many of whom are not represented by attorneys. I am confident she can make the law accessible to them.

Ms. Iha will be an asset to the judiciary and I hope you will give her your approval and vote for her confirmation.

Sincerely,



Amy Murakami

From: Pati Kickland [patricia.kickland@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 4:03 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: JC 1; APPOINTMENT OF SHERRI-ANN IHA

**To: THE HONORABLE BRIAN TANIGUCHI, CHAIR
SENATE JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
Twenty-fifth State Legislature
Interim of 2010
State of Hawai`i**

From: Patricia Kickland, individual capacity, patricia.kickland@gmail.com

Date: July 30, 2010

RE: JC 1; APPOINTMENT OF SHERRI-ANN IHA

I am writing to support the appointment of Sherri-Ann Iha to the District Court of the First Circuit. I am a deputy prosecutor for the City and County of Honolulu. I have known Ms. Iha for about two out of the four years that I've been employed as a prosecutor. Ms. Iha was my supervisor when I was assigned to the Misdemeanor Jury Demand team, and has been an informal mentor since my promotion to a felony trials team.

Ms. Iha is a practical, compassionate, and strong woman. She understands people. For example, Ms. Iha once led a training session for prosecutors who are new to jury trials and needed practice in jury selection. Ms. Iha did this not because our office mandated it, but rather because we new deputies wanted the training. We needed tools to do better at our jobs, and Ms. Iha came through to help us.

Another time, Ms. Iha observed one of my jury trials. Afterward, she gave me criticism, but along with that criticism she also gave advice and encouragement. Everyone has had a boss who puts people down, but Sherri would build us up. A lot of people take satisfaction in complaining; Ms. Iha, on the other hand, solves problems.

Ms. Iha's help and encouragement did not end when I joined a different team. Even though she has been under no obligation to help me, she still has acted as a mentor. Not only is she strong enough to succeed in her own career, she is strong enough to support others. Over all else, Ms. Iha values people and community. She would be a fair judge, and I support her appointment.

July 30, 2010

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Chair, Senate Judiciary and Government Operations Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Consideration of Sherri-Ann Iha for the District Court of the First Circuit
Hearing scheduled August 3, 2010, 1:30 p.m.

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Senate Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter in support of Sherri-Ann Iha's nomination for the District Court of the First Circuit. I first had the opportunity to work with Sherri when she joined the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney eighteen years ago. She was, and has always been, a hard worker and team player who assisted her colleagues. She has successfully tried a variety of felony cases, including assaults, robberies, and burglaries. More recently, in addition to her own felony trial caseload, she has been the Misdemeanor Jury Demand Team Captain, supervising deputy prosecutors learning to try cases before the jury in Circuit Court.

In addition to her commitment to her own children and her involvement in the PTSA for Kaelepulu School, Sherri is involved in numerous community service activities including the Board of Governors of Iolani School and the New Hope Children's Ministry. Through her work, family, and personal involvement and activities, Sherri has demonstrated that she is dedicated to serving her community.

For these reasons, I support Sherri's nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 768-7400.

Very truly yours,

Renee R. Sonobe Hong

To: Senate Sergeant-at-Arms Office
Fax: 586-6659

Re: Nomination of Sheri-Ann (Chin) Iha
Tuesday, Aug 3 @ 1:30 p.m., District Court

From: Salustiano R. Bunyo
Investigator, C&C of Honolulu
Prosecuting Attorney



I have known Deputy Prosecutor Sherri-Ann (Chun) Iha for 18 years. I know her as a competent attorney and later as an excellent Team Leader of felony trials. She will be a great asset to our judiciary system.

August 2, 2010

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chairman
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
State Capitol, Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation Hearing for District Court of First Circuit Judicial
Nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha
Date: Tuesday, August 3, 2010
Time: 1:30 p.m.

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Members of the Committee,

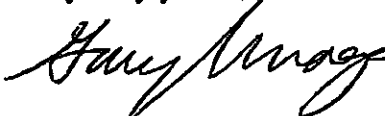
This written testimony is to express my support of the appointment of Sherri-Ann L. Iha to the District Court of the First Circuit. Ms. Iha will make an excellent district court judge because of her vast trial experience, knowledge of the law, integrity and compassion.

I have known Ms. Iha for over 15 years having both worked at the Honolulu Prosecutor's Office. Although a few years behind me at the office, I recall noticing her diligence, hard work, pleasant demeanor and fairness in the way she worked and tackled her cases. I have never seen her overwhelmed or without a smile despite carrying loads of files that sometimes bury her face. These qualities will prove useful as a district judge because of the court's hectic schedule, case volume and exposure to a large public audience. I also understand that in addition to her busy work schedule; she maintains a family and is active in her community.

There could not be a more well-balanced and dedicated person to sit as a district judge for the benefit of the bar and community. Ms. Iha's life and work experience has made her into a person who has strong work ethics, moral and family values with a keen sense of what is right and what is wrong. Her leadership abilities and legal intelligence will make her an excellence judge and do well for the judiciary.

Thank you for your consideration and attention.

Very truly yours,



Gary K. Senaga

From: Jamie.E.Chun@courts.state.hi.us
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 1:59 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

TESTIMONY FOR: JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee **SHERRI-ANN L. IHA**

Position: **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Submitted by: Jamie Chun

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

My name is Jamie Chun and I am the sister-in-law of Sherri-Ann Iha. I am in strong support of her nomination to the District Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Sherri for many years. She is a devoted wife and mother of two girls. She demonstrates a giving and generous nature in her free time. She volunteers numerous hours at the children's school and activities, as well as her church. Sherri is organized, efficient, extremely competent, and has an excellent rapport with people of all ages. As a sister-in-law and as a friend, Sherri is a standout, and I can always count on her.

I am currently a clerk for a Circuit Court Judge. I am familiar with the shortage of resources and the need for competent female judges in District Court/Family Court. As a former Family Court employee, I believe it takes a special person to sit at the bench. Judges must make decisions that will have some affect to the parties and their families. I believe Sherri has the qualification of being open-minded and fair in the pursuit of justice. Having a family of her own, she will be able to understand the issues that arise within a family.

Sherri has been an exceptional, dedicated and loyal prosecutor for many years. Both her professionalism and knowledge have taken her to where she is today. She fully understands the law and has the ability to apply the law.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

Jamie Chun

From: Kats Kanazawa [katskk@hawaiiintel.net]
Sent: Sunday, August 01, 2010 10:41 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: FW: testimony

TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing

Tuesday, August 3, 2010

1:30 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA

Position: IN STRONG SUPPORT

Submitted by: Kathleen Kanazawa

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

This email is sent on behalf of Sherri Ann Iha, in support of her consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit.

As one of Sherri's many calabash aunties, I have known Sherri all her life. I watched her as a child – curious and analytical – always ready to try new things. As she grew older, I saw a young girl with compassion, who worked with underprivileged children at Kalakaua Recreation Center. I saw her grow into a young woman who was active in sports and community events. As President of the Jaycees, Sherri was an efficient organizer, who initiated, participated in, and ran a number of projects – to include the Cherry Blossom Festival, numerous volleyball tournaments, and club meetings. Today, as a City Prosecutor, wife, mother, friend – Sherri has managed to juggle life's many challenges and be successful at every turn.

I find that Sherri is confident without being overbearing, compassionate without being biased, competitive without being overly aggressive. She has a wide range of interests which include hula, volleyball, attending

Broadway shows, lei making, and church activities. She balances family life with her career and manages time for her many friends and relatives.

As a Judge, Sherri would be well-informed, open-minded, clear thinking, and would be able to make judicious decisions based on facts. She would be fair and true to the law.

Please consider and confirm Sherri Ann Iha for a District/Family Court Judge position. Sherri would most assuredly be an asset to the Judiciary in this capacity.

Very Respectfully,

Kathleen Kanazawa

Douglas Chin
2423 Lanai Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Attn: Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

August 2, 2010

Subject: Confirmation hearing of **Sherri-Ann Iha** to the District Court of the First Circuit

Dear Committee Members:

I write this letter in support of Sherri-Ann Iha's nomination to the District Court of the First Circuit. Having supervised her in my capacity as Honolulu's First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney and as Acting Prosecuting Attorney from 2006 to the present, I believe Ms. Iha possesses the temperament, knowledge, qualities and skills that would make her an excellent addition to the First Circuit and an outstanding jurist in our community.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,


Douglas Chin, Esq.

From: Virginia Tanji [vtanji@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, August 01, 2010 9:44 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing

TESTIMONY FOR : JC1 – JGO Committee Hearing

Tuesday, August 3, 2010

1:30 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, **Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA**

Position: **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Submitted by: Virginia M. Tanji

To the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair; the Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Sherri-Ann L. Iha (Chun) for confirmation as District/Family Court Judge. As her maternal aunt, it is with great pride that I have watched her blossom in her many roles in the community. She has a deep understanding of her community and will be able to carry out her responsibilities as a judge with compassion, respect and pride for the community that she serves.

She has served as a deputy prosecutor since her graduation from law school. But what impresses me even more is how she has held many leadership roles within the community in addition to excelling as a daughter, wife, and mother of two young girls.

She was active with the Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce after she finished law school. She served as President and sat on the Board for the Senior Chamber and Japanese Cultural Center.

For the past three years she has been very involved with the 'Iolani Alumni Association and for the past two years served as president.

She has also been active with the Kaelepulu PTSA for two years and worked on their Spring Concert, and coordinated their cookie sale and Christmas Craft Fair.

Obviously in all these different roles Sherri demonstrates her ability to work with many different kinds of people and always emerges as a leader.

She often gathers our extended family members and close friends for holiday dinners and birthday celebrations.

I think in the end one memory is very vivid in my mind. Sherri's grandfather was 89 years old and lived with Sherri's parents. He had emergency surgery for a bowel obstruction and was in the rehabilitation hospital and not eating well. He was also his usual cantankerous self. Sherri, without being asked, brought his dog to see him at the rehabilitation hospital. I remember his loud voice when he saw his dog calling "Alika" with more life than we had seen in days. Sherri also brought him sushi. And that was the first day that he ate well...and was able to recover enough to return home.

Sherri always amazes me in her ability to juggle and multi-task very well in all these different roles. Her two young daughters are thriving in a public elementary school. One will be beginning in a private school this Fall. They have many activities. Sherri successfully manages and excels at all these different roles.

For all these reasons, I think you will find that Sherri-Ann L. Iha (Chun) will make a fine District/Family Court judge

Thank you for your consideration.

Virginia M. Tanji
509 University Avenue, #603
Honolulu, HI 96826
Home: 947-6229
Cell: 225-8880

Susan Miyao

From: Mark Yuen [markyuen14@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, August 01, 2010 8:46 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Sherri-Ann L. Iha, Nominee for District Court Judge of the First Circuit

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chairman
Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

Re: Sherri-Ann L. Iha
Nominee for District Court Judge of the First Circuit
Senate Confirmation Hearing: August 3, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.

Measure: J01 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii, Gubernatorial Nominee, Sherri-Ann Iha

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

My name is Mark Yuen and I am writing this letter in support of Sherri-Ann L. Iha's nomination as judge for the District Court of the First Circuit. I have known Ms. Iha since 1996 when I first joined the prosecutor's office as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney. In my opinion, Ms. Iha possesses the requisite skills to be a Family Court judge. Ms. Iha is a very hard worker who cares about the quality of her work. She has always put in a lot of time and effort in all her cases and is always well-prepared for court. In addition, Ms. Iha has the requisite temperament to be an excellent judge. She is extremely calm and patient, and is never quick to judgment. I believe that although she has been prosecuting attorney for a long time, she would not be predisposed towards the prosecution side in juvenile offender cases because above all, she is fair. In summary, I believe Ms. Iha will be a fine addition to the judiciary ranks for she has the skills, diligence and personality to be successful behind the bench.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Yuen

HENDERSON GALLAGHER & KANE

HARVEY E. HENDERSON, JR.
J. PATRICK GALLAGHER
JOELLE SEGAWA KANE
LYNN B.K. COSTALES
JACQUELINE W.S. AMAI
LEAH M. REYES

jamai@insurlawhawaii.com

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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MERIDETH Q. McENTIRE
ERINI MACDONALD
HIRO S. TAKEI
JON S. JACOBS
MELISSA L.B. ZOLKEPLY

In Memoriam
JEFFREY Y. HIGASHI

August 2, 2010

By E-mail only

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi
Chairman
Senate Committee on Judiciary
and Government Operations
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: **JC 1 Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,**
Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN L. IHA
(Hearing on August 3, 2010, at 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 229)

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

Please consider this letter in support of the appointment of SHERRI-ANN L. IHA to a judicial position in the District Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Sherri since we were first-year law students at the William S. Richardson School of Law in 1989. The friendship that started then has continued to today, and I have had the privilege of knowing Sherri on a personal level and witnessing her growth and accomplishments on a professional level.

Sherri has dedicated herself to her career as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney. At every stage of her progress within the department, she has been devoted in her pursuit of justice and fairness for both victims and defendants. Having been a litigator for such an extensive period of time, Sherri is well-versed in procedural rules, statutory authority, trial procedure and protocol. There is no question that she will maintain the professionalism, courtesy, and respect that she already has for the judicial system, court personnel, attorneys, and litigants.

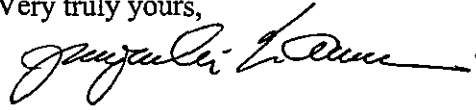
Sherri's compassion and generous spirit are evident in her commitment to her community. During her leadership of the Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce, she engaged many of us in numerous community service projects, sharing with us her concern and passion for helping those in need. Her community service interests continue even outside of an organized setting and Sherri has spearheaded countless "projects" for our group of friends to undertake, ranging from the Special Olympics and Lokahi Tree to recycling efforts.

I believe that Sherri will continue to make valuable contributions to the judicial system and the community if she is given an opportunity to serve in a judicial capacity. I respectfully request your favorable consideration of her appointment to the District Court bench.

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi
Re: Sherri-Ann L. Iha
August 2, 2010
Page 2

Thank you very much for this opportunity and your time in this regard.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacqueline W.S. Amai". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jacqueline W.S. Amai

From: STACI LEE [stacil2000@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 11:41 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Hearing on August 3, 2010 at 1:30 pm for Sherri-Ann Chun Iha

August 2, 2010

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am Sherri's secretary at the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office in the Trials Division. Sherri is the Team Captain consisting of four other Deputy Prosecutors supervising both felony & misdemeanor jury demand cases. She prosecutes felony cases along with supervising deputies that handle misdemeanor jury demand cases. As long as I've known her she has always been a hard working and dedicated Deputy Prosecutor. She is efficient in prosecuting her cases. I know that she can be fair and impartial as a district court judge. She is well liked by co-workers and is always willing to help out when coverage is needed at court. I strongly recommend that you confirm her as a District Court Judge.

Sincerely,

Staci Lee

TESTIMONY FOR: JC1 - JGO Committee Hearing
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Testimony in Support of the confirmation of Sherri-Ann L. Iha to the
District Court of the First Circuit

Position: In strong support

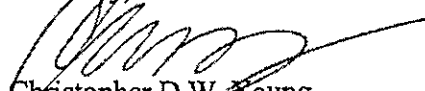
Submitted by: Christopher D.W. Young

To Chair Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Takamine and members of the Committee on Judiciary
and Government Operations,

I write in strong support of nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha. Sheri and I worked together as Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys for the City and County of Honolulu from September 1992, until I left the office in January 2000. As a co-worker, Sherri was very knowledgeable of criminal law and procedure, was not afraid to go to trial (even bad ones) and more importantly was always willing to help her fellow Deputies. I continue to work with Sherri in my role as Supervisor of the Criminal Division for the Department of the Attorney General. Based on my interactions with Sherri over the past seventeen years, I strongly believe she possesses the necessary knowledge and skills to be a fair, effective and impartial District Court Judge. She has always presented herself in an open and respectful manner and clearly will represent the Judiciary in a professional manner.

I humbly request that this Committee confirm Sherri's nomination as a District Judge of the District Court of the First Circuit.

Sincerely,



Christopher D.W. Young
c/o 333 Queen Street, Suite 200
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

From: Paul R. Mow [paul.r.mow@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 12:53 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Letter of Support for Nominee Sherri Iha

Hearing: JC1

Date: 8/3/2010

Time: 1:30 pm

Dear Members of the Senate Judicial Selection Committee,

My name is Paul Mow, I am a deputy prosecuting attorney for the City and County of Honolulu. I am writing to you as a private citizen to give my highest recommendation for Sherri Iha for the position of judge for the District Court of the First Circuit or District Family Court of the First Circuit. I met Sherri Iha nearly thirty years ago when we students at Iolani School. For the past thirteen years I have worked side-by-side with her as a fellow deputy prosecuting attorney. Through the years, I found her to be consistently professional, tackling all assignments with dedication and a smile. She has always been willing to lend an ear to listen to the problems of others. Sherri is an irreplaceable friend to me because she truly cares.

She is a natural "take-charge" person who is always able to present creative ideas and communicate the benefits. As a community leader, she has successfully served the Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce as its president. As the team captain of Trials Division Team 1, she is responsible for training new prosecutors for jury trials. Sherri has established herself as a leader that inspires and motivates young prosecutors to do their best. She has been assigned every kind of criminal case imaginable from speedy tickets to murder. All cases were handled with careful attention to detail and thorough legal analysis.

Sherri's family and her children's education are naturally important to her, but she has also dedicated herself to the improvement of education for others. She has spearheaded fundraisers to support our public school system through volunteerism. Her children attend a public school in Kailua. This past winter, she organized and promoted a craft fair in support of the school. She is also the president of Iolani School's alumni association and has worked tirelessly to connect the entire Iolani community.

The Judiciary will gain a valuable asset in Sherri Iha. She will use her immense talents and energy to be a judge everyone in Hawaii can be proud of. Her innate sense of fairness will guarantee justice for all that come to her court. I highly recommend Sherri for District Court or District Family Court Judge

Sincerely,

Paul R. Mow
HSBA No. 6741

Sent from my iPhone 3GS

From: Jung, Darryl J [MSB-PVTC] [darryl.j.jung@morganstanleysmithbarney.com]
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 1:00 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee SHERRI-ANN IHA

TESTIMONY FOR: JC1 - JGO Committee Hearing
August 3rd at 1:30 pm
Room 229 of the State Capitol

Position for Sherri-Ann Iha: IN STRONG SUPPORT

Mahalo,

Darryl J. Jung

Darryl J. Jung
Vice President - Wealth Management
Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC
1099 Alakea Street, Ste #2300
Honolulu, HI 96813-4500
phone: 808-543-0360
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STARN · O'TOOLE · MARCUS & FISHER

A LAW CORPORATION

August 2, 2010

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
The Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
415 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Testimony for JC1-JGO Committee Hearing
Re Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation
to the District Court of the First Circuit,
Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha
for Hearing on Tuesday, August 3, 2010,
at 1:30 p.m., State Capitol Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Takamine and Committee Members:

I write to express my strong support for the appointment of Sherri-Ann L. Iha for Judge of the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii. I am the Chairman of the law firm of Starn O'Toole Marcus & Fisher and have been practicing law for over 35 years. Ms. Iha is bright, dedicated, hardworking and responsible, all qualities which she will bring to the position of District Court Judge. She would do an exceptional job serving the people of the State of Hawaii in this capacity.

Ms. Iha is currently assigned to (1) the Felony Trials Division and (2) the Misdemeanor Jury Demand Division of the City and County of Honolulu's Department of the Prosecuting Attorney. As a deputy prosecutor in the Felony Trials Division, she is responsible for felony cases ranging from Class "C" felonies to sex assaults and murder. She is also the supervising deputy prosecuting attorney in the Misdemeanor Jury Demand Division, and is responsible for both supervising and training deputy prosecutors handling misdemeanor jury demand cases. In addition to her current positions with the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, Ms. Iha has also worked in other areas of the Department over the past eighteen years, including (1) the Screening and Intake Division, (2) the Robbery/Burglary Team, (3) the Family Court-Juvenile and Misdemeanor Domestic Violence Cases Division, (4) the Misdemeanor/Driving Under the Influence Jury Demand Division and (5) the Misdemeanor Traffic Division.

Having served in these widely diverse areas of the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, and participated in numerous felony jury trials provides her with solid court experience for her prospective role as a Judge of the District Court. I believe Ms. Iha would bring outstanding leadership, decision making skill and high integrity to the judicial process.

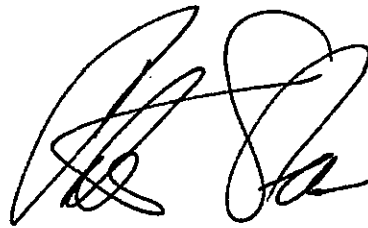
Pacific Guardian Center, Makai Tower • 733 Bishop Street, Suite 1900 • Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: (808)537-6100 • Fax: (808)537-5434 • Website: www.starnlaw.com

288148

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
The Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
August 2, 2010
Page 2

I recommend Ms. Iha's nomination to you both wholeheartedly and without reservation. Should you have questions or desire any further input from me, I would be happy to provide them to you.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Starn', with a large, stylized initial 'P' and 'S'.

Peter Starn

From: Wong, Darrell [dwong3@honolulu.gov]
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 3:39 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Sherri-Ann (Chun) Iha District Court First Circuit judicial nominee

My name is Darrell J.K. Wong and I am a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu, State of Hawaii. I am writing this Letter Of Recommendation in support of Sherri-Ann Chun's judicial selection to the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

I have known Sherri for approximately fifteen years, both as a colleague and a good friend. We have worked side by side over the last 10 years in the Felony Trials Division of the Honolulu Prosecutor's Office.

Sherri has an uncommon ability to organize and present complex and difficult cases in a way which is comprehensible to the common lay person. Her legal knowledge and trial skills are impeccable. She has demonstrated this throughout the years in her preparation and presentation of a wide variety of cases ranging from white collar crimes, property crimes, and violent crimes.

What I value most from my relationship with Sherri is the positive and uplifting example she sets. In my opinion, she exemplifies integrity and sensitivity at its highest levels. I have always known her to be honest in all her dealings as a Deputy Prosecutor and Officer of the Court. She has a sense of caring and sensitivity which seems to guide her decision-making in both personal and professional matters and will surely be a valuable asset on the Bench.

I undoubtedly believe that Sherri has the professional and legal competency to serve on our District and Family Court bench. More importantly, however, she has the honesty, integrity, and sensitivity needed to serve as an effective Judge. Many Attorneys could no doubt serve as a Judge because of their legal knowledge and skills, but judicial temperament and sensitivity is a character trait that is even more significant. Sherri-Ann Chun has those needed characteristics. It is with utmost confidence and assuredness that I support her selection to District Court Bench, State of Hawaii.

I submit this letter of support in lieu of testimony at Ms. Chun's confirmation hearing on August 3, 2010.

Sincerely,

Darrell J.K. Wong
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Susan Miyao

From: Richard Stacey [staceyr001@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 3:45 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Confirmation of Sherri-Ann Iha to District Court Bench Hearing on 2010 1:30 p.m. Room 229 Tuesday, August 3,

Dear Chairperson and members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly recommend Sherri-Ann Iha to be confirmed as a judge for the District Court of the First Circuit. I have worked with Sherri as a fellow deputy prosecutor for the past 15 years. We worked together in the Trials Division where she was an accomplished trial attorney who did a variety of jury trials. She was a confident and decisive trial attorney who appeared before many different judges and juries. She won the Top Gun award one year for having won the most jury trials.

I also worked with her in the Screening and Intake Division, where felony cases are reviewed with detectives from the Honolulu Police Department and where knowledge of the facts of the case and the applicable law is perhaps even more critical. It is in this division where tough decisions are made, especially when the crime can be serious, but the deputy prosecutor has to make a quick yet correct decision on whether to accept the case. Sherri showed the same decisiveness here as she would have to show as a judge, some times making the tough decisions not to prosecute based on lack of evidence.

She later became a supervisor for the young deputy prosecutors handling misdemeanor jury trials. Her strong trial and supervisory background, her intelligence and decisiveness, in addition to her history of being active in the community, all point to her being an excellent judge.

I will be happy to answer any questions regarding Ms. Iha.
I can be reached at 741-5573.

Mahalo,

Richard Stacey
2942 Pahoehoe Place
Honolulu HI 96817

From: Leah Takeuchi [leah.takeuchi@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 4:22 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: RE: JC 1; Testimony in Support of Confirmation of Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha,
Tuesday, August 3, 2010, 1:30 p.m.

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Chairperson, Senate Judiciary and Government Operations Committee Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairperson Taniguchi and Members of the Judiciary and Government Operations Committee:

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha, to the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii for a term of six years.

I have worked with Ms. Iha as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in both the Felony Trials Division and the Felony Screening and Intake Divisions. Ms. Iha has been a supportive co-worker and gets along well with the other deputies and staff in the office. I believe that her trial experience, work ethic and ability to work with others would make her an asset on the bench. She has a firm understanding and knowledge of the law and will take pride in her responsibilities on the bench and ensure that justice is dealt fairly to all parties involved. Further, her charisma, dedication to the law, and leadership qualities will serve her well as a District Court Judge.

Thank you for your attention to these comments.

Leah Takeuchi, Esq.

August 2, 2010

Senate Chair Brian Taniguchi
Senate Judiciary/Government Operations Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

transmitted by facsimile

RE: Confirmation of Judicial Nominee Sherri Chun Iha
August 3, 2010 1:30 p.m. hearing

Dear Senators:

For the past sixteen years, I have had the privilege of working with Judicial Nominee, Sherri Chun Iha. It is with great pleasure that I write this letter in support of her nomination.

Years ago, I had the privilege of supervising Ms. Iha when I headed the Misdemeanor Jury Demand Team in the Department of Prosecuting Attorney. Ms. Iha was a team player who was always willing to cover for others both on and off the team at a moment's notice. Since that time, she has come full circle as she is now the Supervisor of that team. Moreover, she is still willing to assist her colleagues at a moment's notice.

The deputies whom she supervises are appreciative of the time and attention that Ms. Iha takes to build their trial skills. She regularly observes her team members in court, stages mock jury selection, and observes long hours to be available to those whom she supervises.

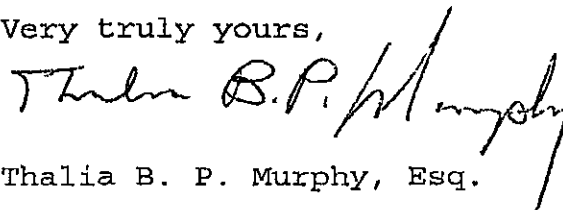
Ms. Iha treats everyone with whom she comes into contact with great care and respect. This includes individuals for both the State and the Defense. Moreover, she has always displayed a strong work ethic, and compassion for both sides.

Chair Taniguchi
Page 2
August 2, 2010

Sherri Iha recognizes that every case is important, and affects people's lives. She is honest, trustworthy and of high moral character. The people of our community are safe because of her years of hard work and dedication. I believe that anyone who would appear in front of her would sense her compassion, fairness and integrity. I highly recommend her for a Family Court judgeship.

If you or your staff have any questions regarding the aforementioned, I can be reached at 768-6486.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thalia B. P. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "y".

Thalia B. P. Murphy, Esq.

**LATE
TESTIMONY**

From: Jason Minami [JMinami@marrjones.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 03, 2010 12:15 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Testimony in Strong Support of District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha

Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
Hearing Date: August 3, 2010, 1:30 p.m.
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee Steven M. Nakashima

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Takamine, honorable members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the confirmation of District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee Sherri-Ann L. Iha. As a former Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu and judicial law clerk to the Honorable Michael A. Town, I have worked with and observed Ms. Iha in her capacity as Team Captain of the Trials Division of the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney. Without question, Ms. Iha is passionate for the law, yet displays reasonable and practical judgment on disputed legal issues. I firmly believe she will bring her no-nonsense, common sense approach to the law with her to the bench, which in turn, will benefit the attorneys who appear before her and the community as a whole.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information or have any follow-up questions regarding my testimony.

Sincerely,
Jason Minami

*Jason M. Minami, Esq.
Marr Jones & Wang
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Facsimile: (808) 536-6700
Email: jminami@marrjones.com*