

James S. Williston
3623 Manamana Pl.
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808)988-0425

June 10, 2022

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary,

I am writing in my personal capacity to respectfully urge your confirmation of Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald's appointment of Jill M. Hasegawa, Esq., to serve as a District Family Court Judge for the Third Circuit, State of Hawai'i.

I have known Jill for the past nearly 18 years, since she graduated in 2004 from the Richardson School of Law and joined the Board of the William S. Richardson School of Law Alumni Association, of which I have been a member since 1980. Jill quickly became one of the leaders of our Association and, despite her relative youth, was selected to serve as the Association's President from 2006-08. Jill did an outstanding job as our President. Her style of leadership was one of setting the example, rather than one of directing the board members. Despite the sometimes contentious matters to come before our Board, Jill came to our meetings prepared, moved through the agenda, and managed the meetings with grace, even temperament, and good humor. Though Jill had been off our Board for a number of years at the time, the Association honored Jill as its sole Outstanding Alumna of the year in 2019.

One of Jill's initiatives for the Richardson Alumni Association was to strengthen its relationship with the University of Hawai'i Alumni Association (UHAA). Although Jill's undergraduate work was at The George Washington University, she rose within the ranks of the UHAA from its liaison with the Law School Association to its Treasurer, its First and Second Vice President, and eventually its President (2018-20).

Jill has practiced extensively in the area of Family Law, including 13 years with a Family Law focus as an Associate and Partner with the well-respected Ashford & Wriston firm in Honolulu, and for the past four years with her father's general practice in Hilo. For the past nearly two years Jill has also been serving as a per diem Judge for the District Court and District Family Court of the Third Circuit. Although only a per diem Judge, she has served during the past year as a member of the Permanent Committee on Family Court Rules.

Jill's unmatched record of voluntarism is amply set out in her r sum . She is committed to making Hawai'i the State, and Hawai'i, the island on which she grew up and is now practicing, better places to live. She has demonstrated her commitment to Hawaii's Judiciary through her service on the Access to Justice Commission for the past 14 years, and through her participation in the Court Annexed Arbitration Program and Volunteer Settlement Master Program. Finally,

she has rolled up her sleeves and helped individuals who have needed Family Law counselling at the Hilo Self Help Center and the Kapolei Access to Justice Room, and through Volunteer Legal Services of Hawai'i.

I believe the District Family Court of the Third Circuit would be well served by the addition of Mr. Hasegawa as one of its judges, and again urge your confirmation of the appointment of Jill M. Hasegawa as a judge of that court.

Very truly yours,

James S. Williston, Esq.
HSBA No. 2330

JSW/jsw

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/12/2022 2:33:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanci Kreidman	Testifying for domestic violence action center	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: It is with all respect, reverence and enthusiasm that we submit unqualified support for Jill Hasegawa's appointment to the Judiciary Third Circuit. Our work together spans several decades and reflects her commitment to community, access to justice and professional generosity. Ms. Hasegawa has offered consultation and training for DVAC attorneys and accepted cases pro bono in service to survivors. Her expertise and professional investment in community activities exceeds the work she did with the Domestic Violence Action Center. The courts and the community will be much enhanced with Jill's presence. Mahalo.

ALEXA D. M. FUJISE
5038 Po`ola Street
Honolulu, HI 96821

June 12, 2021

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

Re: JC1: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, Judicial Nominee, JILL M. HASEGAWA

Dear Senators Rhoads and Keohokalole:

It is my great pleasure and honor to ask this Committee to recommend to the full Senate that Jill M. Hasegawa's appointment to the position of Family Court Judge for the Third Circuit be confirmed.

I have known Jill since 2004 when she joined the William S. Richardson School of Law Alumni Association and was elected to its Board of Directors. She immediately made a positive impression with her upbeat personality and can-do attitude. She was always ready to pitch in with any information or efforts that were required. So much so, that two years later, she was elected as the Board's President.

Throughout her tenure on the Board, I was favorably impressed with Jill's candor, intellectual integrity, and moral strength. You may have noticed that almost four years ago, Jill left a successful family law practice with Ashford and Wriston to return to the island of her birth and to assist in her father's law practice as well as to lend a hand in caring for her then-ninety-five-year-old grandmother. Clearly, assisting her family is a strong priority for Jill.

Jill continues to contribute to the University of Hawai`i, both as a member of the Richardson Alumni Association and as a member of the University's Alumni Association of which, until June 2020, she was also President. Jill has been a valuable resource and has generously given her time and expertise in these and in a multitude of other community service capacities as shown by her resumé. Clearly, commitment to her community at large is also an obligation Jill takes seriously.

Important to all public service endeavors is the possession of "people skills," which Jill employs to an accomplished degree. I have witnessed Jill successfully convince, interpret, and mediate between persons in various situations and am convinced these skills will continue to serve her well as a judge.

Finally, I would be remiss in failing to mention how highly regarded Jill is, by myself and others, as a person and as a lawyer. She is someone who can be counted on to do the right thing and to stand up for what is right.

I wholeheartedly and unreservedly recommend Jill for this important position.

Sincerely,

/s/ Alexa D. M. Fujise

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Judiciary
Thursday, June 16, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

JC 1 - FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE DISTRICT FAMILY COURT OF THE
THIRD CIRCUIT, JUDICIAL NOMINEE, JILL M. HASEGAWA

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

I am writing **in support** of Jill M. Hasegawa, who is a judicial nominee for a position in the District Family Court of the Third Circuit.

I have known Jill for a while now as we both serve on the Board of Directors for the University of Hawaii Alumni Association (UHAA). Jill is the Immediate Past President, and I am the current President.

In her time as President of UHAA, Jill proved to be a strong leader and guided our organization through the beginning of the pandemic. Jill was instrumental in facilitating our largest contribution to date to UH Foundation's Urgent Student Relief Fund, which provided immediate financial support to UH students that experienced financial hardships because of the pandemic.

I feel that Jill, having been born and raised on Hawaii Island, can relate to the local community and understands the issues that families on Hawaii Island experience. The time she spent working on Oahu has helped to broaden her outlook and provide her with the necessary family law experience to make a positive impact on Hawaii Island.

I strongly encourage you to consider Jill for this position and would be happy to answer any questions if you need further clarification.

Sincerely,



Brandon Kurisu

1000 Bishop St. Suite 909

Honolulu, HI 96813

brandonk@aiohawaii.com

P: (808) 778-1900

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/13/2022 10:05:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randy Lu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: It is my pleasure to fully support the judicial nomination of Jill M. Hasegawa to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit. Jill and I have known each other for many years and I was fortunate enough to serve with her on the Executive Board for the University of Hawaii Alumni Association. From a professional perspective, I have firsthand knowledge that she is a leader with the highest integrity and her work ethic is second to none. I find her to be a good listener, even tempered, resourceful, and impartial when we have to make difficult decisions. I have total trust and admiration in her preparation, high ethical standards, and the consistent pursuit to do what is right and lawful. Jill has all the experience, credentials, and the body of work that not only make her the right choice, but the best choice to serve on the District Family Court of the Third Circuit.



June 13, 2022

Senate Judiciary Committee
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Recommendation for Jill Hasegawa for
District Family Court, Third Circuit

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Jill Hasegawa for the District Family Court of the Third Circuit judicial position.

I have known Jill for many years. She was my Family Law associate attorney, and then my law partner at Ashford and Wriston LLP. When she was at my firm, we co-counseled on many cases and worked very closely in general. She became my go-to authority on many matters in which she developed greater expertise, including procedural, jurisdictional, appellate, and child support matters. She is an excellent attorney, and provided empathetic and very knowledgeable representation to clients in our very difficult area of the law.

From the moment I met Jill, I was also impressed by her commitment to community service and the enhancement of the legal profession. I served with her on the Board of Hawaii Women's Legal Foundation for which she was also President. She and I also worked together providing pro bono representation and training for victims of domestic violence through the Domestic Violence Action Center. However, Jill was also active in and committed to many other professional and community activities. In fact, I am certain that I have never known anyone as involved with and committed to professional and community activities as Jill. She is tireless. Further, she took pride in every activity and organization in which she participated.

On a personal level, Jill is very caring. As my sons were growing up, she took a genuine interest in them and their lives. One of my sons, now an adult, recently took a job on the Big Island. When Jill learned of this, she reassured me that she would always be there for him if he needed help in any way.

MAILING ADDRESS

Post Office Box 131 / Honolulu, HI 96810

STREET ADDRESS

First Hawaiian Center / 999 Bishop Street, Suite 1400 / Honolulu, HI 96813

T 808 539 0400 / F 808 533 4945 / E atty@awlaw.com / www.ashfordwriston.com

Senate Judiciary Committee
Re: Recommendation for Jill Hasegawa
June 13, 2022
Page 2

I have been practicing Family Law for 20 years. It is very important that candidates appointed to Family Court judgeships have deep Family Law experience. Jill does. For this reason, among many others, she is the best qualified candidate for the open District Family court position, and if selected, will truly be an asset to the judiciary. The community will be fortunate to have her on the bench.

I thank you for your time and consideration. If you would like further information, I can be reached at 539-0438 or through email at lmcgivern@awlaw.com.

Very truly yours,

ASHFORD & WRISTON
A Limited Liability Law Partnership

By 
Lynne Jenkins McGivern

LJM:agd

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/13/2022 10:43:59 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
H. Shan Wirt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Aloha Senate Judiciary Committee, I write in FULL SUPPORT of Jill Hasegawa's appointment to the District Family Court in the Third Circuit, Island of Hawaii. I believe she would make a great Judge. I have known Ms. Hasegawa for approximately 12 years. We first met when she was a volunteer facilitator for one of the HSBA Leadership Institute's panels. Even from that relatively brief encounter, I recall her remarkable resourcefulness and professionalism. Later, we also served (and continue to serve) on the Board of Hawaii Women's Legal Foundation, including the two years when she was President. Her ability to lead with strategic vision - while being diplomatic and willing to listen to and consider various viewpoints - is evident. A few years later, she joined the Hawaii Women Lawyers' Board, which I also serve on (including one year as President). There, her enthusiasm and ability to get things done were again admirable. She spearheaded a number of HWL's efforts targeted at promoting gender equity within the judiciary, among other programs. Most recently, she spearheaded HWL's Mentor Circle program, which I assisted with in a secondary role. Over the years, we also worked together at Ashford & Wriston. Although her practice was primarily family law at that time, our work had some overlap in civil litigation particularly in the real property dispute, financial institutions and collections arenas. She was a supportive and legally insightful Partner for the matters I worked on as an Associate. I also know that over the years she was (and continues to be) active with numerous local organizations - both legal and otherwise - such as UH Alumni Association, Access to Justice and the list goes on. I highly doubt I would be the only one in Hawaii who readily identifies Ms. Hasegawa as exemplifying the true spirit of a leader as shown in her willingness and drive to go beyond her legal work to help those in the community and doing it so well. Thank you in advance for this opportunity to provide comments. Best regards, H. Shan Wirt, Esq.

June 13, 2022

**THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE INTERIM OF 2022**

**COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair**

Dear Chair Rhoads and Vice Chair Keohokalole,

I am writing in support of confirming Jill Hasegawa's appointment by Governor Ige to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit. Ms. Hasegawa is a highly respected attorney and community leader. Over the years, I have had the pleasure of working with her in various capacities, including serving with her on the Access to Justice Administrative and Pro Bono Initiative Committees. Through those interactions, I can personally attest to her superior work ethic of always striving for the best, being an effective problem solver, collaborator, and someone who maintains a cool composure when faced with challenges. Of the many people I have worked with, Ms. Hasegawa stands out as one of the most dedicated to public service and helping the most vulnerable members of Hawaii's communities. When she signs up to serve on a committee or volunteers to assist with a project, you can count on her to actively participate and follow through with every task she takes on.

Ms. Hasegawa's exemplary work as an attorney, per diem Judge, and volunteer on numerous committees, boards, and foundations, illustrate that she has the required qualifications to make an excellent Judge.

I strongly encourage you to confirm Ms. Hasegawa's appointment as a Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Tracey S. Wiltgen', with a stylized, flowing script.

Tracey S. Wiltgen, Esq.

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/13/2022 12:50:44 PM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Halsted	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: When appearing before this judge for cases, she is well prepared and it is obvious she has read the case file. She is knowledgeable in family law and will provide a needed boost to the Big Island judiciary.

Haunani Burns
1054 Green Street #803
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
June 13, 2022

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary
415 So. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBJECT: Letter in Support of Confirmation of Appointment of Judicial Nominee,
Jill M. Hasegawa to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit

Dear Chairperson Rhoads and Vice Chairperson Keohokalole,

I am writing in support of confirmation of the appointment of judicial nominee, Jill M. Hasegawa, to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit.

I have known Jill since 2004 when, as a new William S. Richardson School of Law (WRSL) alumna, she joined the WRSL Alumni Association (WRSLAA) Board of Directors, which I served on from 1980 to 2021. From the outset, Jill showed a deep commitment to WRSLAA and worked capably and with distinction during her 12 years of Board service, ultimately serving as our Board President. She also served as a Board member of the University of Hawaii Alumni Association (UHAA) Board of Directors and in various UHAA Board officer positions.

Based on having known Jill since 2004 and having worked with her on our law school and alumni matters over the years, I feel I have a good sense of Jill's character. I know her to be a person of integrity, of upstanding character, honest, responsible, diligent, fair minded, collegial, and dedicated to justice.

In addition to her commitment to her alma mater, Jill has dedicated her time to her local community, serving as a board member of the Friends of the East West Center, a volunteer attorney with Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii, and a volunteer arbitrator with the Hawaii Court Annexed Arbitration Program. She was also a longtime volunteer with the Judiciary's Volunteers in Public Service Kids First Program. In 2015 and 2017, Jill was recognized by the Hawaii Domestic Violence Action Center as an Outstanding

Volunteer Attorney for her direct pro bono legal representation of victims of domestic violence and mentorship for attorneys. Jill's record of service clearly shows her commitment and dedication to the community.

Jill has extensive experience in Family Law through her 13 years of practice with Ashford and Wriston, LLP, in Honolulu and her subsequent practice with the law office of Raymond K. Hasegawa in Hilo. She was a lead author for the Real Property Section of the 2015 Hawaii Divorce Manual and has been a guest speaker and lecturer at various workshops focusing on Family Law. Jill's extensive Family Law experience demonstrates that she is highly qualified for the Third Circuit District Family Court position.

Based on Jill Hasegawa's qualifications, her character, and her dedication to the community, I believe she will be an excellent family court judge. I respectfully ask the Judiciary Committee to confirm her appointment to the Third Circuit District Family Court.

Sincerely,

Haunani Burns



www.bfl.law
(808) 345-7662

Post Office Box 2429, Kailua-Kona, HI 96745
75-127 Lunapule Road, Suite 8B, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

June 13, 2022

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Senate, Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Consideration and Confirmation of Jill M. Hasegawa to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I write to you regarding the confirmation of Third Circuit District-Family Court nominee, Jill M. Hasegawa. I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Hasegawa on the Third Circuit Family Court Rules Committee, put together by Judge Robert D.S. Kim. I have also appeared in front of Ms. Hasegawa in Kona Family Court where she has gained extensive experience sitting as a *per diem* judge over the past year.

Ms. Hasegawa has impressed me with her knowledge of the law, her professionalism, her even temperament, her preparedness for her cases, and a compassion for the families who come before her. She has strong leadership qualities and an ability to consider many different sides of an issue while at the same time making timely decisions.

I believe that Ms. Hasegawa will represent the Big Island well as a member of the State Judiciary, and that she will serve our community with an aptitude and openness that will see her well-respected and appreciated amongst those who appear before her.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee move to confirm Ms. Hasegawa's nomination to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit.

Sincerely,

Dawn Henry Laird, Esq.

June 13, 2022

For: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair; Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair;
and other members of the Committee on Judiciary,
Senate, State of Hawai'i

Re: Confirmation of Jill Hasegawa

Dear Senators,

This email is written in support of the confirmation of Jill Hasegawa as a judge of the District Family Court of the Third Circuit. I have known Ms. Hasegawa since 2008 when she was Vice Chair of the Access to Justice Commission and I served as Chair. I have worked with her and observed her in various roles as a member of Commission committees. Additionally, I have witnessed her assume leadership positions in the Hawai'i Bar Association. Over the years she has served on national and state judicial, bar, and community organizations and garnered numerous law- related and civic awards. Her reputation for leadership and citizenship is exceptional.

Ms. Hasegawa is well versed in the practice of law and maintains an excellent reputation in the legal community. She has had extensive experience in legal practice, including family law practice in a large law firm in Honolulu for nearly 13 years and a varied practice in a family firm in Hilo for over the last four years. Her lengthy legal experience in family law practice makes her ideal for the position of district family court judge.

Ms. Hasegawa's record also makes her an ideal person for a permanent position on the bench. Her credits demonstrate her long commitment to the principles of equal access and treatment for all persons with respect to the legal system. She continues to unselfishly contribute to pro bono service. She has been tireless in her efforts to advance and promote the highest standards of legal assistance to those who are in need.

Ms. Hasegawa is committed to the welfare of the people in the Third Circuit, and is well known in the Hilo community. For example, as I have related before, in September 2019, she helped to organize a combined continuing legal education seminar and a training session to recruit attorney volunteers to staff the Hilo "Self-Help" Center. The centers are established on each island to provide free legal information especially for underserved persons and are staffed by attorney volunteers. The Hilo Center was in dire need of volunteer attorneys and the seminar was offered as an incentive for attorneys to also attend the training session for the Center. The program was a success and volunteers were obtained to staff the Center for the year. In addition to her other activities, she volunteers as an arbitrator for civil court cases and as a settlement master

in family court. The foregoing matters are some of the many instances that demonstrate Ms. Hasegawa's commitment to legal representation for all and to the efficacy of the judicial system. That commitment has characterized her professional life.

Significantly, she has served as a per diem judge in the Third Circuit district and district family court since October 2020 presiding over numerous civil, criminal and family law matters. As I have indicated before, she has had varied experience that would enable her to readily assume full time status as a judge. I believe she has presided over (1) district court criminal, civil, TRO, and civil commitment cases and (2) family court criminal, divorce, juvenile, CPS, adoption and guardianship cases. Having represented clients at court hearings and in trial over a span of 17 years, and now having served as a per diem judge she is well acquainted with courtroom procedure and conduct. She would readily assume the duties of a full- time judge and assist quickly in shouldering the judicial duties of her Circuit.

Character is at the core of a model judge. I have found Ms. Hasegawa to be even tempered and to have a balanced disposition. I have worked with her on a one-to-one basis, and observed her interaction with other individuals and with large groups, intermittently over the last 14 years. She has been very respectful of others. She exercises good judgment and is aware of the appropriate protocol for different occasions. She understands the importance of judicial temperament.

I have known her to be fair in her dealings with others and I believe that she possesses the attributes necessary for judicious decisions and would afford equal treatment to everyone appearing in court before her.

I believe she is a person of the highest integrity. The litigants appearing before her benefit from her good judgment and her exemplary conduct. Knowing her over the years, I believe she is of unquestioned honesty and impeccable character. Based on my experience on the bench, I believe Ms. Hasegawa has the inner strength to make difficult decisions and will adhere to the strict ethical requirements of the judicial code of conduct.

Ms. Hasegawa would meet the highest judicial standards. She would do an outstanding job and bring credit to the judiciary and to the State as a full- time judge. I believe she is worthy of confirmation by the Senate and ask for your consideration.

Thank you for your review of this statement.

Yours truly,

/s/ Simeon Acoba, Jr.

June 14, 2022

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-First Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 409
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing Date: Wednesday, June 16, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President, and Members of the Senate

Subject: **JC1 - Confirmation of District Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit
Judicial Nominee – Jill M. Hasegawa**

I am writing in support for the confirmation of Jill M. Hasegawa for District Court Judge of the Third Circuit Family Court.

I am Ken K. Hayashida, President of KAI Hawaii, Inc., a structural engineering firm in Hawaii. I have known Jill for over twelve years and have served with her on the Board of Directors of the University of Hawaii Alumni Association. While I was President, she was an active director and provided excellent guidance and support. We could see her dedication and leadership as we eventually got her to serve as President. Through the last decade, the Alumni Association was drastically restructured and challenged to become more relevant on a very limited budget. She was always committed, supportive and exhibited strong moral character. She has always demonstrated a strong commitment to support our local community.

Jill has extensive experience in family law, which is demonstrated in her work and resume. Her appointment by Chief Justice Recktenwald to fill the vacancy for the district family court position in South Kohala/Waimea demonstrates her qualifications. Jill has the right discipline, temperament and character to make an excellent judge. Thank you for your consideration of my support in her confirmation.

Sincerely,



Ken K. Hayashida

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/14/2022 12:34:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nalani Fujimori Kaina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I write in strong support of Jill Hasegawa's judicial appointment. I write this testimony in my personal capacity. I have known Jill for many years through her work first as the President of the Young Lawyers Division when the Access to Justice Commission was first forming and her eventual role as the Vice Chair of the Commission. We have worked on numerous Commission projects together and also got to know each other when she joined the Hawaii Women Lawyers Board of Directors. I have always been impressed with Jill's commitment to access to justice and her dedication through her volunteer activities. She has always been part of so many of our discussions to improve access to justice in Hawaii and through her work with HWL equity in the profession. Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Jill's appointment.

06/15/2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Jill M. Hasegawa's confirmation to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit.

I have known Ms. Hasegawa professionally and personally for a decade or longer. While I do not believe I ever had a case with her as opposing counsel, we both served as presenters for a National Business Institute seminar regarding family law issues in 2016, we both currently serve on the Permanent Committee on Family Court Rules, and we have volunteered together at Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii advice and consultation clinics. She was a highly respected family law attorney when she was practicing on Oahu, she has worked tirelessly towards the improvement of the Family Court system, she is a person of the highest moral integrity, and she has a very even-keeled demeanor.

I strongly recommend that Ms. Hasegawa be confirmed to the District Court of the Third Circuit.

Respectfully,
Kevin S. Adaniya

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/15/2022 8:38:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph K. Kamelamela	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Aloha, Senate Chair Karl Rhoads and Members of the Judiciary Committee I recently retired as the Corporation Counsel for the County of Hawaii (2017-2020). I know Ms. Jill Hasegawa for over 25 years. When I was the Litigation Supervisor at the County of Hawaii Office of the Corporation Counsel, in 2005-2006, she was a law intern and did excellent work on all of her assignments. Later, I maintained contact with Ms. Hasegawa, and I wanted to hire her in 2017 when she returned to Hilo to work with her dad. Raymond Hasegawa, who is also an attorney. She turned down my offer because of her commitments to the community and professional groups, and her desire to work with her dad. Ms. Hasegawa is bright, determined, and committed in providing the best legal services for her clients, and improving our legal procedures. I was excited when Ms. Hasegawa was appointed as a Per Diem Judge in the District Family Court. Now, I am proud of her, a Hilo borned and raised individual, being nominated as a District Family Court Judge serving her island community. Mahalo nui loa on your Committee's consideration of Ms. Hasegawa

Testimony of Arnold Kishi supporting
Nomination of Jill M. Hasegawa
as Judge of the District Family Court of the Third Circuit
State of Hawai'i

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
Hearing on June 16, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

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

I write to strongly support the confirmation of Jill M. Hasegawa as Judge of the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawai'i.

During many professional and personal interactions over the years, Jill has demonstrated the character, commitment to the Hawaii Island community, and strong personal and family values that together will make her an excellent family court judge.

For many years, I served with Jill on the Board of the University of Hawai'i Alumni Association (UHAA) where she exercised her leadership, strong interpersonal skills, and sense of fairness, and respect of others during many challenges facing the growing statewide organization.

Jill was always available to listen, to help others. While carrying a heavy caseload, Jill simultaneously did pro bono work for many non-profits, and participated in numerous public-service organizations and activities. She told us the wide variety gave her not only opportunities to practice the law, but to hone the art of hearing and understanding many diverse points of views so she could help those most in need, especially neglected elders, youths, and families. With her innate sense of purpose, humility, and compassion Jill will be a great judge.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide my supporting comments. I strongly urge you to confirm Jill M. Hasegawa as Judge to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawai'i.

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/15/2022 9:10:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noah Gibson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Aloha Chair & Committee members, I write today in strong support of Judicial Nominee, JILL M. HASEGAWA in her consideration and confirmation to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, for a term to expire in 6 years. I have known Ms. Hasegawa for decades inside and outside the courtroom, and she has the experience, integrity, demeanor, and abilities to be an outstanding Family Court Judge, and the people of Hawaii Island would be very lucky to have her in their courtrooms. I would highly encourage the committee to confirm her nomination. With Respect and Aloha, Noah Gibson

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/15/2022 9:40:35 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tom S. Tanimoto	Individual	Comments Only	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I am a partner in the family law firm of Coates Frey Tanimoto & Gibson, AAL LLLC, and write in my individual capacity supporting the nomination of Jill M. Hasegawa as Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit. As a result of my prior term as chair of the Family Law Section, I've gotten to know Ms. Hasegawa over the years through said section, as well as her contributions with respect to organizing various events including family court bench bars and Family Law Forums. In addition, her involvement with the HSBA and her service on boards and committees is extensive. Jill is a steady and thoughtful individual who does not hesitate to "lend a hand." She was previously a family law practitioner, and coupled with her current service as a per diem judge, she undoubtedly has the experience to qualify her for a full-time appointment to the bench. Thank you for your consideration.

Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald's Appointment Order No. 2022-3
Consideration and Confirmation of to the
The Judiciary State of Hawaii, District Family Court, Third Circuit
Jill M. Hasegawa, for a term of six years

Thursday, June 16, 2022
10:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

Aloha,

My name is Jennifer L. Zelko-Schlueter and I am testifying in support of Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald's Appointment Order No. 2022-3, in consideration and confirmation of Jill M. Hasegawa to serve as Judge of the District Family Court of the Third Circuit.

I have known Jill on both a personal and professional level. Jill and I both attended Hilo Union Elementary School, Hilo Intermediate and graduated from Hilo High School. We also attended Japanese Language School at Hilo Hongwanji for many years together. Jill has always been a natural and empathetic leader. A leader that took the time to help those around her succeed. She carried these same leadership characteristics into her legal career.

Jill has extensive legal expertise and experience in Family Law and other complex legal matters. She is highly respected by members of the bar throughout the State of Hawaii. In addition to a stellar legal career, her volunteer work in various communities across the State is unmatched. She has dedicated much of her time to making sure that everyone has access to justice. Her work with the Bar and Self Help Center has made a difference for some of our most vulnerable community members. She cares deeply for Hawaii island and the residents that call this place home. She will bring a high level of integrity and good moral character to the Judiciary.

Accordingly, I support Jill M. Hasegawa in support of Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald's Appointment Order No. 2022-3 to serve as District Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/15/2022 10:15:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura J. Knudsen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Members of the Senate I want to express my support for Per Diem Judge Jill Hasegawa for the District Family Court Third Circuit judge position. As an attorney practicing in Hilo, I have appeared before Per Diem Judge Hasegawa multiple times in Hilo Family Court and have always found her to be well prepared, knowledgeable on all relevant law, respectful and decisive. She is also acutely aware of the children who are the subject of some of the proceedings in our cases, and shows them courtesy and respect when they come to court. I genuinely enjoy appearing in Per Diem Judge Hasegawa's courtroom and believe that she will be an excellent Family Court judge and will use her skills to better our community and the lives of the families here on Hawaii island. Thank you for your time and consideration. Laura J. Knudsen

LATE

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/15/2022 10:32:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Levi K. Hookano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on the nominees for District Family Court Judge for the Third Circuit. I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Ms. Jill Hasegawa. She possesses all of the qualities necessary to serve in this position, and I have the utmost trust that she will excel in that position. Ms. Hasegawa is knowledgeable in family law and the judiciary, has the proper temperament, and is a staunch volunteer and supporter of many HSBA and Judiciary programs. Jill practices almost exclusively in family law and is an active participant in the Family Law Section. She is a contributor to the seminal Hawaii Divorce Manual, used by all practitioners and judges alike. Her knowledge of the specific area of law that she will be adjudicating will be invaluable to the bench and the practitioners in the circuit. Her experience as a per diem judge also ensures that she will hit the ground running and be able to immediately assist her community. Speaking of her community, Jill's roots run very deep on the Big Island. She will be committed to doing everything she can to benefit her community. She will be even keeled in all she does and treat everyone with dignity and respect. Finally, Ms. Hasegawa is one of the BIGGEST supporters of HSBA and Judiciary programs. She is a former YLD President, was instrumental in developing the HSBA's flagship Leadership Institute Program, serving on many many committees, and volunteering for untold programs. She will bring that commitment to volunteerism with her to the judiciary. There is no doubt in my mind that Jill would be a fantastic addition to the Judiciary Ohana, and will serve the Bench, the Bar, and her community to the utmost of her abilities. I highly support her appointment to the Third Circuit Family Court. Mahalo, Levi K. Hookano



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

LATE

DATE: June 15, 2022

TO: Senator Karl Rhoads
Chair, Committee on Judiciary
Submitted Via Capitol Website

FROM: Mihoko Ito

RE: **JC 1** - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, JILL M. HASEGAWA , for a term to expire 6-30-2028.
Hearing Date: June 16, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.
Conference Room: 016 & Videoconference

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

I write this testimony in **strong support** of the nomination of Jill Hasegawa to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit. Jill and I have been colleagues in the legal community for many years. We first met on the board of the Young Lawyers Division of the Hawaii State Bar Association and served on that board together for several years, including the year that she served as President. We also worked at Ashford & Wriston and have served on a few other boards together, including Hawaii Women Lawyers and Hawaii Women's Legal Foundation.

I have always known Jill as an detail-oriented and action-oriented person. She has been deeply involved as a leader in many different organizations. When Jill takes on a project, one thing you can expect from her is that she will thoroughly deliberate and consider all issues before moving forward. Jill is diligent and hard-working, and is a very accomplished and competent attorney with a wide breadth of experience. She is also always ready and willing to be involved and volunteer her time— as is evidenced by the many leadership roles she has assumed during the course of her legal career.

I firmly believe that Jill would be an excellent addition to the Judiciary. I strongly support her nomination to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, and respectfully ask that the Committee advise and consent to her nomination.

LATE

JC-1

Submitted on: 6/15/2022 9:56:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 6/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph E. Cardoza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Chair: Hon. Karl Rhoads, Chair Vice Chair: Hon. Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair Committee: Senate Committee on Judiciary Testimony of: Joseph E. Cardoza Organization: None (Testifying as an individual citizen) Hearing Date: Thursday, June 16, 2022 Hearing Time: 10:30 a.m. Place: Conference Room 016 and Via Videoconference Hawai'i State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawai'i Jud. Comm: Judiciary Comm. No. 1 Position: Support of Judicial Nominee JILL M. HASEGAWA Dear Chair Rhoads and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary: I am writing in my individual capacity in support of Judicial Nominee Jill M. Hasegawa who has been appointed by Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald to serve as a District Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit for a term of six years. I have known Jill Hasegawa for several years and have found her to be dedicated, reliable, and compassionate. Throughout her legal career, she has consistently demonstrated a commitment to improving the practice of law and access to justice for those of low- and moderate-income. She has served on the Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission as Vice Chair, a Commissioner, and a committee member. Currently, she is a member of the Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission's Administration Committee and is one of the members of the Commission's Pro Bono Celebration Task Force. She has an understanding of the challenges faced by those appearing before our courts, including those who must represent themselves. Given Jill Hasegawa's years of legal experience and commitment to access to justice, I consider her an excellent candidate for the judicial office of District Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit. Thank you for the opportunity to present this written testimony. I do not plan to testify during the hearing on Judiciary Comm. No. 1.

GEMMA-ROSE POLAND SOON, ESQ.
A Limited Liability Law Company

P.O. Box 848
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

Tel: (808) 859-1895
Fax: (808) 378-1983
Email: gemma@gpsfamilylaw.com

June 16, 2022

LATE

Re: Comments in support of Jill M. Hasegawa

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

I am writing in support of Jill M. Hasegawa, who is being considered for confirmation for judicial appointment in the Third Circuit.

I have written in support of other nominees for family court positions in the past. In this instance, however, I am more uniquely positioned to comment because of the closeness of my relationship with Jill. Jill and I have known each other for over eleven (11) years. For five-and-a-half of those years we worked in adjoining offices and were more like family than co-workers. I maintain a very close friendship with Jill and likely know her better than most people writing in. With that being said, I believe there are three (3) things about Jill you should know as you consider confirmation of Jill for a position in the District Family Court in the Third Circuit, Island of Hawai'i.

- 1- Jill has and will always strive to do the right thing, both personally and professionally. Jill has a strong moral compass, and her legal analysis and advice has always fallen within the bounds of the law and the ethical standards governing the practice of the law. In the eleven-plus years I have known Jill, I cannot think of a single instance wherein she jeopardized her morals or ethics.
- 2- Jill cares deeply for her community and service to it. As long as I have known Jill, she has been committed to serving her community. Jill has served in both big and small ways, and also inspired and encouraged others to serve. If it was not for Jill's encouragement and mentorship, I would not have been so involved in serving the Bar Association and the community.
- 3- Jill has extensive experience. Jill has extensive experience in family law and has gain significant experience with other matters while sitting as a per diem judge. With regard to family law in particular, I feel strongly that the people making decisions in family court should know family law. Decisions in family court impact peoples' lives in significant ways. It is detrimental to those who appear in family court and our community to have judges in family court who do not have family law experience. Family court judges should not be "learning on the job" at the expense of families, people's livelihoods, people's safety, etc. Rather, family law experiences should be

the predominant factor in selecting a judge for family court. Here, Jill undoubtedly has the family law experience necessary to serve the bench and her community well.

Jill's strengths in these areas, as well as the many other wonderful things about her, make her an excellent selection for judicial appointment in the Third Circuit, Island of Hawai'i.

I have tried to keep my comments brief. If you need any further information, however, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at 859-1895 or gemma@gpsfamilylaw.com.

Sincerely,

/s/Gemma-Rose Poland Soon
GEMMA ROSE POLAND SOON

THE HONORABLE KARL RHOADS, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawai'i

LATE

June 16, 2022

RE: J.C. 1, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, Judicial Nominee, JILL M. HASEGAWA, for a term to expire in 6 years.

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Keohokalole and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, it is my pleasure to submit this testimony in strong support of the confirmation of Jill Hasegawa, to become a District Family Court judge of the Third Circuit.

While my experiences with Ms. Hasegawa do not include legal work *per se* (as we have never practiced in the same area of law), I have known Ms. Hasegawa for over 15 years, and I can assure the Committee—without hesitation—that she is a person of the highest level of integrity, and is extremely dedicated to her craft and to the community.

Since our early days in law school, when Ms. Hasegawa was my supervising editor on the Asian Pacific Law Journal, Ms. Hasegawa has always dealt with those around her with the utmost respect and civility. Beyond being smart as whip, Ms. Hasegawa has always provided praise, constructive criticism, and/or guidance to others with utmost patience and humility.

Fast forward through 15 years of working side-by-side on various community issues, and on both the Board of Hawaii Women Lawyers and Hawaii Women's Legal Foundation, and my appreciation for Ms. Hasegawa's character, abilities, and her dedication to the community, have only continued to grow.

As a leader, Ms. Hasegawa has always shown herself to be fair and decisive, yet thoughtful in her consideration of all factors and perspectives on an issue. While I have not had the opportunity to observe Ms. Hasegawa as a *per diem* judge in the Third Circuit, I do know that this is something she has been committed to for a number of years, and I know that she is particularly adept at facilitating business meetings smoothly and efficiently, even when faced with a boardroom full of strong, highly opinionated women lawyers.

Based on everything that I have seen of Ms. Hasegawa's character, work ethic, temperament, and overall ability to handle every situation with absolute capability, I believe the Judiciary would be lucky to have her, and I believe she will be an outstanding addition to the bench.

For all of the foregoing reasons, I strongly support the confirmation of Jill Hasegawa, to become a District Family Court judge of the Third Circuit, and urge the Committee to advise and consent to her confirmation.



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

Jill M. Hasegawa
District Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit (JC1)

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

FROM: Shannon S. Sheldon
President, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Thursday, June 16, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the nomination of Jill M. Hasegawa for the position of District Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit.

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

- Notification to the nominee of the HSBA appointment review process, which includes a questionnaire requesting educational credentials, legal and other professional work experiences, personal references; a resume; a copy of the JSC application; and an interview with the HSBA Board of Directors.
- Notification via electronic transmission to the HSBA membership of the appointment and a request for comments on the nominee.
- Appointment of a three-person review subcommittee of HSBA Board members by the President which serves as a neutral fact-finding body to: review documentation submitted by the nominee, contact references submitted by the nominee, review comments received from the HSBA membership, and conduct follow-up member contact for clarification, if necessary, for presentation to the HSBA Board.

OFFICERS

Shannon S. Sheldon, President
Rhonda L. Griswold, President-Elect
Jesse K. Souki, Vice-President
Lanson K. Kupau, Secretary
Alika L. Piper, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Jocelyn W.C. Chong
Steven J.T. Chow
Vladimir Devens
Jessica R. Domingo
William A. Harrison
Geraldine N. Hasegawa (East Hawaii)
Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao
Carol S. Kitaoka (West Hawaii)
Erin M. Kobayashi
Jacob K. Lowenthal (Maui)
Emiko Meyers (Kauai)
Mark K. Murakami
Paul W. Naso
Zale T. Okazaki
Mark G. Valencia

YLD PRESIDENT

Jasmine Wong

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Levi Hookano

HSBA/ABA DELEGATE

Leslie A. Hayashi

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Patricia A. Mau-Shimizu

- Submittal of a report by the three-person review subcommittee to the President, and subsequently to the entire Board.
- Meeting of the President, the Executive Director, and the Nominee prior to the scheduled interview of the nominee by the Board.
- Interview of the nominee by the HSBA Board.
- Deliberation of the HSBA Board to determine if the nominees is qualified or unqualified.
- Submittal of the HSBA Board's recommendation to the confirming authority.

The HSBA President and the Executive Director met with Ms. Jill M. Hasegawa on June 13, 2022 to discuss the subcommittee's findings. On June 14th, Ms. Hasegawa was interviewed by the HSBA Board of Directors in executive session.

Documentation submitted by Ms. Hasegawa was reviewed and the references listed were contacted for their personal opinions and observations. The comments and letters received from HSBA members reflected an affirmation of Ms. Hasegawa in all categories of the HSBA criteria which include:

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

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

Judicial Appointee Jill Hasegawa was born and raised in Hilo. After graduating from the William S. Richardson School of Law, Ms. Hasegawa began her legal career at the law firm of Ashford and Wriston specializing in Family Law. She also serviced financial institution clients, and handled collections, foreclosures, and other civil legal matters. She was made partner in 2013. In 2017, Ms. Hasegawa left the firm to relocate back to Hilo and began practicing law with her father. Since 2020 Ms. Hasegawa has served as a Third Circuit Per Diem Judge.

As a Per Diem Judge in Kona Waimea and Hilo, Ms. Hasegawa has presided over District Court Criminal, Family Court Criminal, District Court Civil cases. She has also presided over an extensive Family Court calendar including, divorce, paternity, juvenile, child welfare, guardianship, adoption, TROs, and civil involuntary commitment proceedings.

Ms. Hasegawa has an extensive pro bono public service record which includes appointment to the Access to Justice Commission, training attorneys with the Domestic Violence Action Center and taking DVAC cases, and volunteering with Volunteer Legal Services of Hawaii and with the Court Annexed Arbitration Program. In addition, the Nominee was an officer with the University of Hawaii Alumni Association, and a Board member of the Kuikahi Mediation Center and the Friends of the East West Center.

If confirmed, Ms. Hasegawa will be assigned to the Waimea court facility and will preside over family, criminal, and civil District Court calendars.

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

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