

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of
Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Friday, November 17, 2023
10:00 a.m
State Capitol, Conference Room 016 and Videoconference

In consideration of
Governor's Message No. 1

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of Governor's Message No. 1, the appointment of Lisa M. Ginoza as an Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Judge Ginoza currently serves as Chief Judge for the Intermediate Court of Appeals, a position she has held since being sworn in on April 24, 2018. Prior to her appointment as Chief Judge, she served as an Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals since May 6, 2010. Additionally, Judge Ginoza served as the First Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawai'i from 2005 through 2010. In her capacity as First Deputy Attorney General, she helped to assist the Attorney General in leading their department of more than 700 employees across 16 legal services divisions and five non-legal divisions.

Her private practice experience includes extensive work in civil litigation in her fourteen years at the law firm of McCorrison Miller Mukai MacKinnon, where she became a partner. She also is a member of the boards of directors of the Judiciary History Center and the American Judicature Society, chairs the Hawai'i Supreme Court's PACE Commission, and has served as an Adjunct Professor in Appellate Advocacy at the William S. Richardson School of Law. A graduate of Kailua High School and Oregon State University, Judge Ginoza earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law.

Testimony of the Governor
G.M. No. 1
November 17, 2023
Page 2

I am confident that Judge Ginoza has the experience and knowledge necessary to serve the State well as an Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Mahalo for your consideration.

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/3/2023 2:18:15 PM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judge Daniel Foley (ret.)	Individual	Comments Only	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Dear Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I submit this letter in support of the nomination of Lisa M. Ginoza as an Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. I am intimately familiar with Judge Ginoza's work and reputation as an attorney with the McCorriston law firm, First Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawai'i and Associate and Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals (ICA). As you may know, I served with Judge Ginoza on the ICA. Judge Ginoza has always performed her jobs in the most exemplary manner. Judge Ginoza would be a great addition to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. She has an outstanding legal mind, is a wonderful and efficient writer, works well with others and has unquestioned integrity. It is also important that she values the role of the Court as a fair and impartial arbiter of disputes that should apply the constitution, statutes and rules as written and intended with appropriate deference to the other branches of government and lower tribunals. She has demonstrated this as an ICA judge. As an ICA judge, I was instrumental in establishing the Access to Justice Commission. Judge Ginoza believes as I do that all of our residents should have access to justice regardless of their social or economic status. Respectfully submitted, Judge Daniel Foley (ret.)

November 14, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

Re: Governor's Message No. 1 -- Submitting for
consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to
the Hawai'i Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee, LISA
M. GINOZA, for a term to expire in 10 years.

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the
Committee:

I am pleased to express my strong, unequivocal, and
heartfelt support for the nomination of Chief Judge Lisa M.
Ginoza as Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Lisa and I served together on the Intermediate Court of
Appeals (ICA) for more than seven years, from 2010 to 2018.
During that time, I was the Chief Judge and Lisa was an Associate
Judge. When I retired in 2018, Lisa was appointed to the ICA
Chief Judge position.

Lisa is exceptionally well qualified to be an Associate
Justice. During her thirteen-year tenure as Chief Judge and
Associate Judge of the ICA, she has established her excellence as
an appellate judge. She combines a superb legal mind with
fairness, unquestioned integrity, hard work, sound judgment, and
clear analysis.

With respect to the qualities considered by the Judicial
Selection Commission in evaluating applicants -- integrity and
moral courage; legal ability and experience; intelligence and
wisdom; compassion and fairness; diligence and decisiveness; and
judicial temperament -- Lisa exceeds all requirements. Indeed, I
cannot think of anyone who would be better qualified to serve as
an Associate Justice of our Supreme Court.

Appellate judges engender confidence and respect for the
judicial system by the strength of their reasoning and the
clarity of their decisions. Lisa excels in these areas. Her
decisions are thoughtful, well-reasoned, thoroughly researched,
cogently analyzed, and written in clear, readily understandable
language. Lisa is adept at collaborative decision-making, which
is how appellate courts work. She shares her insights, explains
her analysis, expresses disagreements graciously, and is willing
to both persuade and be persuaded.

Lisa is extremely diligent and hard working, putting in long hours to fulfill her judicial duties. She is honest, has impeccable integrity, and adheres to high ethical standards. Lisa's unwavering focus is to achieve justice and to do what is right under the law. She is passionate about working to improve the judicial system and to promote civic education. Among her many volunteer activities, she is the Chair of the Commission to Promote and Advance Civic Education and serves on the boards of the American Judicature Society and the Judiciary History Center.

Lisa has a wealth of experience through her distinguished career in private practice, in the executive branch of government, and as a judge. She was a civil litigation partner at a well-known Hawai'i law firm, served as the First Deputy Attorney General for Hawai'i, and became an Associate Judge and then Chief Judge of the ICA. The depth and breath of Lisa's experiences give her valuable insight into the challenges facing our community and fully prepare her for the Associate Justice position.

On top of it all, Lisa is a just a wonderful person. She is kind, caring, considerate, and respectful of others. She has a warm heart and the Aloha spirit. Despite her considerable talents and accomplishments, she is very humble. As an Associate Justice, she will be a great representative for the Judiciary in the community.

Lisa has strong roots in Hawai'i. She cares deeply about Hawai'i and its people. I am confident that as an Associate Justice, Lisa will serve with honor, wisdom, and integrity. She will make us all proud.

Sincerely,

Craig H. Nakamura
Craig H. Nakamura

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Martha Torney, MA
martha.t.torney@gmail.com

SUBJECT: GM1, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as Associate Justice
to the Hawaii Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee Lisa M. Ginoza

Hearing: Friday, November 17, 2023; 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 016

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

My name is Martha Torney and I am pleased to submit this testimony in **strong support** of Judge Lisa Ginoza's gubernatorial nomination as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Given her tenure as a member of the Intermediate Court of Appeals since 2010 and Chief Judge since 2018, her record is rich with published opinions that allow you a clear picture of her thinking when deciding a case, always most logical and well-documented. My experience with Judge Ginoza precedes her appointment to the Court and provides me with an opportunity to share the incredible support she provided as the State of Hawaii responded to a Settlement Agreement with the US Department of Justice over conditions at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility.

Between 2006 and 2010, I worked very closely with Judge Ginoza during my tenure as Executive Director of the Office of Youth Services (OYS). I have no question that she possesses the impeccable character, unquestioned integrity and intelligence required to be a member of Hawaii's highest court.

In February 2006 the State of Hawaii entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the US Department of Justice (DOJ) concerning conditions of confinement at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF). Just two weeks earlier I joined OYS to assist in addressing the terms of the agreement and had the unmitigated luck to work closely over the next four years with then First Deputy Attorney General Ginoza in responding to the MOA.

It was Judge Ginoza who negotiated the terms of the settlement with DOJ and her continued involvement ensured a deep understanding of what was expected from the State to resolve the serious issues that led to the suit filed on behalf of the wards. Most important was her ability to forge a collaborative relationship with the DOJ attorneys based on mutual trust while not abandoning her responsibility to represent the State's interests. Potential conflicts were identified as they emerged and immediately dealt with

before they became impediments to achieving compliance with the MOA provisions. The relationship was certainly tested at times yet Judge Ginoza was always able to forge resolutions in a fair and cooperative manner.

OYS required the help and support of many other State departments to comply with the terms of the MOA and Judge Ginoza would make herself available to accompany me to meetings with leadership as we asked for their cooperation and assistance in addressing the myriad of bureaucratic problems that would sometimes impede progress at HYCF. She was always fair and considerate of the needs of others which resulted in solutions that were acceptable to all, allowing us to move forward.

Such solutions would not be feasible without the legal knowledge, understanding and diligence she exhibited in her actions on OYS's behalf. Clearly, Judge Ginoza was well acquainted with the constitutional issues that resulted in the DOJ lawsuit and represented the State of Hawaii well. But what sticks with me was her ability to grasp how those issues impacted the daily operations of HYCF and understanding of what was required by all involved to resolve them. Well respected by facility staff, she aptly conveyed how complying with the terms of the MOA would not only benefit the incarcerated youth but also improve working conditions. This tact help win over staff and garner their willingness to be part of the solution, not the problem. Perhaps Judge Ginoza's best attribute was her even temper and ability to remain calm under tremendous pressure.

Judge Ginoza is diligent and hardworking, possesses high ethical standards, and is one of the most compassionate people I know. Hawaii will be well-served to have her join the other justices on the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my comments.

November 16, 2023

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

**Re: Gubernatorial Nominees for the Hawai'i Supreme Court
Hearing date: November 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM**

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

My name is Zachery Morris, and I am Deputy Legal Director for State Courts at Alliance for Justice, a national association representing over 150 public interest and civil rights organizations. Since 1979, we have been a leader in advocating for a fair and independent judiciary that preserves access to the courts.

Alliance for Justice offers comments for this hearing regarding the importance of ensuring that the Hawai'i Supreme Court reflects the diversity of the populations it serves—both demographically and professionally—given our perspective on state supreme courts throughout the country.

Nationwide, nearly two out of every five justices on our state supreme courts have a prosecutorial background. Meanwhile, only about one out of every ten has background as a public defender. Out of 345 state supreme court justices nationwide, fewer than 25 have a background in civil rights, and barely 3% of state supreme court justices have backgrounds in civil rights law outside of government practice.

The perspectives of attorneys from public interest backgrounds—with experience ranging across public defense, civil rights, legal aid, labor law, reproductive justice, and LGBTQ law—bring invaluable experience that strengthens our courts. It is significant that we have one former public defender on the Hawai'i Supreme Court, and there is no shortage of eminently talented attorneys in the state who are well-equipped to continue adding further professional diversity to the court. In particular, issues of environmental law are as urgent as ever across the country, and specifically in Hawai'i, and will only continue to grow more pressing. Yet attorneys with environmental law backgrounds are close to fully absent on our state supreme courts.

Our justice system is founded on the belief that truth is borne of diverse perspectives. Maintaining a judiciary that understands how to weigh complex issues with the interests of marginalized populations in mind makes these considerations paramount. This extends to demographic diversity in addition to professional diversity. According to the US Census, Hawai'i has the single most demographically diverse state population in the country, and the makeup of its supreme court should reflect that.



We at Alliance for Justice, like all of you, are working to build a fair and just judiciary that upholds the principles of democracy for everyone. Accordingly, we encourage you to ensure that the Hawai'i judiciary, starting with the supreme court, serves as a model of demographic and professional diversity for states around the country to follow. We are in the midst of a precarious moment for democracy, and state supreme courts serve as bulwarks for our fundamental rights. But where state supreme courts lack professional diversity, and where courts don't look like the people they serve, they consistently fall short and side with those already in power.

The people of Hawai'i deserve true diversity on their supreme court, and today is an important opportunity to continue moving forward toward that goal. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachery Morris
Deputy Legal Director
Alliance for Justice

**GM 1--Nomination of Lisa M. Ginoza to be an Associate Justice of
the Supreme Court
Testimony of Mark Bennett in Support
November 17, 2023
Hawaii State Senate Committee on Judiciary**

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

I am responding to your Notice of Hearing, and I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of the Governor's nomination of Judge Lisa M. Ginoza to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.¹

I am a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.² I served eight years as the attorney general of the State of Hawaii. I first worked with Judge Ginoza shortly after I joined the law firm that is now McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon. We were colleagues at the firm for more than ten years. We worked together on many cases and co-tried one federal court case. Judge Ginoza was an exceptional lawyer. Her standout qualities--great legal skill, the highest possible ethical standards, and an outstanding work ethic. And in addition, Judge Ginoza was a wonderful colleague.

In 2005, after I had been attorney general for several years, the position of First Deputy Attorney General became vacant (after the incumbent became a Circuit Court judge). It goes without saying that that was an important position, particularly to me as the attorney general. I needed someone who had all the qualities I listed above. My first choice was Judge Ginoza, and I was very happy she accepted the position.

My faith in Judge Ginoza was fully justified, and more. She was an exceptional lawyer, personally handling some of the hardest cases in the office. She was also a great administrator, and a calm, thoughtful advisor to many executive departments. Time and again, I was told from those inside and outside the Department of the Attorney General--"We are so fortunate Lisa is the First Deputy."

Judge Ginoza handled the most stressful situations calmly, but resolutely. Judge Ginoza was always respectful of others and was highly respected by colleagues and opposing counsel.

¹ I will not be testifying in person.

² I submit this testimony as an individual.

I believe it was these qualities that caused Governors Lingle and Ige to nominate Judge Ginoza as an Associate Judge and then Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals.³ Her reputation as a judge is the highest possible--and for good reason. She is thoughtful, hard-working, and diligent, always striving as all judges should strive--to apply the law faithfully and correctly.

I cannot sum up Judge Ginoza's qualities better than the Senate Judiciary Committee did when recommending her confirmation as Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals to the full Senate:

Testimony submitted in support of Judge Ginoza's appointment commend the strength of her reasoning and the clarity of her decisions. As an Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals, her written decisions are thoroughly researched, well-reasoned, and logically presented. Numerous testifiers praised her leadership abilities, strong work ethic, integrity, and commitment to fair and sound decision-making. In addition to her judicial qualifications, Judge Ginoza has also demonstrated strong administrative skill in her role as First Deputy Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on her behalf, Judge Lisa M. Ginoza has the experience, temperament, judiciousness, and other competencies to be the Chief Judge of the Intermediate Appellate Court, and has the broad legal expertise, superb character, outstanding judicial temperament, and unwavering commitment to justice that are essential for a Chief Judge.⁴

I believe Judge Ginoza would be an outstanding Justice on the Supreme Court. She has had experience with every type of issue the Supreme Court would face. She would hit the ground running. She would bring her exceptional ethics, skill, diligence, and temperament to the Court.

I respectfully ask the Committee on Judiciary to recommend to the full Senate that the Senate confirm Lisa M. Ginoza to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

³ Judge Ginoza was confirmed as an ICA Associate Judge 22-0 and as Chief Judge 24-0.

⁴www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2018/CommReports/GM616_SSCR3368_.htm

November 14, 2023

Dear Mr. Chairman Rhodes, Mr. Vice-chair Gabbard, and Committee Members,

I am submitting testimony in favor of the confirmation of Judge Lisa M. Ginoza to Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I worked with Judge Ginoza from 2017 to 2020 on the State of Hawaii Intermediate Court of Appeals (ICA) during my tenure as an Associate Judge of the ICA. During that period, Judge Ginoza exhibited exceptional legal skills and superb analytical abilities.

Judge Ginoza will surely be an asset to our Hawaii Supreme Court.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Derrick H.M. Chan
Associate Judge (Retired)

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/13/2023 11:36:10 AM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Richardson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I support confirming Judge Lisa Ginoza as Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. I am a retired District Court Judge (First Circuit) and as such, I have read many appellate decisions Judge Ginoza authored. I also worked with Judge Ginoza in various organizations and on committees, and I always appreciated the opportunity to serve with her. I know her to be intelligent, diligent, impartial, compassionate and fair. Without a doubt, Judge Ginoza will be an asset to the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

PETER K. KUBOTA

P.O. Box 11414
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

November 13, 2023

Senator Karl Rhoads
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Senator Rhoads and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Chief Judge Lisa Ginoza for a position as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. I have known Ms. Ginoza for 37 years, since our entry in the William S. Richardson School of law in 1986, and have knowledge of her distinguished career as the First Deputy Attorney General, and as a wise Chief Judge on the Hawaii Intermediate Court of Appeals.

From our first year of law school, it was apparent that Judge Ginoza operated on a different plane of understanding and knowledge above and beyond our classmates. She could see the “bigger picture” of legal precedent, as they were being taught. Judge Ginoza was a Law Review contributor, graduated at the top of our class and was well liked and respected by all. Through her career as an attorney and as a judge, then Chief Judge of the ICA, her wisdom, clear and fair thinking, leadership and practicality, make her well-suited to serve Hawaii as a Supreme Court Justice.

If you wish to speak to me directly with any further questions, please feel free to call my office at (808) 961-6464, or e-mail me at peterk5070@gmail.com

Aloha,



Peter K. Kubota

Judge, Third Circuit Court

JUDGE RIKI MAY AMANO (Ret.)
1003 Bishop Street, Suite 1155
Honolulu, HI 96813

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee, LISA M. GINOZA, for a term to expire in 10 years.

Committee on Judiciary

Friday, November 17, 2023 · 10:00 a.m. · 016 State
Capitol

Dear Chair Rhoades Vice-Chair Gabbard and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate
Committee on Judiciary:

Please accept this writing as my testimony in **strong support of LISA M. GINOZA**, Gubernatorial Nominee to the Hawai'i Supreme Court as Associate Justice. As the Intermediate Court of Appeals ("ICA") Chief Judge, she has demonstrated unwavering steadiness, fair and decisive leadership and constant humility. Our Hawai'i legal community could not ask for someone more qualified and exemplary than Chief Judge Ginoza to serve on our highest court.

I am Riki May Amano, former district and circuit court judge of the Third Judicial Circuit, State of Hawai'i (1992-2003) and a 1979 graduate of the William S. Richardson School of Law ("WSRSL"). Chief Judge Ginoza attended and graduated from WSRSL a few years later. We met while competing in the annual women's flag football Ete Bowl. There is a lot to be said about a person's character in the context of competitive sports. Although for three years we were opponents, Chief Judge Ginoza **always** demonstrated good sportsmanship, remained cool under pressure and kept the game in perspective. She is a superb athlete who did not need to show off her talents. Instead, she made sure there was no "I" in T-E-A-M. It was a relief when she graduated to the Alumni Team!

When on the bench, I had the opportunity to observe Chief Judge Ginoza in a complex jury trial in the late 1990's. Her legal work both written and verbal is superb. She was always respectful, prompt and appropriate. Trial judges do not always have the luxury of presiding over a trial in which the trial lawyers act with civility and competency. In this trial, I must say that Lisa Ginoza's brief writing was excellent. She was always forthright, trustworthy and honest. If she didn't know something or had not done something, she would say so. When in a corner, she did not throw anyone under the bus. (If you have ever been in a contentious jury trial, you will know that there are many opportunities and encouragements to do so.) This says a lot about Lisa Ginoza's character and integrity.

It's easy to be nice and gracious when the going is good. It's when the going gets tough that we really have a window into someone's soul. Chief Judge Ginoza took on the tough job of Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals and served the court and the community admirably. We have had the chance to watch her grow and learn on the job as well as contribute her many skills toward improving the court's work product.

The bottom line is that Chief Judge Ginoza has spent her entire life doing the right thing, working hard to become one of the best at her craft and preserving toward making justice more than a concept. For all of the reasons set forth above, I respectfully request that you vote to confirm Lisa Ginoza's nomination to the Hawai'i Supreme Court as an Associate Justice.

DATED: November 15, 2023..

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RMA', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right and a vertical line extending downwards from the center.

Judge Riki May Amano (ret.)

THE PEOPLE'S
CHOI
JUSTICE CENTER

November 7, 2023

Karl Rhoads, Senate Judiciary Chair

Via fax at 808-586-6131

Re: Lisa Ginoza, Hawai'i Supreme Court Justice
Consideration and Confirmation

Dear Senator Rhoads:

It has been a minute since we were together in Nuuanu waving at friends and neighbors. It is my pleasure to endorse Lisa Ginoza without reservation.

Lisa Ginoza is a down to earth judge. She is accessible and easy to talk with. You would think that someone with her accomplishments could be "high muckamuck." To the contrary, I met her at a HSBA specialty section event at the YWCA. We talked and connected about significant social and legal issues. I was left with a firm conviction in her intellectual ability, but more importantly, her humanity.

Lisa Ginoza will be an outstanding Hawaii Supreme Court Justice.

Should you have any questions or comment, please do not hesitate to contact me at 808-258-4985.

On behalf of The People's Justice Center,

The People's Justice Center

/s/ John Choi _____

By: John Choi, Esq.

3142 George Street Honolulu HI 96815	<i>The People's Choice Law Firm</i> ® www.HIautoAccident.com	808-258-4985 attorneyjohnchoi@gmail.com 808-536-4988 fax
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LATE



November 16, 2023

Senator Karl Rhoads
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: GM1 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee, LISA M. GINOZA, for a term to expire in 10 years.

Hearing: Friday, November 17, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary:

Hawaii Women Lawyers (“**HWL**”) respectfully submits testimony in **support** of the nomination of LISA M. GINOZA to **the Hawaii Supreme Court** as Associate Justice for a term of 10 years.

HWL is a nonprofit organization with members including approximately 300 attorneys. HWL’s mission includes improving the status of women in the legal profession, increasing the number of women attorneys in positions of authority and responsibility, and promoting the advancement of all women.

Increasing opportunities for qualified women in the Judiciary is extremely important. As highlighted by the World Justice Project, the rule of law depends on having justice delivered by “competent, ethical, and independent representatives and neutrals who reflect the makeup of the communities they serve. HWL believes that increasing opportunities for, and improving the visibility of, qualified women in the Judiciary is vital. The judicial bench should be adequately balanced and reflect the composition of Hawaii’s citizens. Significant strides have been made in the past several years to improve the diversity of our bench, but HWL believes that more can be done to appoint qualified women to fill judicial vacancies to bring balance to the bench.

Noting that the HSBA has found Judge Ginoza to be qualified for the position of Associate Justice and for the reasons above, HWL supports the nomination of Judge Ginoza.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this nomination.

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/13/2023 4:14:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sidney K. Ayabe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I am writing in support of Chief Judge of the State of Hawai‘i Intermediate Court of Appeals Lisa M. Ginoza who was recently nominated for the Associate Justice position on the Hawai‘i State Supreme Court. Please allow me to first provide you with a brief background of myself. I served as a Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawai‘i from 1970-72. Thereafter, I joined a litigation law firm Ayabe, Chong, Nishimoto, Sia & Nakamura where I practiced for more than forty-one years and served as its managing partner for the last twenty-eight years before retiring. During my career, I served as President of the Hawai‘i State Bar Association. I also served on the Hawai‘i State Judicial Selection Commission for six years having served as its chair for two years. I believe my background allows me to provide meaningful comments about Chief Judge Ginoza. I am well acquainted with Chief Judge Ginoza, having collaborated with her on cases while she was associated with the McCorriston law firm. During her years as a litigator with that firm, I observed her abilities as a litigator and was impressed with her skillset. She provided sound legal reasoning in her legal briefs and performed well in deposing witnesses. She was a true advocate for her respective clients, but remained professional in dealing with opposing counsel. Following her appointment to the Hawai‘i Intermediate Court of Appeals, I did have a number of cases in which she issued the majority opinion. Although I may not have agreed with all of her decisions, I found her writings to be well reasoned and sound. Having served on the Hawai‘i State Judicial Selection Commission, professional competence, integrity and judicial temperament are important qualifications to be considered for an applicant seeking a judicial position. In my opinion, Chief Judge Ginoza exhibits those qualifications. I support the nomination of Chief Judge Ginoza to the position of Associate Justice of the Hawai‘i State Supreme Court and respectfully requests your committee to approve her. I believe the legal community as well as our Hawaiian community will be blessed and well served to have someone like Chief Judge Ginoza appointed to the Hawai‘i State Supreme Court. Thank you for allowing me to provide comments on Chief Judge Ginoza. If there are any questions, I can be reached at 808 258-3724. Respectfully submitted, Sidney K. Ayabe

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
ATTN: CHAIR, SENATOR KARL RHOADS**

**November 17, 2023 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 016**

**In support of
Governor's Message 1
Relating to the nomination of Lisa Ginoza as Associate Justice to replace Associate Justice
Michael Wilson on the Hawai'i Supreme Court**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

I am pleased to write in support of Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals Lisa Ginoza, which I do entirely in my individual capacity.

It is my distinct pleasure to highly recommend Chief Judge Ginoza to serve as Associate Justice to replace recently retired Associate Justice Michael Wilson on the Hawai'i Supreme Court. She has long been a stalwart leader in the legal profession and a respected member of the bench. I recommend her with enthusiasm and without reservation.

Chief Judge Ginoza would make a fine addition to the highest court of this state. Having served on the Intermediate Court of Appeals for over 13 years, during which time she has demonstrated the highest professionalism and legal acumen, Chief Judge Ginoza has a proven judicial track record which is enviable. She has taken part in over 1700 decisions addressing myriad areas of law and has decided thousands of motions. In this vein Chief Judge Ginoza has also authored and published numerous important decisions and opinions. She has proven herself to be an outstanding jurist.

Her path to the bench prepared her with a keen analytical rigor, impeccable writing skills and legal leadership experience that have served her well throughout her time on the Intermediate Court of Appeals. Prior to her time on the bench, Chief Judge Ginoza had extensive practice experience. She served for five years as the First Deputy Attorney General, a key role in the department, working to assist the Attorney General in leading this large unit. Prior to that, Chief Judge Ginoza practiced as an associate, and later a partner, at McCorriston Miller Mukai and MacKinnon.

In addition to her exemplary service and practice, Chief Judge Ginoza has been tireless in her dedication to this community. It is an understatement to state that she has shown herself to be an engaged community member, serving on many committees, boards, associations, and councils.

I have now had the pleasuring of knowing Chief Judge Ginoza since 2020. She is clearly very highly regarded with an enviable reputation, and I can see why. Her intellectual capacity is obvious, her thoughtful countenance appreciated, her temperament perfect for the highest court, and her discerning judgment is evident in every conversation and encounter. I have witnessed Chief Judge Ginoza engage with people in both large and small groups, in various settings and on

different platforms. Her accessible and approachable manner is welcoming and inclusive – she is a leader who listens to learn and to thoughtfully engage; she is reflective, calm, and gracious. I believe there can be no serious question that she is imminently qualified to become an Associate Justice of the Hawai‘i Supreme Court.

Thank you for allowing me to share my high praise for Chief Judge Ginoza. I believe that she is exceptionally well-qualified to serve as a Justice of the Hawai‘i Supreme Court.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at 808-956-6363.

Sincerely,

Camille A. Nelson

Camille A. Nelson
Dean and Professor

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/15/2023 12:27:53 PM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments: Aloha Chair Rhoads and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I write in support of Judge Lisa M. Ginoza as Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Judge Ginoza is a fine jurist who makes well reasoned decisions, supports the rule of law, and is involved in the Bar and her community. As a fellow graduate of the William S. Richardson School of Law, she sets a fine example for our students and graduates to follow. There is no doubt that she will continue her track record of excellence on the State's highest court. I wholeheartedly support her nomination and urge this Committee to forward her nomination to the full Senate with a positive recommendation. Mahalo, Levi K. Hookano

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/3/2023 5:30:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charles Crumpton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: This statement is submitted in strong support for the confirmation of Chief Judge Lisa Ginoza as Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Having practiced civil litigation in Hawai'i State and Federal Courts for 36 years, civil mediation and arbitration of Hawai'i State and Federal cases and cases in other jurisdictions for 38 years, served as adjunct faculty teaching negotiations and conflict resolution to US and international undergraduate and graduate students for 24 years, having provided training in civil litigation, mediation and arbitration for 38 years, having served as chair or member of a number of Hawai'i State Judiciary and Hawai'i State Bar Association programs and entities, and having known Chief Judge Ginoza's legal and judicial work and personal character for many years, I can personally affirm Chief Judge Ginoza's admirable and well-respected professional and personal abilities, values, qualities, integrity, legal skills and knowledge, demeanor, communication and understanding skills, and her dedication to fair, just, responsible decisions and actions that serve the best interests of the community and of those involved and affected, including in particularly difficult, sensitive and challenging situations and issues. As an Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court, Chief Judge Ginoza would be of valuable service and would bring great credit to the Hawai'i Judiciary, legal system, those they serve, and the Hawai'i community. I would be glad to respond to any questions and provide any additional information that may be of benefit. Respectfully submitted, Charles W. Crumpton

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/6/2023 8:54:39 PM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Gaye L Parker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Aloha Senate Judiciary Committee My name is Lisa Parker and I am a personal “sister” friend of Judge Lisa Ginoza (who we affectionately call Gino), who has been nominated for the judicial vacancy of Associate Justice. I met Gino when we were 10 years old and playing in the Koolau Bobby Sox Softball league in Kailua. We’ve played on many all star teams together and then went on to play at Kailua High School where we began the many years of OIA and state championships for the softball program. Those were the best years growing up in a rich close community where it truly was a village that raised all of us. We all continue to have this friendship/sister special bond that nothing can ever break. We have all shared in each others trials and tribulations of life. Gino and I continued to play softball on many teams well into our adulthood, never missing a beat. As long as I have known Gino she has always been the quiet leader, the one who leads not by a loud voice but by example. She has always been bright and articulate and a very fierce competitor. She was never afraid to try new things and always seemed to persevere. I speak about Gino a lot when I meet new people and we have discussions about private school versus public school education. I am so very proud of Gino and marvel to all at how well she has done for herself with an all public school education. She truly is an inspiration to all of us. As we continue to have our Koolau Bobby Sox and Kailua High School get together we are always so honored to have our Gino join us. She has not changed a bit from small kid time. Still the quiet one who leads by example. Still the one with grace and humility. I am so honored to call Gino my softball sister for life. I know our coaches and aunties and uncles of our village that have passed on would be so proud of her too. She will make the best Associate Justice. Much Aloha, Lisa Parker

Slater “Kamana” Hobbs

November 7, 2023

I am writing in support of The Honorable Liza M. Ginoza for the position of Associate Justice, Hawaii Supreme Court. Though I cannot speak to Judge Ginoza’s legal qualifications or experience, I can attest to her character. I have known Judge Ginoza for over five years now and can testify to her fair and thoughtful nature, and upstanding moral character.

I have discussed the law and politics with Judge Ginoza and can say that she is admirably impartial. Judge Ginoza is often able to see both sides of a story, all the while interpreting the facts by the status of their merit. Judge Ginoza has a sincere concern for both the letter of the law and the citizens of our great state.

I have personally noticed Judge Ginoza’s commitment to her responsibilities as a judge. Though her responsibilities as a judge can at times take away from her personal life, Judge Ginoza remains steadfast in her commitment. Judge Ginoza’s work ethic and dedication have always been something I have admired. I sincerely believe Judge Ginoza would serve faithfully and honorably in this post, upholding the utmost standards and ideals we hold dear as citizens of the State of Hawaii and of the United States of America. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Slater “Kamana” Hobbs

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/7/2023 7:58:17 AM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan Kam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Judiciary Committee: I'm writing in strong support of Judge Lisa Ginoza's nomination to become associate justice on the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Over the past two years, I have had the privilege of serving under Judge Ginoza's leadership as a commissioner on the Hawai'i State Commission to Promote and Advance Civic Education (PACE). As chair of the commission, Judge Ginoza has been a fierce advocate for furthering the teaching of civics in classrooms throughout the state. Additionally, I've seen first hand her love of Hawai'i, her ability to collaborate and work with a diverse group of people, her decisive decision making that takes into account everyone's feedback/input, and her genuine aloha and care for Hawai'i and its future generations to come. Congratulations to Judge Ginoza on this nomination. I believe she would make a great addition to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony in full support. Aloha, Nathan Kam

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/7/2023 7:43:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rhonda A Nishimura	Individual	Comments Only	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Highly supportive of Ms. Ginoza when she applied to the Intermediate Court of Appeals and she has more than exceeded one's expectations. Over the past few years as the chief judge of the ICA, Ms. Ginoza led the court with superior leadership skills and fairness. She will be an excellent addition to the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

October 25, 2023

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chairman
Senate Committee on Judiciary, State of Hawaii

From: Leilani Y. Okuda

Subject: **Testimony in Support of:
Chief Judge Lisa M. Ginoza
For: Associate Justice, Supreme Court, State of Hawaii**

Dear Senator Rhoads,

I am writing this testimony in support of Chief Judge Lisa M. Ginoza for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court for the State of Hawaii.

My friendship with Chief Judge Ginoza stems back over forty years. We competed against each other in high school sports, competitive fastpitch leagues, worked together as softball umpires and remain lifelong friends.

Early on, a quality I admired in Chief Judge Ginoza was her work ethic. As a student-athlete, she was always passionate about what she did. She continuously worked hard, remained humble and eventually made her mark in Hawaii as one of the top female scholar athletes in the early 1980s (four sport lettermen, class president and valedictorian - Kailua High School class of 1982).

Following an outstanding high school career, Chief Judge Ginoza continued at Oregon State University where she tried out as a walk-on for the sport of softball and earned a permanent starting position. Beating out many scholarship players, she went on to play in the Beaver's infield for three years (two years as the third-baseman and shortstop in her final year). A beneficiary and recipient of Title IX, Chief Judge Ginoza was one of three starting infielders from Hawaii and opened doors for future female athletes from Hawaii to play softball for the Beavers.

Chief Judge Ginoza, earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from OSU with highest distinction and moved on to receive her law degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Those same work ethic and qualities have continued throughout her athletic, academic, and professional career.

As mentioned, Chief Judge Ginoza and I worked together as umpires in various Bobby Sox and Women's Fastpitch Softball Leagues in Hawaii. During this time, I appreciated her ability to work under pressure, her knowledge and application of rules, fairness to all, and more importantly, her ability to maintain composure and game control.

What set Chief Judge Ginoza apart from other umpires I worked with was her ability to teach athletes to honor the game - not once did we ever get into a controversial situation which could not be resolved or became unmanageable. Her calls and decisions were consistent and made with objectivity. If there was a moment that her decision was questioned, Chief Judge Ginoza always honored the process and conferred with other game officials if needed to, to make the best decision possible. Because of this, Chief Judge Ginoza gained the respect and trust of the participants -- no matter the outcome of the

contest, the game was judged fairly. These very qualities which make her a role model for athletes continue to shine through her.

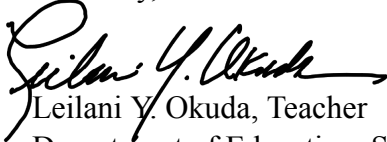
My experience and observations of Chief Judge Ginoza's past are important. Over the years I have seen her in community meetings, press conferences, and heard about her decisions in low and high-profile cases. Chief Judge Ginoza continues to be a person who does her homework, is well prepared, intelligent, honest, genuine, sincere and grounded in everything she does. Over forty years have passed, and it is assuring to know that her essence and character has never wavered.

No matter her achievements or her elevation in our judicial system, Chief Judge Ginoza has always remained humble. As an educator what moves me most is her continued gift of service to educate, prepare and inspire the youth in the state of Hawaii. Since 2010, Chief Judge Ginoza continues to volunteer with the HSBA Young Lawyers division and serves as a judge in the annual high school Mock Trial competition. For my students who participate in the Mock Trial competitions I know first hand that this event has helped to develop their confidence, communication, leadership, poise and critical thinking skills.

Additionally, Chief Judge Ginoza also serves as the chairperson for the Commission to Promote and Advance Civic Education in our schools. This is another example of her extending the importance of civics in the youth of Hawaii. Through her efforts, this commission gives our youth first hand experience in law, learn how government works, how it affects their lives, and more importantly the knowledge, tools, and encouragement to become active and positive participants in our society - something which is so very much needed in our world today.

Senator Rhoads, this letter comes with my highest regard. I humbly ask that Chief Judge Lisa M. Ginoza be given serious consideration for selection as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in the State of Hawaii. I am confident her record will show that she is deserving of this honor. I believe if appointed, she will continue to serve the people of Hawaii with fairness, honor and integrity.

Sincerely,



Leilani Y. Okuda, Teacher
Department of Education, State of Hawaii
President William McKinley High School

2004 XXVIII Summer Olympics, Athens Greece
Softball Umpire, Hawaii-USA

Contact Information:

Leilani Y. Okuda
1450 Aala Street #1504
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
e-mail: lanl.51@hotmail.com
Mobile: 808-358-8987

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF
G.M. 1**

TO: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Troy J.H. Andrade, Ph.D., J.D.

RE: TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF G.M. 1

DATE: Friday, November 17, 2023
TIME: 10:00 A.M.
PLACE: Via Videoconference

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in ***strong support*** of G.M. 1 (Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawai‘i Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee, LISA M. GINOZA, for a term to expire in 10 years). I submit this testimony in my individual capacity as a member of the Hawai‘i bar, a legal educator, and a proud member of our Hawai‘i community.

I applaud Governor Josh Green for his selection of Chief Judge Ginoza as she is eminently qualified to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Hawai‘i. I have interacted extensively with Judge Ginoza and can confidently say that she has the background, professional skills, and character to serve on our highest court.

A graduate of the William S. Richardson School of Law, Judge Ginoza is a shining example of what it means to be a Richardson lawyer: she strives for integrity, aloha, joy, compassion, and generosity.¹ While in law school, she mastered the law and skills needed to be a successful advocate. Following law school, she served as a law clerk for Senior Judge Samuel P. King, with the United States District Court for the District of Hawai‘i. During this time, Judge Ginoza immersed herself in the intricacies of trial practice. She learned from one of the greatest legal minds and helped craft decisions of the federal trial court. Following her clerkship, Judge Ginoza engaged in a successful career in private practice as a lawyer with McCorrison Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP. She was then appointed to serve as First Deputy Attorney General for the State before being selected as an Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals. She was elevated to Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals in 2018. Her litigation and judicial experiences will be tremendous assets to our highest court.

But, the role of a Supreme Court justice is more than just making decisions on cases before it. Supreme Court justices are pulled into the judicial apparatus to support and engage in various

¹ Mari J. Matsuda, *A Richardson Lawyer*, 33 U. Haw. L. Rev. 61, 65-69 (2010).

committees and efforts to make the judicial and legal system better. I know Judge Ginoza can fill this important role. Last year, through our roles with the Commission to Promote and Advance Civic Education, Judge Ginoza and I worked tirelessly on providing an intensive legal academy for high school students from Maui, Moloka'i, and Lana'i. This unique program brought together partners from the local bar association, the judiciary, the University, and the Law School to encourage students to think about careers in the legal field. Judge Ginoza masterfully moderated these conversations with various stakeholders and helped to create a truly beautiful community effort to support civics engagement. Judge Ginoza was present at every step of the way, from helping to arrange buses to giving advice to students before they argued. The program was so successful that we are looking at bringing in back to Maui next year and creating an opportunity like this on Hawai'i Island. This effort—to increase civic engagement in our schools—was an outgrowth of Judge Ginoza's tireless leadership and work ethic. Our community at large would continue to greatly benefit from Judge Ginoza as a member of the Supreme Court.

I would also like to highlight something that often gets overlooked in the judicial selection process, but is nevertheless an important aspect of these judicial positions. As a law professor, who works daily to train law students, it is important to me that all nominees for judicial office, have a proven ability to help transition the next generation of lawyers from law school to the profession. Clerkships are wonderful opportunities to provide real world and hands on experience to recent graduates. As you are aware, Judge Ginoza had an extraordinary opportunity to clerk at the U.S. District Court. She began her legal career in the chambers of and were guided by one of the most influential jurists in Hawai'i's history. Judge Ginoza knows the importance of her judge to her own professional development. As a Judge for over a decade, she has mentored countless young lawyers in her chambers. I am confident she can serve the essential function of continuing to mentor young professionals and the next generation of lawyers and judges.

Finally, it would be such a beautiful thing to see, during the celebration of 50th year of the Law School, our highest court with a majority of justices as Richardson alumni. That will not go unnoticed, particularly for our current law students.

I strongly encourage the Senate to support the confirmation of Lisa M. Ginoza as the next Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Hawai'i. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sunday, November 11, 2023

To the Hawai'i State Legislature

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Lisa M. Ginoza as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in the State of Hawai'i.

I have known Lisa for 30 years and I have great insight into the qualities and values that I believe will make her an excellent judge. Full disclosure – I am her brother-in-law. While I am not a legal expert nor do I have knowledge of the inner workings of the Hawai'i court system, I believe my unique perspective and connection will provide you with some honest and compelling reasons why she should be confirmed.

First and foremost is her unwavering moral compass. I continue to be impressed by her integrity and mantra of “always doing the right thing”. She does not concern herself with doing what's popular nor does she submit to outside pressure, rather she relies on her experience and logic and opens herself up to listening, learning, and understanding to achieve the best possible outcome for the betterment of all.

Secondly her humble upbringing on the windward side and public-school background has helped shape her duty of supporting the local community and residents of Hawai'i. She is highly cognizant of her role as a public servant and the non-biased respect needed to support the welfare and dignity of her home state. She is not beholden to a singular political ideology, nor does she possess a narrow or restrictive point of view. On the contrary her personal history and long tenure in the public sector make her a champion of the people. She is a tireless worker that often works long days and weekends – driven by her sense of duty to those she serves.

Finally, and most importantly, I know Lisa as a kind and wonderful human being. She is a great mother and loves her family deeply. She is generous with her time and goes out of her way to make everyone, even strangers, feel comfortable and welcome.

In my opinion these qualities demonstrate Lisa's essence and character and will serve her well as a Hawai'i Supreme Court Justice. I humbly ask for your consideration.

Mahalo piha

Richard A. Heirakuji
rheirakuji@gmail.com
(808)220-4944

1350 Nānāwale Pl.
Kailua, HI. 96734

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/13/2023 6:37:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lawrence M. Reifurth	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Chair Rhoades and Vice Chair Gabbard: I write in strong support of Chief Judge Lisa Ginoza for the position of Supreme Court Justice. I worked with Judge Ginoza when she served as first deputy attorney general, and again on the court of appeals, where she first served as an associate judge and later at chief judge. Based on my experience with Lisa, I am unaware of few if any people who are better prepared and would better serve Hawai'i's people on our supreme court. Lisa was both an exemplary co-worker and leader. She demonstrated commitment to the law and sensitivity to the plight of those whose matters she addressed. If not for the fact that I have retired and now live on the mainland, helping our daughter and son-in-law with their own children, I would be there in person to testify today. I would then and do now encourage you to support Judge Ginoza's nomination

*Testimony of
Deirdre Marie-Iha*

November 13, 2023

Senate Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol, Room 225
415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813

Re: Nominee for Associate Justice, Hawaii Supreme Court
Lisa M. Ginoza, November 17, 2023, 10:00 am, **GM 1**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

I write in strong support of Lisa M. Ginoza, one of the nominees for the two Associate Justice vacancies on the Hawai‘i Supreme Court. I am an attorney with over 24 years’ experience, with 20 of those years in the state and federal appellate courts. I am currently a partner at Goodwill where I work in appellate representation, appellate consulting, and litigation.

As you know, Ms. Ginoza is currently Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals, a role she has served in since 2018. Before that, she served as an associate judge at the ICA since 2010. She thus has 13 years of experience as an appellate court judge, making her exceptionally well qualified to become an Associate Justice of our state supreme court.

As a long-time appellate practitioner since 2004, I would celebrate Judge Ginoza’s addition to the Hawai‘i Supreme Court. I have seen her work on the ICA for all of those thirteen years. She is diligent, hardworking, intelligent, and determined. She is also steady in the face of considerable pressures and faithful to the laws enacted by the democratically elected branches of government. I also have personal experience working with her. Before she joined the ICA in 2010, she served as First Deputy Attorney General at the Department of the Attorney General from 2005 to 2010. I was employed as a deputy attorney general at the AG’s office Appellate Division during those years, a role which gave me repeated occasions to work with Ms. Ginoza, including on high-profile, high-stakes matters that pose some of the greatest challenges the AG’s office faces. She displayed all the same qualities back then that she does now: calm leadership and hard work, leavened with an understated sense of humor that makes the challenging times easier. I wholeheartedly give Chief Judge Ginoza my strongest recommendation and urge the Committee to vote in favor of her confirmation as an Associate Justice.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Deirdre Marie-Iha

Deirdre Marie-Iha

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/13/2023 3:20:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen Teves	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, My name is Stephen Teves and I'm testifying in strong support to the nomination of Lisa M. Ginoza for the position as Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. I have known Judge Ginoza since we attended the University of Hawai'i-Richardson Law School together in the late 1980s. While in Law School, I observed as Lisa excelled academically and also noticed that Lisa was viewed as one of the student leaders of the School. After Law School we went our separate ways, but I saw as Lisa clerked for a United States Federal Judge, became a partner in a prestigious Honolulu law firm, was appointed as the First Deputy Attorney General, then appointed to the Intermediate Court of Appeals (ICA) and finally appointed to be the Chief Judge of the ICA. None of these accomplishments surprised me or many of our Law School classmates and we all knew and saw that Lisa was a special attorney who would rise to the highest levels of our profession. I would like to point out that it is not just Lisa's legal intellect that makes her a special attorney, it is her commitment to justice and her compassion to all those involved in the legal process. I'm also amazed by Lisa's tireless dedication to making our legal profession better and her volunteerism to make our Hawai'i a better place to live and call home. Lisa is not just an exceptional jurist, but an exceptional person. I humbly ask that you confirm Lisa M. Ginoza's nomination to Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Mahalo for your consideration, Stephen Teves University of Hawai'i-Richardson Law School, Class of 1990

George B. Apter
888 Kapiolani Blvd, 2605
Honolulu, HI 96813

November 13, 2023

Hon. Karl Rhodes, Chair Judiciary Committee
Hawaii State Senate

Re: Letter in Support of Nomination of Lisa Ginoza to Hawaii Supreme Court

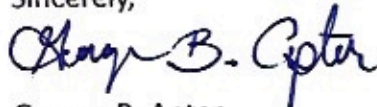
Aloha Chair Rhodes and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Lisa Ginoza for confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court. I have known Lisa for 37 years, since the time we both began studies as part of the Class of 1989 at the William S. Richardson School of Law. We were in the same study group and have remained friends up to the present day. I have followed her career, beginning when both of us began our careers in different law firms. Lisa, of course, later chose public service, beginning in the Attorney General's office and then being appointed to the bench.

No matter in what role she has served, Lisa always had and continues to have an excellent reputation among peers, attorneys and judges in the legal community in Hawaii and is also well respected by members of the public. In 37 years, I have never heard one complaint about her. She is highly intelligent and has always been hard-working, diligent, highly professional, honorable, well-respected. She is committed to fairness and justice and is one of the most humble people I know. In short, you could not find someone more deserving of appointment to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Thank you for consideration of my letter in support of Lisa Ginoza as Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Sincerely,



George B. Apter

Mr and Mrs Kenneth Hirata

3323 Pawaina Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

November 6, 2023

Re: Lisa M Ginoza, Judicial Nominee for Associate Justice, Supreme Court, State of Hawaii

Dear Judiciary Chairman and Committee,

Please select Lisa Ginoza for the position as an Associate Judge for the Hawaii State Supreme Court.

1. She is a very diligent person.
2. She has displayed and acknowledged team work and team effort having excelled as an outstanding softball player and in her academic performance in high school and college.
3. 3. She is also kind, friendly, considerate, respectful and likable.
4. 4. We are confident in her wisdom and common sense to find solutions that will be helpful for our State and our people living in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Patsy Hirata and Ken Hirata in black ink.

Kenneth Hirata (Age 90) and Patsy Hirata (Age 88)

Leonora A Tanaka
1520 Kalaepohaku Place
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

November 6, 2023

Re: Lisa M Ginoza, Judicial Nominee for Associate Justice, Supreme Court, State of Hawaii

Dear Judiciary Chairperson and Committee,

My name is Leonora Tanaka. I am a resident and citizen of the State of Hawaii for all of my 73 years.

It is my privilege to submit my letter of recommendation on behalf of Ms. Lisa M. Ginoza, for the position of Associate Justice, Supreme Court, State of Hawaii.

I am aware that you are well informed of Lisa's credentials, ability, dedication and professional character; therefore, I have not included her extensive accolades and accomplishments.

In every aspect of her life, Lisa has been working for the better good of our Hawaii. She is thorough and fair in her decisions which has allowed all involved to understand, accept and live by. I trust Lisa. I have confidence in Lisa. She has strong work ethics and is willing to be a team player to make the best decision to get things done. I know Lisa has great respect for the law, sound understanding, compassion for the good of the citizens of our State of Hawaii.

All the nominees are well qualified. I am especially pleased when we can support, allow those born, educated and choose Hawaii to reside, work and serve. I ask you to give special consideration in selecting Ms. Lisa M. Ginoza as one of the Associate Justice, Supreme Court, State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leonora A Tanaka', written in a cursive style.

Leonora A Tanaka

Voting citizen of Hawaii for 55 years

Senate Committee on Judiciary
February 17, 2023
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

Testimony in Support of GM1

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

I would like to express my ardent support for current State of Hawaii Intermediate Court of Appeals Chief Judge Lisa Ginoza as a nominee for the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I met Judge Ginoza thirty-seven years ago as a member of the same law school class at the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law, and, fortunately for me, the same study group for three years. At that time, my impression of Judge Ginoza was that she had an exceptional intellect, a practical sense, the highest ethical standards, and an overall commitment to fairness. Over the many years since law school that impression has never changed, but my respect for her has grown, not only for her legal abilities and accompanying accomplishments, but also for her continued compassion, humility, and service to others.

Because of these traits that I have personally witnessed, I believe that Judge Ginoza brings an openness to the points of view and situation of others and thoughtful, respectful decision-making that greatly impacts her contribution to how justice is delivered and the law perceived. This, I believe, makes her the most excellent choice to now serve on our State's highest court.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my wholehearted support for Judge Ginoza's appointment to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Cathy L. Takase, Esq.

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/14/2023 12:37:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Kent	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Aloha, Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of the nomination of Lisa Ginoza to the Supreme Court. She is amazing and will be a great justice.

Yours truly, Elizabeth Kent

WILLIAM C. McCORRISTON
P.O. BOX 2800
Honolulu, Hawaii 96803
Telephone: 808-383-8837

Re: Judge Lisa M. Ginoza Nomination

This is to strongly endorse the Honorable Lisa M. Ginoza to be confirmed as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I have had the honor and privilege of knowing Judge Ginoza since she first started her practice of law.

After graduating from the Richardson School of Law and clerking for Judge King in the federal district court, Lisa joined our law firm as an associate clerk, where she excelled in her work in our litigation department to earn a partnership in the firm. Being a “local girl” from Kailua, an athlete (softball at Oregon State University), she combined local values and teamwork along with her strong intellect to reach pragmatic and successful outcomes for her cases.

Thereafter, she enhanced her legal experience with work in public service in the Attorney General’s office. Thus, she has a unique perspective of law from both public and private practice.

Her experience has benefited her in her judicial career at the Intermediate Court of Appeals. Her opinions, in my view, have been both pragmatic and well-seasoned in the law.

What is most impressive, however, is Judge Ginoza’s persona – humble, caring, humorous and full of integrity. It is a true honor to have been part of Judge Ginoza’s journey to the top of our profession.

I appreciate this opportunity to support Judge Ginoza’s nomination.

November 8, 2023

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

RE: GM1, TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF NOMINATION OF LISA M. GINOZA

HEARING: Friday, November 17, 2023, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

This testimony is in strong support of Lisa M. Ginoza's appointment as Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

I have the honor of knowing Lisa for the past 52 years. Lisa and I have been close friends since elementary school. We walked to school together every day, we fished and crabbed in Enchanted Lake, rode our bicycles and skateboards around Kailua and grew up playing softball for Ko'olau Bobby Sox and then Kailua High School. Lisa excelled in everything she did, especially sports and academics. She is articulate and a natural leader. She was our class president and Valedictorian. Lisa was always kind, fair, respectful, non-judgmental, humble, and always did the right thing despite peer pressure at times. She always wanted to help people and treated everyone with dignity and respect. Who you knew, what you had and where you came from did not matter. Everyone was valued and important to her.

Lisa is the most honest, fair, ethical, caring, hardworking and dedicated person I know. She is levelheaded, a good listener and an effective communicator. She has the highest integrity and utmost respect for the law. These qualities make her an ideal candidate as Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Lisa M. Ginoza, as I truly believe that she is an excellent judicial candidate for the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Sincerely,



Digitally signed by
FUKUNAGA, FRANCINE, REINO.11797347
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Date: 2023.11.08 21:40:52 -1000

Francine R. Fukunaga

Support for Gubernatorial Nominee Lisa Ginoza

Lindsey Watanabe <linz.watanabe@gmail.com>

Wed 11/15/2023 7:48 AM

To: JDC Committee <JDCCommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov>

You don't often get email from linz.watanabe@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I have known Lisa since our "study group" days at Richardson Law School. She was almost always the smartest person in the room and seemed to excel at everything she did. Lisa was also very humble and generous with her time and knowledge and tutored Pre Ad and other students. Her tenure as CJ over the ICA has shown that she is one of the finest legal minds in the State and would be a wonderful addition to the Supreme Court.

--

Lindsey M. Watanabe Esq.

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/15/2023 10:46:49 AM

Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randall F. Sakumoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I submit this testimony in support of Lisa M. Ginoza’s nomination as an Associate Justice to the Hawai‘i Supreme Court. I have had the good fortune of knowing Judge Ginoza for over thirty years, as we both entered the practice of law around the same time as associates in the firm of McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP. We worked closely together on numerous cases and eventually both became partners in the firm in 1996. Nearly all of the cases that we worked on involved complicated legal and business issues. I always enjoyed working with Judge Ginoza, as she consistently displayed the patience and intellectual capacity to study and understand these complex issues. Her calm demeanor and level-headed approach would allow us to keep the lines of communication open with opposing counsel and eventually arrive at a reasonable resolution. Judge Ginoza’s work experience in both the private sector and public sector (as First Deputy Attorney General) has given her a broad and practical perspective of law practice in Hawai‘i. When you combine that with her tireless work ethic and tremendous skills in legal analysis and writing, there is no doubt that she is the ideal candidate to serve on the highest court in the State of Hawai‘i. I respectfully urge the Senate Committee on Judiciary to recommend confirmation of Judge Ginoza as Associate Justice to the Hawai‘i Supreme Court.

TO: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

RE: GM1, Testimony in Support of Nomination of Lisa M. Ginoza

HEARING: Friday, November 17, 2023, 10:00am, Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

Aloha,

This testimony is being submitted in strong support of Lisa M. Ginoza's appointment as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I met Lisa Ginoza many years ago and can best describe her as a dear friend who possesses the highest degree of integrity.

To many, she is someone who has always been and continues to be a positive role model in our community. She is honest, kind, respectful, thoughtful, considerate, and compassionate.

She is a loving, caring and loyal spouse and mother who enjoys spending her personal time off with her family.

Throughout her career, she has always treated everyone with respect and fairness.

On October 23, 2023, Governor Josh Green nominated Lisa M. Ginoza as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court due to her diverse background in law and wealth of experience.

According to Governor Green, Lisa M. Ginoza's diverse work experience includes serving as Chief Judge of the State of Hawai'i Intermediate Court of Appeals for five of her 13 years with the appeals court. She also served as First Deputy Attorney General from 2005 to 2010, assisting the Attorney General in leading a department of more than 700 employees including 170 attorneys across 16 legal services divisions and five non-legal divisions covering Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice Data Center and investigations, among others. In private practice, Chief Judge Ginoza worked for some of the top law firms in Honolulu overseeing various types of litigation and handled cases at all court levels, including the Hawai'i Supreme Court, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court.

As a concerned citizen in the State of Hawaii and as a retired law enforcement officer of 33 years, I would like to personally ask you to please confirm Lisa M. Ginoza's appointment as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony as I truly believe in my heart that she is an excellent judicial candidate for the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Sincerely,
Denise L.K. Chang

SHARON H. NISHI
88 Piikoi Street, Apt. 805
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
(808) 721-4792
shn.nishi@gmail.com

November 15, 2023

Chairman Karl Rhoads and Vice Chair Mike Gabbard
Senate Committee on Judiciary
State of Hawai'i

Re: GM1: Judicial Nomination of HON. LISA M. GINOZA

Dear Chairman Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

I am writing to voice my wholehearted and enthusiastic support of Hon. Lisa M. Ginoza as a candidate for the position of Associate Justice, Supreme Court, State of Hawai'i.

Judge Ginoza is a fine and exemplary jurist, an extraordinary legal mind, and a dedicated public servant. She is also a quality human being with a genuine social conscience and strong moral compass.

I have known Judge Ginoza since 1986, when we were students at the William S. Richardson School of Law (WSRSL). Since then, I have had the honor and pleasure of interacting with her both as a fellow associate and partner at the McCriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP law firm and as a fellow member of the WSRSL women's alumni flag football team. My experiences with Judge Ginoza have exposed me to her as a teammate in both a professional and a sports context, and have caused me to respect, trust and admire her.

Judge Ginoza is smart and rational, and is a diligent worker. She respects the law and the legal process, and is not one to take shortcuts or the easy way out of a complicated situation. She is as careful as she is decisive, and she is fair and reasonable. Judge Ginoza is also a natural leader and an excellent communicator. She is open, honest, humble, respectful, approachable and likeable. Judge Ginoza is committed to her work, but she is also committed to family, friends and community, and that both gives her perspective and keeps her real.

Judge Ginoza is also an outstanding and gifted athlete. But what has won her the respect and trust of her teammates is her commitment to teamwork, her sense of fair play and her desire to participate in whatever capacity will best serve the team. She has been an incredible inspiration to and role model for countless athletes and attorneys, young and old, both on and off the playing field.

Judge Ginoza has excelled in her every endeavor and is exceptionally well qualified to fill the position of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, State of Hawai'i. She has brought honor and integrity to the state Judiciary and to the legal profession as a whole, and is most worthy of being promoted to serve on this state's highest court.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter of recommendation.

Sincerely,



Sharon H. Nishi

JOHN Y. YAMANO
88 PIIKOI ST., APT. 805
HONOLULU, HI 96814
(808) 721-4791
EMAIL: JYY.YAMANO@GMAIL.COM

November 15, 2023

Chairman Karl Rhoads and Vice Chair Mike Gabbard
Senate Committee on Judiciary
State of Hawai'i

Re: GM1: Judicial Nomination of HON. LISA M. GINOZA

Dear Chairman Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

It is my honor to submit this letter of highest recommendation in support of the nomination of Hon. Lisa M. Ginoza for the position of Associate Justice, Supreme Court, State of Hawai'i.

I respectfully submit that Judge Ginoza stands as the finest possible candidate to serve on our State's highest court. My perspective is based on being a proud member of the Hawai'i Bar since 1985 with a primary area of practice in litigation. I have appeared numerous times before all Hawai'i courts, including the Hawai'i Supreme Court, and I have served on several HSBA committees and continuing education panels with Hawai'i judges. I have known Judge Ginoza since 1987.

Judge Ginoza has an impeccable reputation in our community as to legal acumen, leadership skills, temperament, honesty, trustworthiness, character, integrity and citizenship. She began her legal career with an extremely successful private practice at a leading Hawai'i law firm. She then began her selfless journey of serving the public as the First Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawai'i before she was appointed to the Hawai'i Intermediate Court of Appeals in 2010, where she currently serves as Chief Judge. Judge Ginoza has been an exemplary member of our judiciary.

I first met Judge Ginoza in 1987 when she was a top ranked student at the William S. Richardson School of Law. I was on the hiring committee of a local law firm, and young Lisa Ginoza was quickly identified as a "must get" recruit. Although my firm lost the initial recruiting battle, I had the good fortune and privilege to work with her at McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP from 1990 through early 2005.

My personal experience of working side by side with Judge Ginoza for almost 15 years confirmed everyone's lofty expectations: she is one of the best and brightest attorneys that I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. During her time at the McCorriston law firm, Judge Ginoza served as lead counsel on several complex litigation matters. Her work on complex cases was outstanding, and she was known to provide the "mental horsepower" that helped power our firm's litigation practice. Her compassion was highlighted by her work representing the parents of three victims of the infamous Xerox shooting case.

November 15, 2023

Page 2

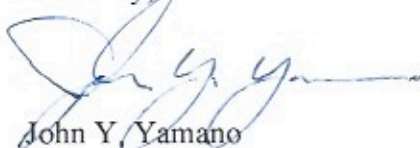
Similar to your respective personal commitments to serve the greater good of public service, Judge Ginoza made a significant financial sacrifice when she left her private law practice to serve as First Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawai'i. Her unwavering commitment to public service continues to this day as she serves, with distinction and honor, as the Chief Judge of the Hawai'i Intermediate Court of Appeals.

Of course, being smart and experienced is not enough to qualify someone to serve as an Associate Justice on the Hawai'i Supreme Court. That person must also have impeccable character and sense of fairness. Judge Ginoza has that quality of character. She has always demonstrated an unwavering sense of justice and fair play, and her character is the model for our entire legal community. I would like to share one example of Judge Ginoza's outstanding sense of fairness: Judge Ginoza was selected to serve on the McCorriston law firm's compensation committee early in her career because she was acknowledged as a young leader of the firm. One year, she felt that other, less "recognized" partners were not allocated a sufficient year-end bonus. Faced with the reality that you can only divide a pot so many ways, she forfeited a portion of her compensation so that other partners could receive additional payment. Many people "talk the talk" of fairness and selfless compassion for others. Judge Ginoza lives it every day.

I am honored to have worked with Judge Ginoza in private practice, and I am thankful for her contributions as a public servant and outstanding member of our judiciary. I believe that she is extremely qualified and absolutely deserving to be appointed as our next Associate Justice on the Supreme Court, State of Hawai'i.

Thank you very much for your consideration of my letter of recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Y. Yamano", written over a light blue horizontal line.

John Y. Yamano

November 14, 2023

TO: Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Senate

FROM: Jill L. Nunokawa
Community Member

RE: GM1 Appointment of Lisa M. Ginoza as Associate Justice
Hawai'i Supreme Court

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Jill Nunokawa and I graduated from the William S. Richardson School of Law in 1988. I have served in many capacities including President of the WSRSL Alumni Association, community activist on Title IX issues, Deputy Public Defender, various state and city positions, as well as being employed by the State of Hawai'i since 1988.

I submit my written testimony in absolute support of Chief Judge Lisa M. Ginoza's appointment to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. She possesses, exhibits and personifies the best qualities in an appellate judge and in a human being. She is without pretense, arrogance, temper, irrationality, punitiveness, or unscrupulousness. Chief Judge Ginoza originates from our community and is woven in relational fabrics that are spun from her love of Hawai'i, its peoples and its connectiveness to past, present and future. She's a commoner made Chief through hard work, honesty, respect, brilliance, responsibility, patience, compassion, perseverance and Aloha.

As you know from the Lahaina tragedy, the peoples' eyes are on government officials to act pono; with integrity, transparency, diversity, equity, fairness and inclusion.

I know your choice to consider and confirm will shape Hawai'i for the foreseeable future. As a long-time attorney in our beloved State, your choices matter to me and my loved ones.

I encourage you to make your final decision based on merit, kuleana, accountability, temperament, proven record of sound judgment and love of place, people and purpose.

In applying these values and principles, the obvious choice is the first female to serve as the Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals (ICA), Lisa Ginoza. She has been without scandal and has risen to the top of the ICA because she is well-respected in our legal community. She has served in this role for 5 years and has a total of 13 years on the ICA. She has been involved in at least 1700 published opinions. Hence, she has a long, accountable and honorable track record reinforcing the public's trust that "merit matters". Chief Judge Ginoza is independent and is not beholden to private interests nor is she in privilege's pocket.

Mahalo for your time, consideration and confirmation on this important selection to the Hawai'i Supreme Court and in restoring the public's trust in the judicial selection process.

HOSODA LAW GROUP

Attorneys at Law, A Law Corporation

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Kourtney H. Wong | khw@hosodalaw.com
Spencer J. Lau | sjl@hosodalaw.com

November 15, 2023

VIA FACSIMILE: (808) 586-6131:

Senator Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Chair
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Recommendation for the Honorable Lisa M. Ginoza

Dear Honorable Senator Rhoads:

You may recall that I previously wrote in wholehearted support of the Honorable Lisa M. Ginoza ("Justice Ginoza") for confirmation as Associate Justice of the Intermediate Court of Appeals for the State of Hawai'i. It is my honor and pleasure to now write in full support to confirm Justice Ginoza to become a Justice of the Supreme Court of Hawai'i.

I have known Justice Ginoza since she was a child growing up in Kailua. I was close friends with her brother Garrett, deceased. We played in community sports leagues, baseball, and football, together from the early 1970s through the early 1980s. We remained friends until his recent passing.

One of my most painful memories growing up was of the three Ginoza siblings losing their mom to cancer. I would often visit and play at the family home in Keolu Hills. Their mom was one of the most loving, caring, and active parents. She went to Heaven when we were all just kids. Justice Ginoza was still in grade school at the time.

After this tragic loss, I continued to visit their family home. Shortly thereafter, their dad moved to a different street in Enchanted Lakes. While we never discussed it, I think their dad had a very hard time after losing his wife and having to raise three young kids by himself. Their home was never the same after that.

In 1972, I began going to school in town and Justice Ginoza and her siblings went to Kailua High School. Even though we went to different schools, we remained in touch through sports. Justice Ginoza was a student-athlete above and beyond. She was the pride of Kailua. Although I did not physically see her report cards, the word was that her GPA exceeded 4.0, and she was an all-star softball player. She overcame the adversity and all the obstacles and challenges of losing her mother at a very early age.

Senator Karl Rhoads

November 15, 2023

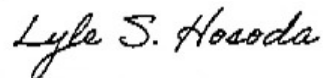
Page 2

While we have never socialized, we are very friendly when we see each other because we truly grew up together from small kid time. I strongly believe that your upbringing and how you were raised speaks volumes about who you are and will become in your later years. For the many years I have known her, I have only heard the most positive comments about Justice Ginoza.

All of the ingredients that made her successful in her youth have carried over into and applied to her professional life. She is very smart, competent, hardworking, a team player, and knows and has wisdom and aloha for our community. Our legal and community at large will be very fortunate to have Justice Ginoza as a Supreme Court Justice.

I am available should you wish to further discuss Justice Ginoza.

Very truly yours,



Lyle S. Hosoda

DEREK R. KOBAYASHI

TOPA FINANCIAL CENTER
745 FORT STREET · SUITE 1500
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

TELEPHONE (808) 523-6060 · FAX (808) 523-6030
EMAIL: dkobayashi@schlackito.com

November 16, 2023

Honorable Karl Roads, Chair
Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 228
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Gov. Msg. No. 1 – Nomination of The Honorable LISA M. GINOZA to
Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court – **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT**

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Judiciary Committee Members:


I write to express my **strong support** of Governor Green's nomination of The Honorable Lisa M. Ginoza to the position of Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. I have known Judge Ginoza for over 35 years and first came to know her as schoolmates at the William S. Richardson School of Law. I am very familiar with Judge Ginoza's background, practice, legal experience and qualifications to serve as an Associate Justice.

Judge Ginoza was a highly capable civil litigator in private practice at two Hawai'i law firms and embarked on a career of public service. She served as First Deputy Attorney General, then as Judge on the Intermediate Court of Appeals ("ICA") and currently as the Chief Judge of the ICA. There is no doubt that Judge Ginoza is highly qualified to now serve the people of Hawai'i as an Associate Justice on the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

I have always known Judge Ginoza to be intelligent, decisive, compassionate, fair and considerate of others. She has always been pleasant, courteous, and professional to work with and I have no doubt that if appointed, she would serve on the Hawai'i Supreme Court with an excellent legal acumen and judicial temperament.

In summary, Lisa M. Ginoza will fulfill all of the responsibilities and duties of the position to which she has been nominated - Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court – and I strongly support her nomination by Governor Green. Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Very truly yours,


Derek R. Kobayashi



The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Legislature

Re: Lisa M. Ginoza / Measure GM1
Pending Judicial Confirmation for Associate Justice – Hawaii Supreme Court

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

My name is David J. Minkin. I am a litigation partner at McCorrison Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP (“M4”). Before joining M4 in 1995, I was a deputy prosecuting attorney for the City and County of Honolulu for 11 years.

I write this letter in staunch support of nominee Lisa M. Ginoza for the position of Associate Justice of the Hawai‘i Supreme Court. I first met Ms. Ginoza in 1995 when I joined M4 as counsel. She was an associate who later became a Partner until she left in 2004 to accept a position as First Deputy Attorney General. Our offices were next to each other, and we talked daily about our cases and life. I found Lisa to be intelligent and diligent in her legal work. More importantly, I found her to be a good person with a great heart.

Ms. Ginoza has a wealth of experience from her days as an attorney at M4 representing a variety of clients in mediations, arbitrations, and civil litigation. Her public service as First Deputy Attorney General and now as Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals demonstrates her desire to give back to her community. If permitted to serve as an Associate Justice, she will bring an incredible experience in all matters that will enable her to continue to be an asset to the Judiciary and the State of Hawai‘i at the highest judicial level.

She will not only exemplify the diversity of our state but coupled with her vast legal experiences, Ms. Ginoza will bring the requisite skills and compassion that our citizenry expects and deserve. Lisa is an intelligent, industrious, and conscientious legal professional. She was cordial, courteous and respectful of opposing counsel and all witnesses in the many cases that we co-counseled together. Lisa’s overall demeanor and personality coupled with her superior intellect indicates that she possesses a fair judicial temperament and the intelligence to be an excellent Associate Justice. Ms. Ginoza possesses stellar legal skills with a thorough understanding of the role that evidence, court rules and case law play in the judicial process while exhibiting the highest personal integrity with the appropriate moral courage to be an Associate Justice.

It is my privilege to write to you on her behalf; however, unfortunately, I will not be able to attend her Confirmation Hearing in person as I have a court matter related to the Lahaina Fire, although I can truly state that Lisa will continue to serve with honor, dignity, compassion, and fairness to all as an Associate Justice. She will continue to make the Judiciary and the State of Hawai‘i proud. Thank you for this opportunity to recommend that you confirm Lisa M. Ginoza as Associate Justice of the Hawai‘i Supreme Court.

David J. Minkin
Hawai‘i Bar # 3639
November 16, 2023

Senator Karl Rhoads
Senator Mike Gabbard
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Testimony of Current and Former Law Clerks in Strong Support of Measure GM1 -
Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Lisa M. Ginoza to the Position of Associate Justice of
the Hawai'i Supreme Court

Aloha e Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Judiciary Committee,

As current and former judicial law clerks to the Honorable Lisa M. Ginoza, we write this collective testimony in strong support of the Hawai'i Senate's confirmation of Governor Green's nomination of Chief Judge Ginoza to the position of Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. We have each been fortunate enough to clerk for Judge Ginoza and witness first-hand her leadership, incredible legal intellect, work ethic, passion for justice, and community involvement in civics. We enthusiastically give our strongest support and recommendation for her confirmation.

As the Chief Judge of the Hawai'i Intermediate Court of Appeals (ICA) for the last five years, Judge Ginoza has led with civility, professionalism, and kindness. Judge Ginoza has spearheaded the effort in expanding the ICA to six associate judges and has continuously made strides in improving the efficiency of the court. Within the ICA, Judge Ginoza takes special care to foster a strong sense of community and collaboration among all employees.

Judge Ginoza's work ethic is unmatched. She approaches each case with an unwavering commitment to upholding the principles of justice and fairness. Her decisions are well-researched, reasoned, and reflective of a deep respect for the rule of law and its impacts within and beyond Hawai'i. As law clerks, Judge Ginoza emboldens us to be critical thinkers and approach our work with tenacity and purpose.

Aside from her technical feedback, guidance, and support, Judge Ginoza offered each of us tailored mentorship and support. As an Associate Justice, we feel that Judge Ginoza would not only continue her legacy of being an incredible legal thinker and jurist, but also continue to cultivate and mentor generations of law clerks into competent and confident future attorneys. We could not recommend Judge Ginoza more for this position.

With deep gratitude,

Siena Schaar

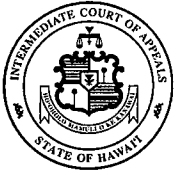
Siena I. Schaar

Hilēi K. Casco

Hi'ilei K. Casco

Jung Yun Ha

Jung Yun ("Kelly") Ha



Intermediate Court of Appeals — THE JUDICIARY • STATE OF HAWAII

426 QUEEN STREET, ROOM 201 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2914 • TELEPHONE (808) 539-4750 • FAX (808) 539-4644

November 16, 2023

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Conference Room 016
State Capitol
405 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM1, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawai'i Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee, LISA M. GINOZA, for a term to expire in 10 years.

NO ORAL TESTIMONY.

Chair Roads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Committee Members:

My name is Randy Pinal and I am the supervising staff attorney at the Intermediate Court of Appeals (ICA). I serve as legal advisor to the Chief Judge, the Associate Judges, and the institution of the ICA, as the Chief Judge directs. I have had the honor of working with Chief Judge Ginoza since I started at the ICA in 2012 and she was an Associate Judge, and she has been my direct supervisor and mentor since she became Chief Judge in 2018. There is no person more qualified or deserving of an Associate Justice position on the Hawai'i Supreme Court than Chief Judge Ginoza.

Chief Judge Ginoza routinely demonstrates an unwavering commitment to the Judiciary's mission. She consistently emphasizes with ICA staff how important appellate work is and how our caseload directly impacts Hawaii's citizenry. She is direct, polite, and level headed in every encounter. Her ethical standards are beyond reproach. She embodies the Aloha Spirit, HRS § 5-7.5, in her professional and personal endeavors, balancing family life while dedicating countless hours to critical community service projects, like serving as chair of the Commission to Promote and Advance Civic Education and her work with the American Judicature Society. She excels at research and writing, carefully and meticulously prepares for matters before her, and approaches cases and issues with an open mind.

Chief Judge Ginoza inspires ICA staff to develop themselves personally and professionally, and accept new challenges as she has done throughout her career. She has been instrumental in improving ICA operations as Chief Judge, adding a staff attorney and an associate judge to expand the ICA's ability to reduce its staggering backlog of cases. And she does all of this with gratitude, modesty, and a strong sense of place, which is precisely what we need in an associate justice deciding this state's most important cases.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Pinal", is written over the typed name.

Randall A. Pinal



DATE: November 16, 2023

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

FROM: Gary Slovin

RE: **GM 1 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court, Gubernatorial Nominee, LISA M. GINOZA, for a term to expire in 10 years. Hearing Date: Friday, November 17 at 10:00 a.m. Conference Room: 016**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

Thank you for the opportunity to support the nomination of Lisa M. Ginoza as Associate Justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

I have known Justice Ginoza since she began practicing law. She was a young lawyer at the Goodsill firm when I first came to know her. Lisa was an outstanding young attorney.

She was astute and hardworking. But what stood out for me then and which has been the case throughout her career is her caring attitude. She is smart, but she is also humane. She does not assume that being a judge makes her superior to others. Her humanity, combined with her intellect, makes her an excellent jurist and, I believe, fully qualifies her to be confirmed as a member of the Supreme Court.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nominee. I would urge your committee to approve Ms. Ginoza's confirmation.

LATE

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/16/2023 8:17:02 PM
Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christine Jane Agas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I support the nomination of Lisa Ginoza due to her past experiences of serving as a Chief Judge of one of Hawai'i's courts.

LATE

GM-1

Submitted on: 11/17/2023 10:04:07 AM
Testimony for JDC on 11/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Park	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I strongly support Lisa Ginoza's nomination to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. She has the experience and ability to write well reasoned opinions and to fairly and impartially decide complex legal issues.



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

**Chief Judge Lisa M. Ginoza, ICA
for
Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court (GM1)**

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YLD PRESIDENT

Lisa Yang

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Shannon S. Sheldon

HSBA/ABA DELEGATE

Leslie A. Hayashi

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lyn Flanigan

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

FROM: Rhonda Griswold
President, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Friday, November 17, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 016 and Videoconference
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the nomination of Chief Judge Lisa M. Ginoza for the position of Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

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; a form authorizing disclosure from the Office of Disciplinary Counsel of any disciplinary action; 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.
- Submittal of a report by the three-person review subcommittee to the President, and subsequently to the entire Board.

- Meeting of the President, the Interim 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.
- Submittal of the HSBA Board's recommendation to the confirming authority.

The HSBA President and the Interim Executive Director met with Chief Judge Ginoza on November 13, 2023, to discuss the subcommittee's findings. On November 14th, Chief Judge Ginoza was interviewed by the HSBA Board of Directors in executive session.

Documentation submitted by Chief Judge Ginoza 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 Chief Judge Ginoza 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 HSBA Board of Directors met on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, to interview Chief Judge Ginoza. Vlad Devens, a member of the HSBA Board, was excused from the meeting and deliberations. Members in attendance were given the opportunity to recuse themselves due to any conflict of interest.

After dialogue and questions with Chief Judge Ginoza and extensive discussion by the Board, the HSBA Board found that Chief Judge Ginoza was **qualified** in all categories of the HSBA criteria to be an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Chief Judge Ginoza is a graduate of the William S. Richardson School of Law (WSRSL) and has spent her entire legal career in Hawaii. She clerked for the Honorable Samuel P. King in the U.S. District Court District of Hawaii. She spent 14 years as a litigator with a prominent Honolulu firm. She then served 12 years as the first Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawaii. Chief Judge Ginoza was then appointed to the Intermediate Court of Appeals, State of Hawaii, where she has spent 13 years as a Judge, the last 5 years as Chief Judge.

In all of these positions, in private practice, as a government attorney, and as a jurist, Chief Judge Ginoza has distinguished herself and earned respect for her intelligence, integrity, diligence, legal knowledge, temperament, and work ethic. Above all, she is widely respected as even-tempered and fair in her dealings and deliberations and her ability to collaborate with colleagues to reach consensus. Chief Judge Ginoza's commitment to public service is also evident in her roles as Chair of the Commission to Promote and Advance Civic Education and as a member of the American Judicature Society, among other affiliations.

Confirmation as an Associate Justice on the Hawaii Supreme Court is the penultimate recognition and honor for a Hawaii attorney. Chief Judge Ginoza is qualified and ready for this honor and the challenge.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments to your committee during your deliberations and decision making.