# GM240 Late

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COMPTROLLER

SANDRA L. YAHIRO
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

February 19, 2010

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Senate Chair Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations Hawaii State Capitol, Room 219 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

My name is Russ K. Saito, State Comptroller, and I am strongly supporting the nomination of Lisa M. Ginoza to the Intermediate Court of Appeals. I have worked with Ms. Ginoza in her role as Senior Deputy Attorney General, and have received wise and reasoned counsel from her. In my dealings with her, I have found Ms. Ginoza to be intelligent, knowledgeable, and responsive to my needs for sound legal advice.

I believe that Lisa Ginoza will make a good judge. She is obviously legally qualified but equally important, she has the right temperament. Even with the hectic schedule she has been subject to, she calmly and routinely provides good legal service to her clients.

As a judge, Lisa will be sensitive to the human elements and will use time effectively to arrive at well thought out judgments. Those judgments will also reflect Lisa's personal integrity. If she is confirmed, I believe her service on the bench will make you proud of the part you played in putting her there. I urge you to confirm Ms. Lisa M. Ginoza for the Intermediate Court of Appeals.

Mahalo,

RUSS K. SAITO

Comptroller

LATE

February 18, 2010

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi Chair Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

Sent via e-mail: JGOTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: GM 240, February 19, 2010, 9:30 a.m., Room 016, Confirmation of Lisa M. Ginoza as Associate Judge, Intermediate Court of Appeal

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Committee Members,

I am writing in my individual capacity in strong support of Lisa M. Ginoza. I first met Lisa five years ago when she began working at the Department of the Attorney General as the First Deputy Attorney General. I have served under Lisa as the Supervising Deputy Attorney General of the Criminal Justice Division and have dealt with her on a weekly and sometimes daily basis over the past five years.

Lisa is very intelligent and has the ability to properly analyze and comprehend the law. She is always well prepared and carries herself in a professional and respectful manner. Her eye for detail is impeccable and her writing skills are outstanding. If confirmed, I am confident that Lisa possesses the skills and demeanor to sever as a fair and impartial Associate Judge on the Intermediate Court of Appeals. I respectfully urge you and the committee to confirm Lisa's nomination to the Intermediate Court of Appeals as an Associate Judge.

Sincerely,

/s/Christopher D.W. Young, Esq. 333 Queen Street, Suite 200 Honolulu, HI 96813





RUSS K. SAITO
COMPTROLLER
SANDRA L. YAHIRO
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

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Mahalo,

RUSS K. SĂITO

Comptroller



#### KURT KAWAFUCHI 830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 221 HONOLULU, HI 96813

February 19, 2010

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations State Capitol, Room 219 Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 240 (Lisa Ginoza)

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS AS ASSOCIATE JUDGE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LISA M. GINOZA, FOR A TERM OF TEN YEARS.

Dear Chair Taniguchi:

I <u>support</u> the confirmation of Lisa M. Ginoza as Associate Judge to the Intermediate Court of Appeals.

I first met Lisa M. Ginoza over 20 years ago when I was a trial attorney with the United States Department of Justice, Tax Division. In that case, I represented the IRS in one of the first Taxpayer's Bill of Rights cases before United States District Court Judge Samuel King. Lisa M. Ginoza was the law clerk for Judge King. In her capacity as a law clerk for the U.S. District Court, Lisa was exposed to a broad spectrum of federal civil and criminal cases, and also, had the opportunity to work on 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Appellate cases when Judge King participated in 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit panels.

Lisa has 20 years of legal experience including as a partner at the McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP, a top Hawaii law firm, and the most recent 5 years as First Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawaii. During those 20 years, Ms. Ginoza acquired a vast amount of trial and appellate experience in civil and commercial litigation, including insurance defense and state constitutional issues.

Finally, I support Lisa because of her character and judicial demeanor. Based upon my interaction and observation of Lisa over the last 5 years, I believe Lisa is fair and a high integrity person. She is an extremely good listener and patient.

Chair Taniguchi GM 240, Nomination of Lisa M. Ginoza February 19, 2010 Page 2 of 2

For the above reasons, I support Lisa M. Ginoza's confirmation as Associate Judge to the Intermediate Court of Appeals. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Lisa M. Ginoza.

KURT KAWAFUCHI



Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations GM 240, Consideration of Lisa Ginoza to the Intermediate Court of Appeals as Associate Judge February 19, 2010, 9:30 a.m.

#### Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

I supervise the Health and Human Services division of the Attorney General's office. I have known Lisa Ginoza since 2005, when she became First Deputy Attorney General. Since then I have worked closely with her on personnel, management, and legal issues, including significant matters for the departments of health and of human services.

In everything, Ms. Ginoza has been exceptionally competent, fair, reasonable, and effective. As a manager she has an enviable ability to remember and keep track of important projects and deadlines, and to elicit appropriate, timely responses from employees. In personnel matters she is fair and firm. As First Deputy she has mediated many a dispute, bringing longstanding problems to resolution. But she is not being considered for a position on the Intermediate Court of Appeals for these attributes alone. The issue today is her ability as a potential appellate judge.

If Ms. Ginoza is confirmed as a judge on the Intermediate Court of Appeals, I would be advising attorneys bringing appeals before that court. With Ms. Ginoza as a sitting judge, this would be my advice to them:

- Make sure you prepare more thoroughly than you ever have before. Ms. Ginoza will know every case and statute you cite, and then some, and will know how they apply. And she will ask you about all of them.
- Write the best, most polished, and most persuasive brief you possibly can. She is a master at appellate writing, and for that matter at writing in general. Aspire to match her ability in thoroughness, organization, and clarity.
- Know the weaknesses in your case. She certainly will, and she will ask those pointed questions you'll have to answer. Make sure you cut to the chase, because she is going to.
- But if your case is novel, do not be afraid that she will hold that against you. She is open-minded and carefully considers every side of each story. She does not act on preconceived notions or personal bias.
- Be civil to every opponent, and be straightforward in your arguments. Do not attempt evasive dance steps or blow hot air, and don't be afraid that your opponent will get away with anything, either. Whatever courtroom showmanship you or your opponent may try, she will calmly and firmly bring that person into line. No one will feel threatened, but everyone will behave.
- If your clients are anxious about resolution, you can reassure them that Ms. Ginoza's extensive experience allows her to make sound decisions in a decisive manner.

Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations Page 2

If I were giving career advice to second- or third-year law students, I would tell them to set their post-diploma sights on a clerkship with Judge Ginoza. With her broad experience, intellectual power, research and writing skill, and plain common sense, she would be among the best mentors a young lawyer could hope for.

Please approve Ms. Ginoza's nomination for submission to the full Senate.

Heidi M. Rian

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# TESTIMONY OF ROBERT TOYOFUKU IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF LISA M. GINOZA TO THE INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS

#### February 19, 2010

To: Chairman Brian Taniguchi and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

My name is Bob Toyofuku and this testimony is being submitted in support of the nomination of Lisa M. Ginoza to the Intermediate Court of Appeals as an Associate Judge.

I have known Lisa Ginoza for many years as an attorney in private practice and as a Deputy Attorney General and have always respected her legal ability. Several years ago I did a training video for new arbitrators in the Court Annexed Arbitration Program and Lisa contributed her time and expertise to be on the panel on how to conduct a hearing as an arbitrator and was excellent in her presentation. She has always conducted herself in a professional manner and with integrity and I am confident that she will conduct herself in the same way as an appellate judge. Lisa will be an excellent addition to the Intermediate Court of Appeals.

I strongly support her nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.