



**VOLUNTEER LEGAL  
SERVICES HAWAII**

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**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF JC 7**

**Judicial Nomination of DYAN M. MEDEIROS  
to the District Family Court of the First Circuit  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor**

**April 24, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. - Room 325**

CHAIR KEITH-AGARAN, VICE CHAIR SHIMABUKURO, AND MEMBERS OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the judicial nomination of Ms. Dyan M. Medeiros to the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

For over twenty years, Ms. Medeiros has volunteered her time and talents through Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii to assist those in need of legal assistance and who are least able to afford such services. From her time as a law student at the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii and throughout her busy family law practice, Ms. Medeiros' commitment to giving back to the community through pro bono service has been steadfast.

Each month, Ms. Medeiros dedicates time and attention to individuals and families attending our family law clinics, where she provides advice and legal counsel on how to navigate the legal system to best resolve their legal issues. Ms. Medeiros has also been instrumental in launching the Unconsted Divorce Workshop which has helped self-represented parties understand and finalize their divorce without prolonged litigation.

Ms. Medeiros has also invested time in mentoring newly licensed attorneys who wish to develop their legal skills through pro bono service. Her mentorship not only includes technical guidance, but also lessons in civility and in increasing the public trust in the legal profession and judicial system.

Ms. Medeiros exemplifies the pro bono spirit and is a valued partner in ensuring equal access to justice in our State. Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii is proud to support Ms. Medeiros' nomination to the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Michelle D. Acosta

Executive Director

Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii



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

**DYAN M. MEDEIROS**  
**District Family Court Judge, First Circuit**

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair  
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair

From: Jodi Kimura Yi  
President-Elect, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Friday, April 24, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 325  
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the nomination of Dyan M. Medeiros for the position of District Family Court Judge, First Circuit.

On April 15<sup>th</sup>, after learning that Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald had nominated Ms. Medeiros to the bench, the HSBA began its judicial nomination review process. The HSBA membership was notified of the nomination and was asked to comment.

Simultaneous to these actions, a Subcommittee of three (3) HSBA Board members was appointed and asked to review the comments received (identifying information is removed unless the attorney authorized disclosure); contact references provided by the nominee and others who have knowledge of the nominee's experience and qualifications; and review documentation provided by the nominee.

A Special HSBA Board meeting was scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> to consider the judicial nomination of Ms. Medeiros and to interview the nominee.

Prior to the April 23<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting, the Executive Director and I met with Ms. Medeiros on April 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the HSBA nomination procedure and to apprise her of the Subcommittee's findings, and of any areas of concern that may be raised during the Special Board meeting.

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## TESTIMONY

Nomination of Dyan M. Medeiros

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On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, the HSBA Board met and reviewed documentation submitted by Ms. Medeiros and information from all of the references provided by the nominee. Comments and letters received from HSBA members reflected a strong endorsement of Ms. Medeiros in all categories of the HSBA criteria which includes:

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

And after completion of questioning and dialog relating to her background, personal and professional experiences, and reasons for pursuing the position of District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit, the HSBA Board found Ms. Medeiros to be **QUALIFIED**.

Ms. Medeiros' experience in the private practice of law specializing in family matters and volunteer efforts throughout her career in support the HSBA's Family Law Section and pro bono work through the Volunteer Legal Services of Hawaii (VLSH) corroborates the HSBA Board decision in finding her **QUALIFIED**. In addition it should be noted that Ms. Medeiros has served on many committees established by the Court to review rules and to improve the delivery of family court services to the public.

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

**From:** [Alethea Rebman](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** District Court nomination of Dyan Medeiros  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 21, 2015 11:53:17 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I write in support of Ms. Medeiros' nomination to the Family Court of the First Circuit.

Ms. Medeiros is a highly respected attorney who is dedicated to the law. Her ethical standards are unimpeachable and her work ethic is outstanding. She is calm and professional, with excellent interpersonal skills.

In addition, her knowledge of family law will be an asset to the public and the practice of family law in Honolulu as she will not need to learn family law from the bench.

Thank you for your time.

Yours truly,  
Alethea Rebman  
Partner

Mitsuyama & Rebman LLLC  
Mauka Tower  
737 Bishop St., Ste. 1450  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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TESTIMONY OF BLAKE K. OSHIRO  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2015  
Friday, April 24, 2015  
9:30 a.m., Conference Room 325

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF CHIEF JUSTICE'S APPOINTMENT ORDER NO. 2015-2,  
NOMINATING DYAN M. MEDEIROS  
TO THE DISTRICT FAMILY COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT (OAHU)**

TO: THE HONORABLE GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, CHAIR,  
THE HONORABLE MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, VICE CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

I am submitting personal testimony in support Dyan M. Medeiros' appointment to the District Family Court of the First Circuit (Oahu).

I have known Ms. Medeiros for over two decades dating back from our time in law school together. Since that time, I have always known her to be intelligent, conscientious, and diligent. I have referred several persons seeking family law issue representation to her as a partner at Kleintop, Luria & Medeiros, LLP because I believe that she is one of the best in the field here in Honolulu.

Although I do not practice in the area of family law, I have often expressed to those who need a family law attorney that you need someone who is not just intelligent and can be a zealous advocate, but you also need someone who is reasonable and with a right temperament to avoid heightening the adversarial nature and dynamics when it comes to the often emotional issues associated with a case. It is for those reasons that I tell people Ms. Medeiros is such a great family law attorney.

But, it is also those same reasons that I believe she will make a superb family court judge. Ms. Medeiros has an in-depth knowledge of family law, holds a high the level of respect, has great leadership skills, and she will bring all of those invaluable assets to the Family Court System that will serve the people of Hawaii well.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

**TESTIMONY OF ROBERT TOYOFUKU IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION  
OF DYAN M. MEDEIROS TO THE DISTRICT FAMILY COURT OF THE  
FIRST CIRCUIT**

April 24, 2015

To: Chairman Gilbert Keith-Agaran and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

My name is Bob Toyofuku and I am an attorney licensed to practice in the State of Hawaii. I am testifying in strong support of Dyan Medeiros to the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Ms. Medeiros for about ten years and she has proven to be not only an excellent attorney throughout her years in private law practice, but also as a very dedicated member of the Hawaii State Bar. I have sponsored continuing legal education seminars for over 30 years, primarily through the Pacific Law Institute, a not-for-profit institute, and Dyan has always been willing to participate as a seminar speaker to share her expertise as a family law attorney. She is a dependable and an excellent trainer, always prepared and very diligent. I also had the chance to collaborate with her when she was the chair of the HSBA family law section and also worked on certain legislation with her where she was as diligent as always.

Her background in family law and the experience gained from dealing with many aspects of various types of family law related cases gives her the needed experience to be an excellent family court judge. I have the utmost confidence that Ms. Medeiros will be an outstanding judge because of her ability, fairness and compassion for people, as well as her dedication to our system of justice. She has always exhibited the highest degree of integrity and I feel has the perfect temperament to be an outstanding family court judge.

I wholeheartedly support her nomination to the Family Court and urge her confirmation by this committee and the Hawaii State Senate.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

# KLEINTOP, LURIA & MEDEIROS

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

CHARLES T. KLEINTOP  
TIMOTHY LURIA  
DYAN M. MEDEIROS

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NAOKO C. MIYAMOTO  
CATHY Y. MIZUMOTO  
TIFFANY R. CHANG

April 21, 2015

**VIA FACSIMILE: 586-7348**

**VIA E-MAIL: JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov**

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair

Re: JC 7: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, DYAN M. MEDEIROS, for a term to expire in 6 years

Hearing: Friday, April 24, 2015  
9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 325  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran, Senator Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Charles T. Kleintop and I am the Managing Partner of Kleintop, Luria & Medeiros, LLP here in Honolulu.

I am submitting this testimony to you in support of Dyan M. Medeiros, Esq., my law partner, for the position of District Family Judge, Family Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawai'i.

I know Ms. Medeiros very well. She started working for me as an associate attorney in my prior law firm, Stirling & Kleintop, in 1998 and joined me as a partner in my current law firm, Kleintop, Luria & Medeiros, in 2008. I supervised her work on a daily basis when she was an associate attorney and have had daily contact with her since she became my law partner.

Ms. Medeiros is a skilled and talented lawyer. She is bright, articulate, and dedicated to the law. She has devoted the last seventeen (17) years of her professional practice to family law and in this area of practice has demonstrated extraordinary listening, analytical, organizational, and leadership skills in representing her clients effectively in settlement

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negotiations, alternative dispute resolution efforts, and trials and motion hearings. In addition to these strength skills, Ms. Medeiros is extremely diligent in her preparation, articulate orally and in writing, and persuasive in her reasoning. She is also unfailingly decisive, compassionate, and committed to her clients and the legal profession. In short, her skill set as a lawyer couldn't be stronger and that skill set will transfer seamlessly to the Bench.

In addition to the above, in the last five (5) years Ms. Medeiros has frequently been appointed by the Family Court to be a Volunteer Settlement Master for high conflict, multi-issue cases that the Court itself did not have the time to address before trial. In this role, Ms. Medeiros has been particularly effective because of her calm and caring demeanor, her patience, her attention to detail, her reasoned guidance, and most importantly her fairness. She has settled almost all of the cases assigned to her by the Court and earned the respect of counsel and parties alike for her skills in this role. These skills also will transfer seamlessly to the Bench.

Ms. Medeiros has been extraordinarily loyal to me as her law partner and to our firm. She has cared deeply for all our lawyers and our staff both as professionals and people. She will clearly bring this same loyalty to the Judiciary.

Even more importantly, she has demonstrated extraordinary love and loyalty to her family (a very close-knit family consisting of her father, her sister, and her niece). She has demonstrated to all of us on a daily basis the importance of family and the need to stay close to one's family at all times, no matter what. She has been an inspiration to all of us in this regard.

Ms. Medeiros' reputation in the community for honesty, trustworthiness, character, integrity, and citizenship is above and beyond reproach. There is simply no one who knows her who doesn't hold her in the highest regard in all of these areas or respect her as a professional and a person. My opinion is obviously the same.

Ms. Medeiros' judicial temperament will be calm, reflective, and caring as well as patient. Her extraordinary skills and commitment to the law give her a level of confidence that can't be easily shaken. That confidence will translate into fair and well reasoned decisions and respect for counsel and the parties. She understands the important role a judge has in our legal system and she will do nothing to undermine the respect due that role.

I respectfully give you my highest recommendation of Dyan M. Medeiros, Esq. for the position of District Family Judge, Family Court of the

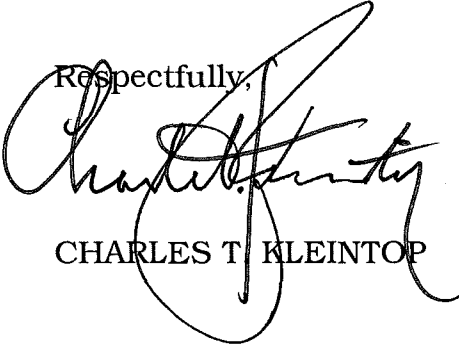
April 21, 2015  
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First Circuit, State of Hawai'i. I think she will distinguish herself as a Family Court judge for many years and terms to follow.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles T. Kleintop". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "K".

CHARLES T. KLEINTOP

CTK:ck



mitsuyama + rebman  
DIVORCE AND FAMILY LAW

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PH. (808)545-7035  
FAX (808) 369-8349

March 27, 2015

Via On-line

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

RE: Judicial Nominee Dyan M. Medeiros  
Hearing: April 24, 2015 9:30 a.m.

Dear Chair/Vice Chair:

I am a practicing family law attorney for 17 years now. I am the current Vice-Chair/Chair Elect of the Family Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

I submit this letter in overwhelming support of the confirmation of Ms. Dyan M. Medeiros as District Court Judge of the First Circuit. I have known Ms. Medeiros for several years through my practice as a family law attorney.

Ms. Medeiros would be an asset to the Family Court bench. She is extremely knowledgeable in Family Law and obviously dedicated to the practice, as she has been a practitioner exclusively in Family Law for many years. She is always professional. I have never questioned her ethics or judgment.

Ms. Medeiros is highly respected amongst her peers. Since being named even as a nominee, I have not heard one negative comment about her becoming a judge. The respect we have for her is also evident particularly in her role as a Volunteer Settlement Master (VSM). She is one of a select handful that attorneys specifically request because of experience and effectiveness.

Ms. Medeiros is a natural leader. During her term as Chair of the Family Law Section, in 2009, she created a sub-committee comprised of newer, less experienced attorneys. She personally invited each member to be a part of the Leadership and Community Service Committee (LCSC). It was an opportunity for the members to socialize, which promoted better relations in the litigation setting. Meetings also allowed members to interact with more experienced attorneys and learn from them. LCSC also performed several community service projects. In the end, LCSC cultivated new leaders, such that by 2013, all of the officers in the Family Law Section were a part of the original LCSC.

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The last few years we have had judges with no family court experience and we have had the experienced judges leave or retire. We need experienced, committed, and highly respected judges in Family Court. Ms. Medeiros would fill that role.

Thank you for your time.

Very Truly Yours,

/s/

Dyan K. Mitsuyama, Esq.

Law Offices of  
EDWARD R. LEBB

*A Limited Liability Law Company*

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April 21, 2015

**Via E-Mail**

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawai'i State Senate  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Stree  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: JC 7 - Dyan M. Medeiros for Confirmation to the District Family Court  
of the First Circuit

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Committee:

I am pleased to provide my comments regarding the confirmation of Dyan M. Medeiros as District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit. I highly recommend Dyan to serve as a District Family Court Judge.

I have known Dyan for some 15 years. I came to know her when she joined the then Family Law practice of *Stirling & Kleintop*. At about the same time, I was elected chair of the Family Law Section. Since that time I have engaged with Dyan as opposing counsel, mediator and participant in various Family Court committees; most recently in the revision of the Family Court Rules. On a few occasions, Dyan and I have made joint presentations to the Family Law Bar.

As an active member of the Family Law Section of the Hawai'i Bar Association, and as a past chair of the section, I believe I am able to state unequivocally that Dyan is held in the highest respect as a person and attorney. I have had the pleasure of working with Dyan in an effort to improve the quality of the Section and its practitioners. She is bright, knows the law, and, as an exceptional litigator, has a unique appreciation for how contested matters can and should be presented to the court. Both as an advocate and mediator, she has facilitated conflict resolution. This quality, I believe, is invaluable as a Family Court Judge. Quite honestly, it is a comfort that a person with her unique background and personal skills has been selected by the Chief Justice. She has an exceedingly high work ethic, working long hours to understand issues and accomplish her task. She is extremely personable and collegial. At the same time, she can be forceful and resolute. She has always been a practical person, looking for reasonable and workable results.

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Page 2  
April 21, 2015

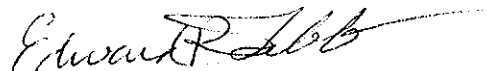
As suggested above, Dyan is a skilled and active Family Law practitioner who is recognized by her peers as a superb attorney, having been honored for the last several years in Best Lawyers in America and Hawai'i for Family Law. Not only is she an excellent advocate, but I and others have called upon her to mediate contentious Family Law disputes and she has done so with success. The members of the Family Law Bar have also recognized her leadership skills by electing her chair of the Family Law Section and a continuing member of its board of directors. In addition to all of this, she has devoted endless time to the improvement of Family Court and its practice. Dyan has served on numerous committees which, in my opinion, have improved the practice, including membership on the then long-standing committee which created and revised the property division chart and asset and debt statement utilized throughout the State. More recently, she was a key participant on the Supreme Court's Permanent Committee on the Family Court Rules which resulted in an overhaul of those rules recently adopted by the Hawai'i Supreme Court. She regularly participates in presentations to the Family Law attorneys on various topics of practical effect.

I have been involved in several matrimonial cases in which Dyan was opposing counsel or acted as the mediator. In all instances, she is a respectful but forceful advocate and, when acting as a mediator, a skilled neutral who can elicit respect, deference and a resulting reasonableness from opposing parties. She is never sarcastic in her opposition and her demeanor in contentious situations more often tends to reduce the rancor and lead to agreement.

Dyan knows family law and the Family Court well. With her wealth of experience, intelligence and judicial temperament, it is gratifying that she was selected and is being considered for confirmation by your Committee. I believe she will make an excellent Family Court judge and I recommend her highly to you.

If you have any questions or wish further comment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Edward R. Lebb

ERL:ek

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for JC7 on Apr 24, 2015 09:30AM  
**Date:** Monday, April 20, 2015 4:27:31 PM

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**JC7**

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for JDL on Apr 24, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Guy Haywood	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am proud to support Ms. Medeiros' appointment to the Family Court of the First Circuit. I have come to know her over the years I have practiced. She is well respected in the profession and very knowledgeable. She will be a credit to the Judiciary

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chairman  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: DYAN M. MEDEIROS  
District Family Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee  
Senate Confirmation Hearing: Friday, April 24, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

Dyan M. Medeiros is an excellent choice to be the next District Family Court judge. I have known Dyan for over twenty years from the time we were at law school - William S. Richardson School of Law.

As a person, Dyan is caring and sympathetic to people around her. She does not hesitate in taking on tasks others do not care to take. She is always calm and collected: she is not easily rattled. She is not afraid to speak up and express herself when necessary. These are excellent qualities a judge should have, and I have no doubt that she will have the best judicial temperament and demeanor.

As an attorney, although I do not have personal experience to work with her directly due to my role as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, I have often heard of her reputation among the attorneys who practice family law. The most common comments I heard include: she is professional, well versed in the law, well prepared with her cases, has natural talent as a trial attorney, and she is a very challenging adversary. In short, she is well-respected by her peers as well as judges. Young attorneys who seek to work at her current firm do so because they want to learn from Dyan and want to become an attorney like Dyan. I personally do know that she often works late at nights and on weekends, too.

She is already an asset to our community as an excellent attorney, and her vacancy as a family law attorney will be greatly felt, but I am confident that she will be even more of an asset as a District Family Court judge.

Yours truly,

Jeen H. Kwak  
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
City and County of Honolulu

TO: Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Jessi L.K. Hall

HEARING DATE: April 24, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

RE: Testimony in Support of Dyan M. Medeiros (JC 7)

Good day Senator Keith-Agaran, Senator Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee. My name is Jessi Hall. I am an attorney whose practice concentrates in Family Law. I am also a past Chair of the Family Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association. I am writing in support of the confirmation of Dyan M. Medeiros as a Judge in the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

During my fifteen years practicing I have worked directly with Ms. Medeiros as an opposing counsel, Volunteer Settlement Master, and in various committees. Ms. Medeiros has always conducted herself with the highest integrity. She is very knowledgeable in all aspects of Family Law and familiar with the Court procedures. As a Settlement Master she always assisted us in reaching creative solutions that left all parties involved content with the outcome.

Practicing in Family Court is significantly different then practicing in other Courts. To do a proper job one must understand human behavior and family dynamics, not just the law. As part of the Family Law bar, we are excited to know that in Ms. Medeiros we will have a new judge that will be able to quickly jump into the position, without a lot of training.

I have the utmost confidence that Ms. Medeiros, if given the opportunity, will be an excellent Family Court judge. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Dyan M. Medeiros.

**From:** [Jim Hoenig](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Dyan M. Medeiros  
**Date:** Monday, April 20, 2015 3:59:28 PM

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Dear Members of the Committee,

As a full-time professional Family Law mediator for the past 20+ years, I have come to know Ms. Medeiros well both professionally and personally.

I have the highest possible opinion of her ability, her integrity, and her dedication.

I firmly believe she will be a superb Family Court judge in all respects, and I urge you to approve her appointment.

Sincerely,

Jim Hoenig, J.D., Ph.D.  
Dispute Prevention & Resolution  
1003 Bishop Street Suite 1155  
Honolulu Hawaii 96813

# CARLSMITH BALL LLP

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OUR REFERENCE NO.:  
000901-30

April 22, 2015

Via Email: [JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair, and Committee Members  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Capitol, Room 221  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: JC 7 - Confirmation of Judicial Nominee, DYAN M. MEDEIROS, to the District  
Family Court of the First Circuit

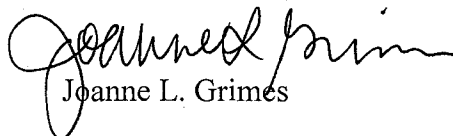
I write to fully support Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald's nomination of attorney Dyan M. Medeiros as District Family Court Judge to the First Circuit.

I am a partner at Carlsmith Ball LLP, and had the occasion to work with Ms. Medeiros, as opposing counsel, when I represented a client in a trust litigation matter that involved a family law component. I found Ms. Medeiros to be competent and professional, while remaining respectful to parties and other counsel, notwithstanding contentious negotiations.

I believe Ms. Medeiros would be an outstanding addition to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, and her professionalism will enhance the Judiciary as a whole. I urge the Committee's support of Ms. Medeiros and its recommendation for Senate confirmation.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joanne L. Grimes

4835-2116-4323.1

**From:** [John](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#);  
**Subject:** The Nomination of Dyan M. Medeiros as a Judge for District Family Court of the First Circuit  
**Date:** Monday, April 20, 2015 9:58:20 PM

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Dear Senator Keith-Agaran and the Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Please immediately confirm the nomination of Ms. Dyan M. Medeiros as a judge to the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

I have worked as a family law attorney for 32 years.? In that time, many highly qualified judges have been appointed to the Family Court, but never one with Ms. Medeiros? credentials and expertise.? She will help Oahu?s families on the first day she wears her robe.

Ms. Medeiros is smart, witty, kind, diligent, thoughtful, and wise.? She thoroughly understands family law.? She thoroughly understands pre-trial procedure.? Her clients value her calm advocacy and her ability to find creative ways to solve their family problems.? Her fellow attorneys respect her smart case management, her excellent trial skills, her diplomacy, and her willingness to work cooperatively for the entire family?s good without losing sight of her client?s goals and needs.? Judges

appreciate her clearly reasoned arguments and the quality of her courtroom presentations.

Ms. Medeiros has served on numerous committees formed to improve services to the public.? I have worked with her on several committees.? She always has good ideas.? She listens carefully.? She asks good questions.? She considers opposing positions, but she stands her ground for what she thinks is right?all while working for the overall goal of the committee.

Ms. Medeiros will take the bench with authority and confidence, and without any arrogance.? She will rule promptly, even-handedly, clearly, and compassionately.

We are very lucky to have a person of her caliber apply for the judicial vacancy.?

Please reward her willingness to serve with a prompt confirmation.

Sincerely,

John W. Schmidtke, Jr.

Kimo B. Todd, JD, CPA  
900 Fort St., Ste 1220  
Honolulu, HI. 96813

April 22, 2015

Senator Gelbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Judiciary and Labor Committee

**Re: In Support of Ms. Dyan M. Medeiros**

Dear Chairman Keith-Agaran and Vice Chair Shimabukuro:

I submit this written testimony in support of Ms. Dyan M. Medeiros for Judge of the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

I have worked with Ms. Medeiros as a financial consultant for her clients in several family law matters. Based on my first-hand observations, Ms. Medeiros has always exhibited professionalism, due care and civility when dealing with others. I, along with others in the business and legal community, know Ms. Medeiros to be of the highest integrity.

It has been my experience that Ms. Medeiros is always prepared, polite, courteous and patient with clients and constituents. I have no doubt that Ms. Medeiros will be an open-minded, fair and unbiased Family Court judge.

Obviously by the nature of the position, a family court judge is in a position to have a significant impact in the lives of many of our citizens, especially our keiki. I believe Ms. Medeiros would be able to successfully fulfill the many responsibilities required of a family court judge including managing the docket, working effectively with participants in the judicial process, maintaining control over judicial proceedings and applying substantive, procedural and evidentiary law. She would be able to provide sound legal reasoning while being sensitive to the delicate issues that are addressed in the Family Court system.

I realize that an extremely small percentage of attorneys have the opportunity to serve the people of Hawaii as a judge. I firmly believe that Ms. Medeiros should be among this very small percentage due to the reasons stated above. Accordingly, I highly recommend and support Dyan M. Medeiros for an appointment as Judge of the District Family Court of the First Circuit.

Mahalo,



Kimo B. Todd, JD, CPA

April 22, 2015

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Chair and Committee Members  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Capitol, Room 221  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

[JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Re: JC7 Judicial Nominee Dyan Medeiros, District Family Court of the  
First Circuit.

Dear Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith Agaran and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Judicial Nominee Dyan Medeiros.

I've known Dyan as an opposing counsel, divorce arbitrator, and law school classmate for over twenty years. Dyan and I had several cases as opposing counsels and I have always known her to be a hard worker, honest, have good client control, and a zealous advocate for her client's position.

Dyan also impressed me with her abilities as a divorce arbitrator. The first time she arbitrated one of my cases, I thought to myself, she would be a fantastic judge. First, she knows Family Law, but not only the letter of the law, but in practical terms. Secondly, her demeanor is very calm, cool; yet authoritative. Third, she has good rapport with not only the attorneys but also with the litigants. Lastly, she is fair, honest and straightforward.

It is no surprise to me that Dyan has been selected as a nominee. I know she has many supporters in the family law area, which speaks volumes about her abilities, demeanor and reputation. I hope you regard Dyan as highly as I do.

Sincerely,



Lynn K. Kashiwabara

**From:** [Lynne J. McGivern](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#);  
**Subject:** Testimony for Dyan Medeiros from Lynne Jenkins McGivern, Esq. FW: Fri. April 24 at 9:30 am  
**Date:** Monday, April 20, 2015 6:17:41 PM  
**Attachments:**

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Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am a partner at Ashford and Wriston LLP. Almost all of my practice is devoted to Family Law. It is my pleasure to support the nomination of Dyan Medeiros, Esq. for Family Court. She will be an excellent Family Court judge, and the community will be very fortunate to have her on the bench.

I have known Dyan for several years. I have gone to trial against her. I have also selected or retained her to conduct mediations in several of my cases, including complex divorce cases, where emotions are high and the possibility of settlement seems remote at the outset. She has managed to settle almost all of them. In fact, I have represented to her on multiple occasions that she is the best mediator in Family Law matters in the Family Law Bar association, and I really believe this. I am certain that other colleagues feel the same way.

Dyan has a very competent, low-key style. She is very professional. She is extremely prepared in every matter in which she appears, including when she is a Volunteer Settlement Master. She cares about the litigants in her cases. She is also a genuinely nice person, and is very well liked and respected by all.

Please vote to confirm Dyan for the Family Court position. She will serve the public well, and her service will be a fine reflection on the judiciary.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments about Dyan. Should you or your committee members have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at my law firm at 539-0438 or by return e-mail.

Lynne Jenkins McGivern

Lynne Jenkins McGivern

Ashford & Wriston, LLLP  
999 Bishop St., Ste. 1400  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for JC7 on Apr 24, 2015 09:30AM  
**Date:** Monday, April 20, 2015 4:01:31 PM

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**JC7**

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for JDL on Apr 24, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melissa Pavlicek	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is Melissa Pavlicek and I am a Hawaii-based attorney and graduate of the Wm. S. Richardson School of Law. I have known Dyan Medeiros for over 20 years, starting in our first year of law school as classmates. She is the kind of highly intelligent, diligent, community-spirited leader who will make an outstanding member of the bench. Her expertise in the area of family law, as well as her willingness to seek fairness and equity are among the reasons that I support her. Please confirm her nomination.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor**  
The Hon. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
The Hon. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

**Testimony on JC 7**  
**Judicial Nominee to the Family Court of the First Circuit – DYAN M. MEDEIROS**  
**Submitted by Nani Medeiros**  
**April 24, 2015, 9:30 am, Room 325**

Good morning Chair Agaran, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support to confirm Dyan Medeiros as a judge with the Family Court of the First Circuit.

I've known Dyan my entire life; she's my big sister, best friend, advisor, and confidant. In addition to that privilege, I've had the opportunity to witness and experience her professionalism and expertise first hand. As a single mom for twelve years, Dyan has helped me navigate family court and co-parenting with my daughter's father. Her guidance has always been fair, and with our daughter's best interests in mind. She helped us see things that we couldn't see on our own, and it made a world of difference for us. In my opinion, Dyan's approach, demeanor, and expertise are examples of how all family law attorneys should practice. Family court can be a very painful experience; the court needs judges who will make things better. Dyan is one of those people.

PAUL R. MANCINI\*  
THOMAS D. WELCH, JR.  
JAMES W. GEIGER

## MANCINI, WELCH & GEIGER LLP

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COUNSEL  
ROSALYN LOOMIS

TELEPHONE:  
(808) 871-8351

\*A LAW CORPORATION

FACSIMILE:  
(808) 871-0732

April 20, 2015

CONFIDENTIAL

via email

JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov  
swong@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: Dyan Medeiros

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of the application of Dyan Medeiros to fill the judicial vacancy in the Family Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Dyan professionally for many years. Over the years, I have mediated multiple divorce cases for her and other members of her firm. I am impressed with her work ethic, her knowledge of the law, her leadership and her sense of humor. Dyan has the ability to immediately see the risks of her client's position and appropriately advise them. She does not "play games" with the negotiation process.

Dyan is dedicated to her profession. Her work product and responses are always timely. She works late in the evenings and on weekends. Many of my cases with her include discussions after 5 p.m. and on weekends. In addition to the countless hours she puts into her cases, she is also very active as a speaker for continuing legal education seminars and was the Chair of the Family Law Section in a year where there was significant controversy amongst its members over the move from Honolulu to Kapolei. She managed the heated conflict well. Last year, she responded to a last minute request from Judge Mark Browning to monitor legislation that would affect Family Court when such action should have been handled by others but unfortunately was not. Dyan and several other attorneys stepped in and spent hours monitoring and testifying for or against various bills for the benefit of the Family Court.

Although I live on Maui, most of my mediation work occurs on Oahu. I am, therefore, aware of the challenges for Family Court judges in the First Circuit, including the backlog of cases. There is no other candidate for the current position that will be able to immediately and effectively participate in the various roles required of a judge, including committee work and the challenge of managing the various court calendars, including complex divorce matters.

JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

swong@capitol.hawaii.gov

April 20, 2015

Page 2

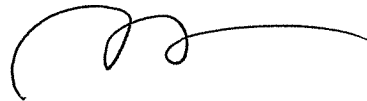
Over the years, I have observed that Dyan has the ability to see both sides of an issue even though she may be advocating for one position. She has successfully served as a mediator and a voluntary settlement master. I have no doubt that her rulings will be timely, well thought out and equitable.

Finally, Dyan is fun to be around. She is a great conversationalist and has a sense of humor which is appreciated by her colleagues and much needed in our profession.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

MANCINI, WELCH & GEIGER LLP

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

Rosalyn Loomis

RL/vab

April 21, 2015

Senate Committee on Judiciary And Labor  
Via email

**Re: JC7: Nomination of Dyan M. Medeiros to the District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit**

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary And Labor:

We strongly support the nomination of Dyan M. Medeiros as a judge of the District Family Court of the First Circuit. We have known Ms. Medeiros in her many capacities: opposing counsel in several family court cases; Chair of the Family Law Section; co-speaker at Family Law seminars; and as a member of numerous family law committees.

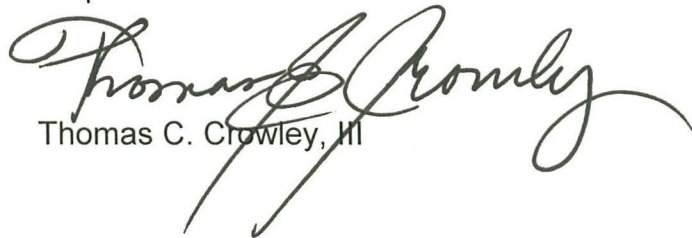
Ms. Medeiros has earned our respect and the respect of many of our colleagues in the area of family law. She is a skilled trial lawyer and a diligent and conscientious attorney. Ms. Medeiros has devoted untold hours providing pro bono services to the legal community. Most recently, Ms. Medeiros with another family law attorney coordinated the recruitment and scheduling of attorneys to be Pro Bono Settlement Masters for the Family Court to assist in clearing the backlog of cases set for trial.

We have no doubts that Ms. Medeiros will be an excellent family court judge. Thank you for this opportunity to support Ms. Medeiros's nomination.

Very truly yours,



Stephanie A. Rezens



Thomas C. Crowley, III

**TESTIMONY OF THOMAS D. FARRELL**

Regarding JC7, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, DYAN M. MEDEIROS

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair

Friday, April 24, 2015 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 325, State Capitol

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the confirmation of Dyan Medeiros to be a District Family Court Judge.

I have practiced law for thirty-five years---the last twenty of them almost exclusively in Family Court. I am the only board-certified specialist in Hawaii, past Chair of the Family Law Section, and hold various other qualifications that give me a unique perspective on nominees to the Family Court bench.

Dyan Medeiros is one of the best I have ever seen. I have known Dyan for two decades. She has been a successful Family Court litigator for a long time and is a partner in one of the top family law firms in Honolulu. She is a former chair of the Family Law Section of HSBA, and has served on numerous Family Court committees (many with me). She has been a volunteer attorney with Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii and a strong supporter of access to the courts. I have also had to deal with her as opposing counsel in a number of complex and acrimonious divorce cases. I can say without reservation that she knows the law, is always prepared, is reasonable to deal with, and is thoroughly honest. She knows who the various players are, will be decisive, and will maintain control of her courtroom. She will hit the ground running from her first day.

The people of Hawaii would be exceptionally well served by her confirmation, and I urge the Senate to do so without delay.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify this morning.

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\*Certified by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. The Supreme Court of Hawaii grants Hawaii certification only to lawyers in good standing who have successfully completed a specialty program accredited by the American Bar Association.

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WCD@wcdlawhawaii.com

April 22, 2015

Via Hawaii State Legislature Website

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and labor  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Dyan M. Medeiros (JC-7)

Dear Senators Keith-Agaran and Shimabukuro,

I am writing in strong support of the confirmation of Dyan Marie Medeiros, Esq. to be a District Family Court judge.

I believe I am well qualified to comment on Ms. Medeiros' appointment. I am a three-time former chairperson of the Hawaii State Bar Association Family Law Section, Best lawyers in America's first Hawaii Family Lawyer of the Year, and a family law practitioner for nearly 39 years.

Ms. Medeiros is a named partner in Kleintop, Medeiros, and Luria, a preeminent local family law firm, where she has worked since 1998. Ms. Medeiros has benefited greatly from her long association with the other highly qualified family law attorneys in her firm.

Ms. Medeiros has had extensive practical experience representing clients in a wide variety of family law matters, including divorce, separation, annulment, paternity, domestic abuse, abuse and neglect, guardianship, as well as others.

Ms. Medeiros is nationally recognized as a skillful and ethical family law attorney by Best Lawyers in America. She is a person of integrity.

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro  
April 22, 2015  
Page Two

Ms. Medeiros has served in various capacities with the HSBA Family Law Section, including chairperson of the Section, and co-chairperson of the Leadership and Community Service Committee of the Section. She has also served on the HSBA Leadership Institute Committee.

Ms. Medeiros has always given very freely of her time to needy families and children, including through her work as a volunteer with Volunteer Legal Service of Hawai'i since 1996.

Ms. Medeiros has a high interest in educating others, and has put on numerous educational presentations to Family Court judges, family law practitioners, and other family law professionals throughout Hawai'i.

I believe that Ms. Medeiros is generally well-liked and well-respected by the other members of our family law community, including the Family Court judges.


I have had a number of cases with Ms. Medeiros over the years, and I have also worked with Ms. Medeiros in a wide variety of professional family law activities ever since she began her family law career. I have found her to be ethical and honest, a hard worker with a strong work ethic, attentive and responsive, solution oriented and not conflict prone, and generally very easy to work with.

I believe that Ms. Medeiros has a temperament well-suited for the rigors of judging family law cases.

Accordingly, I rate Ms. Medeiros as highly qualified to be a Family Court judge, and I recommend her for that position without reservation.

Thank you kindly for considering this recommendation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William C. Darrah". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

William C. Darrah