

Michael N. Tanoue

Education

JURIS DOCTORATE | 1986 | WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON SCHOOL OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

- University of Hawaii Law Review, Executive Editor (1985-1986)
- University of Hawaii Law Review, Case Note Author (1984-1985)
- Corpus Juris Secundum and American Jurisprudence Awards

BACHELOR OF ARTS | 1983 | UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII - MANOA

- Double Major: History & Political Science
- Phi Beta Kappa

Bar Admissions & Affiliations

- State of Hawaii
- United States District Court for the District of Hawaii
- Hawaii State Bar Association
- American Bar Association

Employment Experience

VICE PRESIDENT/GENERAL COUNSEL/SECRETARY | ISLAND INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD. | APRIL 2019 TO PRESENT

- Working with all departments, including Claims, Underwriting, Accounting, and Actuarial Services & Product Development, on projects; providing advice on corporate governance issues; drafting, reviewing and revising insurance policy forms; and reviewing and revising contracts with vendors.
- Drafting, analyzing, reviewing, and revising legislative bills; preparing written testimony in favor of or against bills.

PRESIDENT | THE PACIFIC LAW GROUP | MAY 1999 TO MARCH 2019

- Represented insureds, insurance companies, business clients, and claimants in pre-litigation matters, motions practice, alternative dispute resolution proceedings, and appeals.
- Served as arbitrator or mediator in tort cases and insurance-related disputes.
- Represented the Professional Standards and Arbitration Committees of five Boards of Realtors® in Hawaii.
- Represented the Hawaii Insurers Council in drafting, analyzing, reviewing, and revising legislative bills; in preparing written testimony in favor of or against bills; and in presenting oral testimony on behalf of the Council.

PARTNER | TANOUYE & TANAKA | JUNE 1994 TO APRIL 1999

- Represented insureds, insurance companies, and business clients in pre-litigation matters, motions practice, alternative dispute resolution proceedings, and appeals.
- Served as arbitrator or mediator in tort cases and insurance-related disputes.

DEPUTY CORPORATION COUNSEL | DEPARTMENT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL, CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU | APRIL 1991 TO MAY 1994

- From 1993 to May 1994, served as Trials Division Head of the Department. In that capacity, supervised 10 other trial deputies and three investigators; oversaw all claims and lawsuits against the City, its agencies and employees; oversaw claims and lawsuits against MTL/OTS and Honolulu Police Department officers; and met regularly with City department heads to discuss risk management, claims and litigation issues.
- From April 1991 to 1993, served as Appellate Section Coordinator of the Department. In that capacity, supervised or conducted all complex legal research and appeals, and met regularly with City department heads on claims and litigation issues.

ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY | MATSUI CHUNG | SEPTEMBER 1987 TO MARCH 1991

- Represented insureds, insurance companies, and business clients in pre-litigation matters, motions practice, alternative dispute resolution proceedings, and appeals.

LAW CLERK | JUSTICE EDWARD H. NAKAMURA, SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF HAWAII | AUGUST 1986 TO AUGUST 1987

- Reviewed and analyzed appellate briefs and records on appeal, researched legal issues, drafted legal memoranda to Supreme Court Staff Attorneys regarding jurisdictional issues, served on the appellate handbook committee of the Hawaii Supreme Court, consulted with Justice Nakamura regarding recommended Court decisions, and prepared draft unpublished memorandum and published opinions of the Court.

Other Related Experience

COMMISSIONER | HAWAII COMMISSION TO PROMOTE UNIFORM LEGISLATION | 2022 TO PRESENT

- Continuing to work with fellow Commissioners to urge the enactment of uniform legislation to improve the State of Hawaii and the lives of its citizens.

COMMITTEE MEMBER | HAWAII SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON PATTERN CIVIL JURY INSTRUCTIONS | 1994 TO PRESENT

- Continuing to work with trial court judges and experienced attorneys appointed by the Hawaii Supreme Court to draft pattern civil jury instructions in all areas of law, including negligence, premises liability, strict products liability, contracts, medical malpractice, and employment discrimination.

FREQUENT LECTURER ON APPELLATE, INSURANCE AND TORT LAW | LATE 1980S TO PRESENT

- Presented continuing education seminars to attorneys regarding appellate procedure, ethics and professionalism, tort law, and insurance law topics.
- At the request of the Court Annexed Arbitration Program (CAAP), co-presented several seminars to CAAP arbitrators regarding premises liability law, motor vehicle accident law, CAAP procedures, recent statutory amendments impacting CAAP arbitrations, recent appellate court decisions, and case management.
- At the request of the Hawaii Supreme Court, co-presented a class to all Hawaii state court judges on the impact of Medicare and Medicaid on settlements and judgments.
- At the request of insurance companies, insurance agencies, and insurance associations, presented numerous education seminars regarding insurance, tort law, and settlements involving Medicare, Medicaid and other medical liens.

LECTURER | WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON SCHOOL OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII | 1990S

- For two semesters, co-taught a class on pretrial litigation and procedure.
- Presented two lectures on automobile insurance law to the Insurance Law class taught by Professor Hazel Beh.

INSTRUCTOR | JAPAN-AMERICA INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCE | MID-1990S TO MID-2000S

- Co-taught classes to English-speaking mid-management participants in the Japan-America Institute of Management Science program. Participants were from countries such as Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, the Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia, India, and France. One class was entitled “Navigating the U.S. Legal System,” and included sections on the American legal system, business law, tort law, employment law, and insurance law. The other class was entitled “Critical Thinking,” and included interactive sessions to encourage participants to “think outside the box” through lively debates, mock legislative sessions, and current event discussions.