

## KIRSHA K.M. DURANTE



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### AFFILIATIONS

Mālama Honua Public Charter School Foundation Board Member  
(2024 - present)  
Native Hawaiian Bar Association Board of Director Treasurer  
(2022 – present)  
Hawai'i State Bar Association Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being  
(2019 – 2021)  
Judicial Administration Committee  
(2017 – present)  
Japanese American Citizens League  
(2004 – 2006)

### HOBBIES

Hula dancer - 'üniki as 'ōlapa in 2021,  
Hālau I Ka Wēkiu  
(2003 – present)

### EXPERIENCE

#### NATIVE HAWAIIAN LEGAL CORPORATION LITIGATION DIRECTOR

2021-PRESENT

Manage all attorneys and assist Executive Director with providing updates on firm's litigation efforts to the Board of Directors; Serve as lead attorney for legal matters, including impact litigation, in furtherance of the protection of Native Hawaiian rights

#### OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER DEPUTY PUBLIC DEFENDER

2005-2021

Drafted appellate briefs and presented oral argument before the Hawai'i Supreme Court and the Intermediate Court of Appeals; As a trial attorney, raised novel legal issues in motions practice, negotiated fair plea agreements and obtained acquittals in both jury and bench trials; Tried over 50 jury trials and over 100 bench trials

#### HONORABLE MARCIA J. WALDORF LAW CLERK

2004-2005

Researched criminal law issues and drafted written recommendations of the legally appropriate disposition; Performed bailiff functions and managed schedule of hearings for criminal motions calendar.

### EDUCATION

#### William S. Richardson School of Law, 2004

Juris Doctorate and Pacific Asian Legal Studies certificate recipient

#### Brandeis University, 2001

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Spanish with certificates in Legal Studies and Women's Studies

#### Kamehameha Schools, 1997