
**KIRSHA K.M.
DURANTE**



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 - 'ūnikī 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