

exclusive: integrity, diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to fulfill the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. Upon review of the established criteria, the HSBA Board found the appointee to be qualified for the position of Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit.

Judge Kevin A. K. Souza received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Brigham Young University and later obtained his Doctorate of Jurisprudence from William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. He currently serves as a District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit. He has decided cases involving a diverse range of family law issues, including divorce, custody, child support, marital property division, paternity, TRO/order of protection, legal guardianship, adoption, involuntary hospitalization, juvenile law, child welfare services, and adult criminal trials.

Prior to his appointment to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, Judge Souza served as a Per Diem District Family Court Judge and was Grand Jury Counsel of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. He also served as Chief of Staff to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Deputy Chief of Staff and General Counsel to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. Judge Souza also has private practice experience in criminal law and began his legal career as a Deputy Public Defender in the Office of the Public Defender.

Judge Souza has been active in the legal community throughout his career. His memberships and affiliations include the Hawaii State Bar Association, American Bar Association, National Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys, and University of Hawaii Law School Alumni Association. He also volunteers his time with various non-profits, including the Honolulu Community Action Program.

Testimony submitted in support of Judge Souza's appointment commends his impeccable character, kindness, competence, diligence, and unwavering dedication to justice. Additionally, he has a reputation for excellent judicial temperament, legal expertise, and dedication to the fair and just application of the



law. Testifiers stressed Judge Souza's compassion and respect for all those who come before him in his courtroom.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on his behalf, Kevin A. K. Souza has the experience, temperament, judiciousness, and requisite competencies to be a Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC
Consent

Gov. Msg./Jud. Com. No.:* GM2	Committee Referral: JDC	Date: 9/16/2019		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent 2347 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Consent 2349				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	/			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)				/
GABBARD, Mike				/
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
TOTAL	3	0	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one Message/Communication per Record of Votes