

LAW OFFICES OF  
**AARON S.H. YOO**



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September 25, 2020

VIA E-MAIL [JDCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

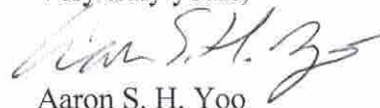
Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First  
Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

This is in support of Bryant Zane for the confirmation of his appointment to the District Court of the First Circuit. I have been licensed to practice law in the State of Hawaii since 1988, joining the litigation department of Okumura Takushi Funaki & Wee. I have made numerous appearances before Hawaii state court judges over 30 years of practice, and I believe the most important thing that makes a good judge is his or her integrity and character. I have known Bryant for many years, and I can say without any reservation that he is a man of integrity and character. In my dealings with Bryant he has shown to be honest, patient, fair, thoughtful, insightful and humble. What stands out the most for me is his humility. We both have been members at a same church for many years, and Bryant has served humbly in children's ministry and disaster relief missions, without ever trying to stand out or get credit for his services.

My practice is in civil side so I am not familiar with Bryant's work in criminal law although his resume looks very impressive. I trust that Bryant's legal knowledge and experiences were carefully vetted before he was nominated by the Chief Justice Rechtenwald. In all my years of practice I rarely have had issues with a judge due his or her lack of knowledge or experience. The issues that I have had are due to the judges' temperament, fairness and not being prepared. I believe that goes to the judge's integrity and character, which Brian clearly has. I highly support the confirmation of Bryant's appointment for this position.

Very truly yours,



Aaron S. H. Yoo

**From:** [Mailing List](#)  
**To:** [JDCTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [kikulani@outlook.com](mailto:kikulani@outlook.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for JC3 on Oct 1, 2020 13:00PM (Written Only)  
**Date:** Monday, September 28, 2020 7:16:30 PM

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**JC3**

Submitted on: 9/28/2020

Testimony for on Oct 1, 2020 13:00PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testifying Remotely</b>
Anna Ishikawa Jackson	Individual	Support	No

**Your comments:** I am in strong support of Bryant Zane being confirmed. Mr. Zane is an outstanding attorney, someone who is both highly intelligent and experienced. Mr. Zane is also kind, even tempered, and fair. He will make an outstanding judge.

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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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**From:** [Mailing List](#)  
**To:** [JDCTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [bensrose@gmail.com](mailto:bensrose@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for JC3 on Oct 1, 2020 13:00PM (Written Only)  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 29, 2020 1:37:22 PM

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**JC3**

Submitted on: 9/29/2020

Testimony for on Oct 1, 2020 13:00PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying Remotely
Benjamin Rose	Individual	Support	No

**Your comments:** I am writing this testimony in support of Bryant Zane's nomination for District Court. As a deputy prosecutor, I have both seen and gone up against Mr. Zane in his capacity as a deputy public defender. His compassion towards all parties, including victims, does not go unnoticed. He has the temperament to be an effective judge and is an excellent choice for the bench.

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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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# LAW OFFICE OF BRIAN S. KIM

A Limited Liability Law Company

September 30, 2020

## **VIA ELECTRONIC-DELIVERY**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR  
Senator Karl Roads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokahole, Vice Chair  
Honolulu Hale  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Support for the Confirmation of Bryant Zane to the District Court of the First Circuit (Oahu)

Dear Chairman and Members:

Please accept this letter as my sincere request that you support Bryant Zane's nomination for the position at the District Court of the First Circuit.

Bryant is known for his hard work ethic, intelligence and warm personality. There is no doubt in my mind that he possesses the judicial integrity, character and temperament necessary for this position. I sincerely hope that you will support Bryant's nomination. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Brian S. Kim

Brian S. Kim  
Attorney at law

Date: September 29, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Carol E. Lockwood

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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It is my privilege to write today in support of the confirmation of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane to the District Court of the First Circuit. Although I am an attorney in private practice in Honolulu, I have not had the opportunity to work with Mr. Zane in his professional capacity. I therefore leave it to his many supporters among his professional colleagues to assure you of his legal expertise and courtroom skills.

I offer, instead, a unique perspective: that of someone who has had the honor of representing Mr. Zane and his wife, Cindy Zane, in a personal matter of great consequence to their family. There is no question that integrity is among the most important characteristics – if not the most important characteristic – of a judge. I submit there is no better measure of integrity than how one conducts him/herself when his/her own interests are at stake. The matter in which I represented the Zanes involved thorny legal issues (created through no fault of their own) in a somewhat fraught judicial context. Others might have been tempted to gloss over details or avoid unnecessary disclosures in an effort to facilitate the court's approval. The Zanes, however, wholeheartedly endorsed an approach of full disclosure and open discussion with the court. Despite the high personal stakes, they prioritized the legitimacy and integrity of the proceedings over their own self-interest – or, more accurately, they considered the legitimacy and integrity of the proceedings to be critical to their interests. That speaks volumes about their personal integrity and respect for the rule of law. Having maintained those ethical standards personally, arguably in opposition to his own interests, this Committee can be sure Mr. Zane will bring them with him to the Court.

In the course of my nearly two-year representation of the Zanes, Mr. Zane also demonstrated a variety of other traits that make him ideally suited for the bench, including meticulous attention to detail, a healthy tolerance for tedium, vast reserves of patience, and a calm, professional demeanor that is ideally suited to managing a courtroom and wrangling temperamental litigants.

In light of the foregoing, I wholeheartedly support the confirmation of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane to the District Court of the First Circuit.

# CATHERINE MALIA LOWENBERG

1011 Prospect Street, Honolulu, 96822 · (808) 778-1786  
[cathymalia@gmail.com](mailto:cathymalia@gmail.com)

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The Senate  
The Thirtieth Legislature  
Interim of 2020  
Committee on Judiciary  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

## **DEAR COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY,**

I am so proud to express my support for District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane.

I have known Mr. Zane for nearly ten years as opposing counsel. We have had numerous cases together, and in every instance he has represented his client with diligence, compassion, and integrity. Despite the inherently adversarial nature of our relationship, in every interaction I've ever had with him, he has extended respect, kindness, and patience.

Prior to law school I spent years working as a union organizer, an advocate for "at-risk" youth, and a community liaison for a statewide elected official. In my personal life, I volunteer in my church, for non-profits, and spend countless hours as a caregiver for vulnerable family members. I only recite these other activities because my experiences in and out of the courtroom make me absolutely confident that Mr. Zane is someone we need on the bench.

Thank you for this opportunity to voice my resolute support for Mr. Zane's nomination.

Sincerely,  
Cathy Lowenberg

Date: September 26, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of the nomination for Bryant G.F.Y. Zane for District Court Judge of the First Circuit. I first met Mr. Zane when I was a newly-trained deputy prosecuting attorney nearly 17 years ago. While Mr. Zane had more experience than I did at the time when we faced each other in court, I found him to be respectful and professional while still representing his clients to the best of his ability. Over the years, Mr. Zane and I have had many cases against each other while he was a Deputy Public Defender and I was a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, including several jury trials and post-judgment hearings. Despite some of the most stressful circumstances, I have never seen Mr. Zane lose his temper or composure, and I believe he will carry the same temperament to the bench. During his practice as a defense attorney, he has earned a reputation as being a zealous advocate for his clients, while still treating victims and other witnesses with respect. I believe that he will be an excellent judge and representative for the judiciary.

I have also had the fortune of getting to know Mr. Zane on a personal level throughout the years. I find Mr. Zane to be one of the most kind-hearted and generous people I know, with endless amounts of patience. He is a multi-talented person who is always willing to help and share his knowledge of his abilities with others. I believe Mr. Zane is one of the best candidates for the District Court Judge position and I highly recommend the Senate confirming his nomination to the bench.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chastity T. Imamura', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chastity T. Imamura

Cheuk Fu Lui  
Bar No. 9768  
1060 Richards Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
cheuk.lui@outlook.com

September 25, 2020

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Dear Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane, who goes by "Beez", for the District Court of the First Circuit judgeship. I have known Beez professionally for more than eight years, in my previous capacity as a law clerk to the Honorable Glenn J. Kim (ret.) and later as a Deputy Prosecutor for the City and County of Honolulu.

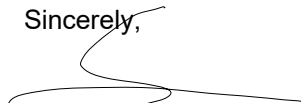
Beez is well-known in the criminal bar as an extremely competent and diligent attorney. I first met Beez when I was a law clerk, and Beez was, without a doubt, one of the nicest and well-tempered attorneys I have ever met. It was always a pleasure, as a law clerk, to have Beez on the calendar.

As a Deputy Prosecutor, Beez was my opposing counsel in quite a number of cases. I have had the pleasure and honor to have Beez as the opposing counsel in a jury trial. Beez was professional, intelligent, skillful, and most of all, ethical.

Beez is well-qualified to serve on the District Court of the First Circuit. He has been an outstanding and well-respected attorney, who consistently exhibits professionalism and well-temperament. In his career, Beez has earned the respect and admiration from his peers as well as judges in the legal community. I have no doubt in my mind that as a Judge, Beez will make just and fair decisions, and that he will be unbiased and impartial.

Beez has all of the credentials, experience and wisdom to be a fine Judge. I strongly support the confirmation of Beez to the District Court of the First Circuit. Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide my comments.

Sincerely,



Cheuk Fu Lui



LAW OFFICE OF CRYSTAL GLENDON, LLC

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Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

T (808) 532-3802 ext. 3  
F (808) 206-9948  
E crystalglendonlaw@gmail.com

**September 30, 2020**

TO: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the  
First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Rhoads, Senator Keohokalole and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

I support the nomination of Mr. Bryant Zane to the Family Court bench. I have known Mr. Zane, both professional and personally, for over 16 years, having worked together at the Office of the Public Defender. Mr. Zane has been a tireless advocate for the indigent and underrepresented population served by the Public Defenders Office for over 20 years. His commitment and dedicated advocacy are admirable and something I aspire to.

I fully support his nomination to the Family Court bench. He will bring a level of compassionate and measured decision-making that I believe are necessary in a Family Court judge. Since leaving the Public Defender's office last year, I have focused my practice on Family Law for the past year and a half. Coupled with extensive time spent as a juvenile public defender, I've practiced in every courtroom of the Family Court, from divorce, custody, adoption and TROs to juvenile defense, waiver hearings and termination of parental rights cases. I am confident that Mr. Zane possesses the skills, temperament and compassion to be a talented Family Court judge with any type of case he presides over. It is not an easy role. As a Family Court judge, some cases require you to decide the trajectory of an entire family for generations to come. The responsibility to be fair, compassionate and cognizant of the gravity of ones decisions demands the utmost respect for this role. I believe Mr. Zane understands this and is more than up to the task. As a public defender, Mr. Zane has seen the effects of some of these Family Court decisions, with clients who grew up in the foster system or without both parents or with one parent in prison or drug treatment. Having these experiences give him the ability to deal with the issues that will

come before him as a Family Court judge in a measured and well-reasoned way. He understands the gravity of his decisions and that they do not just affect what is happening right now, but may determine what happens in the next generation or the next generation. I trust him to make the right decisions, no matter how hard or heartbreaking they may be.

Mr. Zane's experience speaks for himself. He has tried well over 50 jury trials and has worked harder than any Public Defender I know to advocate for his clients. He will bring this hard work and determination to the bench. His knowledge of evidence and trial practice will serve him well as a judge. His demeanor will also serve him well as he is kind and level-headed. Coupled with his experience, I have utmost confidence that he will be able to handle the heated demands of Family Court cases.

Finally, I believe Mr. Zane will bring his own balanced life and family experiences to the bench to remind him of his responsibility as a Family Court judge. Mr. Zane's dedication to his wife Cindy and son William while maintaining a thriving legal career are admirable. I am so proud to not only call him a colleague, but to also call him a friend.

I fully support Mr. Bryant Zane's nomination for District Court judge. He will make an excellent addition to the bench. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via email [crystalglendonlaw@gmail.com](mailto:crystalglendonlaw@gmail.com) or at (808) 532-3802.

Thank you kindly for your time.

Me ka ha'aha'a,



Crystal K. Glendon

September 30, 2020

Re: JC3 District Court Judge Nominee Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: October 1, 2020

Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Karl Rhoads and Committee Members,

I write in support of judicial nominee Bryant G.F.Y. Zane. "BZ" will make an outstanding judge as he possesses qualities to serve the bench well. In particular, BZ is genuinely compassionate and his disarming personality will make litigants feel both comfortable and heard. For many, especially in these unprecedented times, going to court (in person or via Zoom) can be a scary and frustrating experience. BZ is perfectly suited to allay those natural feelings and make the court experience as positive as possible.

I have known BZ for over 15 years now. Every step of the way, every person he comes across, he treats with respect, dignity, and kindness. One of my first memories of BZ is as an inexperienced law clerk extern in the Circuit Court. Many attorneys unfortunately do not treat people in these positions with much respect. Looking at the morning calendar and seeing B. Zane as one of the attorneys always put me at ease.

For over 10+ years, I worked alongside BZ. He is still the same person I met as that law clerk, and then some. He constantly made himself available to help, brainstorm, and answer questions (no matter how silly or basic they were). These traits will serve the judiciary, and our State as a whole, very well. BZ is going to make an outstanding judge, and I ask you support his nomination.

Sincerely,

/S/ Donovan A. Odo

Donovan A. Odo

Date: September 30, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Members of the Senate Committee,

I have worked with Bryant Zane at the Public Defender for well over a decade now and I support his judicial nomination. I first got to know Bryant when we were in the juvenile division together. I was a newer attorney with no jury trial experience yet. I don't know whether he sensed my nervousness, but he graciously volunteered to take a trial case that he wasn't assigned to. He was always there to offer advice and help, with no ego involved. When I got to the felony division in our office, I had a male client that I felt uncomfortable with. I approached Bryant and explained my situation and asked whether he would exchange one of his newly assigned cases with me. He volunteered to take the case without hesitation. When it came time to give me one of his cases, he said it wasn't necessary. As a felony attorney with an already heavy caseload, every case is added time and energy. So for Bryant to add to his caseload without anything in return truly showed me his character.

Bryant also led our weekly office brainstorming sessions. When attorneys had issues with certain cases, Bryant was always there. He led those sessions with authority but he was always approachable. Even when he disagreed with another attorney, he had a professional and calm demeanor. I've always known Bryant to be very level headed and fair. Whether making court appearances or just in the office, Bryant always presented himself with a level of integrity and level headedness. That is why I believe he would make an excellent judge of the District Court. He will be able to handle a range of people professionally and he will be able to make decisions based on the law. Most importantly, I believe Bryant cares. He cares about people and he cares about the judicial system. I believe he will work hard, not take any shortcuts and make fair decisions. In another conversation I had with Bryant, I was truly impressed. Bryant was in back to back Class A felony trials. Although that situation was truly stressful, Bryant made a comment about having to just put in the work because his clients deserved it. That is the kind of work ethic I believe he would bring to the bench.

Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts on Judicial Nominee Bryant Zane. Thank you also for your work in your decision ahead.

Sincerely,

Doris Lum

# STARN • O'TOOLE • MARCUS & FISHER

A LAW CORPORATION

September 30, 2020

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair,  
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair,  
And Members of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813

Re: JC 3 Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of  
of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee Bryant Zane

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

I respectfully recommend Bryant Zane to you as an outstanding choice to consider for appointment to the District Court of the First Circuit. Bryant Zane has a long, dedicated history of public service as a deputy public defender. He has an excellent reputation in the criminal law section of the legal community for being fair, even-tempered, compassionate and effective. I know this because I worked closely with him, often on the other side, when I was at the Honolulu prosecutor's office. He has extensive in-court trial experience and is comfortable with all the substantive components of trial practice. He is a fierce defender of individual constitutional rights and can be counted on to render independent decisions with no concern from the outside that he is being swayed by politics or special interest groups.

When you meet Bryant Zane, I have no doubt you will see that he is easy-going, compassionate, humble, polite and professional, all excellent qualities for a state judge in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I was very happy to hear he applied to become a judge.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this nomination.

Sincerely,



Doug Chin

September 28, 2020

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarret Keohokalole, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee On Judiciary

Re: *JC3 – Consideration and Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee Bryant G. F. Y. Zane, for a term to expire in 6 years.*

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Senate:

I am writing in support of Bryant G. F. Y. Zane's nomination to the District Court of the First Circuit. I first met Mr. Zane in 2002 when we became colleagues at the Office of the Public Defender. Over the years, I have come to know him very well and have grown to respect him as a professional and as a human being.

In working alongside Mr. Zane, I have always found him to be a person who is not only committed to ensuring justice, but also honest, patient and compassionate when dealing with others. In his legal practice, Mr. Zane has repeatedly demonstrated his keen understanding of the law and how it affects people in their daily life – a quality that I believe is essential in a judge.

Mr. Zane would make an outstanding District Court Judge and I urge you to confirm his nomination to serve as District Court Judge of the First Circuit.

Sincerely,



E. Edward Aquino

**From:** [Gilbert Chang](#)  
**To:** [JDCTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** LETTER OF SUPPORT  
**Date:** Friday, September 25, 2020 12:16:17 PM

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Please consider this email as supporting the confirmation of nominee Bryant G. F. Y. Zane to the District Court of the First Circuit.

I worked with Bryant as an investigator in the Kauai County Prosecutor's Office.

During those 4+ years, I found Bryant to be very intelligent, professional, honest, forthright to a fault and a very compassionate individual.

In the cases I worked with Bryant, I observed him to be an attorney who followed the rule of law and treated everyone, with professional dignity and honesty.

As a judge, I foresee him being even keeled, fair, humble but strong, and one who will fervently support the Constitution and the rule of law.

I strongly support Bryant's selection as a Family Court Judge.

Please feel free to contact me via email or phone, 395-2131, should additional information be required.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sent from my iPad

September 26, 2020

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Rhoads, Senator Keohokalole and Committee Members,

My name is Harriet Jorgenson and I am writing in support of my nephew, Bryant G. F. Y. Zane, who is a judicial nominee to the District Court of the First Circuit. I've known Bryant all of his life and have seen him strive, throughout, to be the best person he could be. He has a strong sense of right and wrong.

From his young years as an Iolani School student, through his studies at the University of Hawaii and on to law school at Howard University as well as throughout his professional career, Bryant has been focused, worked diligently and has made thoughtful choices and decisions as to the path that has brought him here today. His hard work and discipline is also apparent in his love for golf and running. He is a lifelong golfer, elementary school to the present, as well as a marathoner and continues to strive to improve his personal best.

Bryant's agenda is not always about himself. Whether it is tutoring a struggling reader in an after school program, volunteering to teach little children in his church, delivering meals-on-wheels to our kupuna or being there for family members, Bryant has a heart to serve where he feels he is needed. Along with his wife, he is also a very involved parent to their young son.

I have sought advice and have been in many conversations with him as well as having observed him teaching and disciplining his son. Bryant is a patient and good listener with a calm demeanor and the ability to respond with clarity and understanding, sometimes inserting a bit of humor and wit when necessary.

I am proud to call Bryant my nephew and would be proud to call him a judge in our district court system.

Thank you for this opportunity to share,

Harriet Jorgenson  
htjorgenson@gmail.com  
808-386-6966  
92-646 Auwaea St.  
Kapolei, HI 96707



Date: 9/24/2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

**Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane**

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

I am writing in **strong support** of the confirmation of Judicial Nominee **Bryant Zane** to the District Court of the First Circuit. I have been fortunate to work with Mr. Zane over the last ten years at the Office of the Public Defender. As I am sure you know his experience, I feel compelled only to mention why I personally believe he is one of the best person candidates on the list to be appointed as a District Court Judge.

While working with Mr. Zane, I have witnessed firsthand the honest and true compassion he has for his clients. He goes above and beyond what is required of him to be a zealous advocate. He cares deeply about the welfare of all people and helps them beyond their legal needs. He views his job as a public defender not just to help his clients out of their immediate legal needs but as a way to assist them in all aspects of their life including housing, making appointments, and by simply being there to listen.

Mr. Zane is also extremely intelligent. He leads the weekly brainstorming session in our office which helps the less experienced attorneys navigate through issues that arise in their cases. He has a remarkable ability to listen and offer guidance in a nonjudgmental way. He can readily narrow in on the issue presented and guide the attorney to the appropriate statute or case law.

Mr. Zane has the temperament of a judge. He will always make time for anyone who stops to ask him a question even if he is in the middle of a jury trial. He is very balanced and even though he does some of the more serious cases in our office he never shows his stress and always treats coworkers, his clients, opposing counsel, judges, and victims with respect, understanding and compassion.

In my personal opinion, Mr. Zane will be an outstanding asset to the judiciary and I strongly urge the Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary to confirm his nomination.

Sincerely,

Jacquie Esser

To: Karl Rhoads and Committee Members

Re: JC3 District Court Judge Nominee Bryant Zane

Date: October 1, 2020

Dear Judiciary Chair Karl Rhoads and Committee Members:

I strongly support Bryant Zane's nomination for Judge of the District Court of the First Circuit. I have been a court reporter at the First Circuit Court for 23 years and have had the pleasure of reporting many of Mr. Zane's hearings and trials throughout the years.

One of the most important qualities of being a good judge is being a good person. Mr. Zane is an exceptional human being. His character is above reproach. Many attorneys tend to get sarcastic with clients who are hard to handle. I have never seen Mr. Zane lose his temper or treat his clients with disrespect. He fights hard but always maintains his composure. He also treats Judges and court staff with great respect and humility.

Mr. Zane has the temperament, wisdom, and integrity necessary to sit as a judge on the District Court bench. During these hard times, the State of Hawaii needs more judges like him.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Miyasato', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jamie Miyasato

Date: September 29, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

I write in support of Bryant Zane's judicial nomination to the District Court of the First Circuit. I have known Mr. Zane for over twenty years since I worked with him as a summer intern in the Kauai County prosecutor's office. He has served as a mentor and role model to me since then as I pursued the study and practice of law myself. Always eager to lend a hand or an ear to help others, I and many others have greatly benefitted from his wisdom and friendship over the years. Mr. Zane's many professional accomplishments speak for themselves, but I think his most remarkable quality is the genuine care and compassion that he applies to the practice of law and his service to his community. I observed it first hand when I worked with him years ago as a prosecutor, and I know his many clients have been well served by his ability to connect with them on a human level, even as they navigate a legal system that can be complex and intimidating under the best of circumstances. Mr. Zane would be a fine addition to Hawaii's courts and I recommend him without any reservations.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jarrett Jacinto

**From:** [Mailing List](#)  
**To:** [JDCTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jmas808@gmail.com](mailto:jmas808@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for JC3 on Oct 1, 2020 13:00PM (Written Only)  
**Date:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 8:10:33 AM

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**JC3**

Submitted on: 9/24/2020

Testimony for on Oct 1, 2020 13:00PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying Remotely
Jeffrey Masatsugu	Individual	Support	No

**Your comments:** This testimony is made in strong support of Mr. Bryant Zane, Esq. appointment to the vacancy on the District Court of the First Circuit. Mr. Zane has a strong work ethic and a very strong background in trial practice. He has always been a compassionate person with a fierce commitment to fairness and justice to all and to minorities and the underprivileged in particular. Finally, Mr. Zane has a long history of volunteering in the community as both a lawyer and a non-lawyer. Mr. Zane's professional career as a trial attorney, his strong work ethic and his compassion and commitment all make him highly qualified to sit as a trial judge in District Court. Thank you for this opportunity to express my strong support for Mr. Zane's appointment to the bench.

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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)

## Testimony of Jodie E. Yasuda

Re: JC3; Nomination of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane to the District Court of the First Circuit  
Hearing: October 1, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to you to express my complete and humble support of the nomination of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane, as District Court Judge for the First Circuit of the State of Hawai'i. I have known Mr. Zane in both a professional and social capacity since he first began practicing law in 1997 and feel qualified to attest to his competency as a jurist as well as his great strength of character.

For more than thirty years I have been employed by either the Hawai'i State Judiciary or private law firms; nine years of which I served as the Judicial Assistant to George M. Masuoka, Retired Chief Judge of the Fifth Circuit Court of the State of Hawai'i. As a result of my work experience, I have had the opportunity to observe and work with numerous judges and lawyers and can honestly say that Mr. Zane is an exceptional candidate.

I was initially impressed with the intellect, humility and composure Mr. Zane displayed during his appearances before Judge Masuoka as a young Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the County of Kauai. For any attorney, not to mention a young and inexperienced attorney, appearances before Judge Masuoka were no small feat. You had to be well prepared, punctual, able to think on your feet and reliable. If you failed in these areas, Judge Masuoka would let his displeasure be known without any mincing of words or subtlety. Fortunately Mr. Zane possessed these attributes and thus a strong foundation as a jurist was built.

Mr. Zane's trial and appellate work is quite impressive to say the least. His jury and bench trials combined total more than one hundred cases! Additionally Mr. Zane has authored more than a half a dozen appellate briefs and appeared before the Supreme Court of Hawaii for an oral argument. Many attorneys with much more years of experience do not even have a fraction of these cases on their resume.

In addition to an impressive legal background, Mr. Zane is a person who is committed to the service of others and possesses a keen ability to relate to diverse groups of people. He has displayed this by successfully attending and completing Howard University Law School, working as a laborer with Latino immigrants during his wife's doctoral internship in Oklahoma, and being a successful foster parent who ultimately adopted his foster child. A hallmark of the equal dispensation of justice is having a fair and impartial judge who is able to effectively communicate with everyone who appears before him. Mr. Zane's record has continuously displayed these qualifications.

In conclusion, I have every reason to believe that Mr. Zane possesses all the requisite abilities to become one of the most well respected district court judges in the First

Circuit of the State of Hawai`i. As such, it is with great sincerity that I strongly urge you to select Bryant G.F.Y. Zane as your nomination for District Court Judge for the First Judicial Circuit.

Thank you very much for your consideration and time.

Date: 09/29/20

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Rhoads, Senator Keohokalole, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

I am writing in support of Judicial Nominee, Bryant Zane, otherwise known as Bz. I first met Bz while interning at the Office of the Public Defender in 2017. Bz has always reached out to interns and is very welcoming of them into the office. My first interaction with Bz was listening to him lead a brainstorming session with fellow felony public defenders. Bz's knowledge of the law and his ability to break it down and explain it in a way that anyone could understand impressed me. He took the time to listen to each of the other attorney's concerns and facts of the case to guide them to the best of his abilities. This first interaction showed me just as vast Bz's knowledge of the law and trial skills was and sharing that information with his peers expressed how deeply he wanted them to learn and grow.

Later that year, Bz asked me to second chair a trial with him. The entire trial, Bz made me feel apart of the process and let me assist him in notetaking, brainstorming, and voir dire. Being an undergraduate at the time my knowledge of trial procedure as well as criminal law, in general, was severely lacking. Bz took the time to explain each part of the trial as well as the importance of reasonable doubt in a criminal case. Working with Bz reaffirmed my desire to work in public interest law and his passion for justice rubbed off on me.

Bz is an amazing attorney who would make a great asset to the Judiciary. His commitment to justice, knowledge of the law, and desire to improve the legal community will only benefit the legal community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John F. Chow

J.D. Candidate and Ulu Lehua Scholar

William S. Richardson School of Law

# KLEINTOP & LURIA, LLP

CHARLES T. KLEINTOP  
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NAOKO C. MIYAMOTO  
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CASSANDRA B. BAGAY

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September 30, 2020

## **BY E-MAIL ONLY**

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the  
District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant  
G.F.Y. Zane  
Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Dear Chair Senator Rhoads, Vice-Chair Senator Keohokalole and Members of  
the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the  
confirmation of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane to the position of District Court Judge of the  
First Circuit.

Mr. Zane, or "Beez", as he is known to his friends and colleagues, is  
a phenomenal trial lawyer. He has extensive experience as both a Deputy  
Prosecuting Attorney and Deputy Public Defender. His experience in the  
Courtroom and knowledge of the law is without question.

Mr. Zane knows how to handle himself in a Courtroom and knows  
how a Courtroom should be run. I believe these skills are invaluable as a District  
Court Judge as these Judges are on the "front lines," interfacing with the public  
daily and running heavy calendars. Mr. Zane has the skills to do it all, and he  
does it all with a strong, bow-tie wearing, humble, effective calm. Mr. Zane takes  
his job seriously – but, more importantly, he treats everyone with respect and  
dignity.



September 30, 2020  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Page No. 2

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On a personal note, Mr. Zane is truly an amazing human being, who has the support of his equally fabulous wife, Cindy. Both Cindy and Mr. Zane have opened up their hearts and home and adopted their son, William. Without a doubt, the love and dedication that both Mr. Zane and Cindy have for William is self-evident. He completes their family in more ways than words can express. Together, Mr. Zane and Cindy are raising one extraordinary little guy.

I believe this fact about Mr. Zane's personal background will assist the Committee as this shows the depths of Mr. Zane's character - the compassion, the heart, and the support system that he has which will help him become a truly remarkable District Court Judge.

I strongly support the confirmation of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane to the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit. In these uncertain times of COVID where stability and consistency are needed now more than ever, Mr. Zane has the passion, professionalism, reliability and heart to serve the community, the people of Hawai'i and the Judiciary.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

  
KATHERINE M.M. LURELA



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
AIR FORCE OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Date: September 25, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Please accept the following testimonial provided on behalf of judicial nominee, Mr. Bryant Zane. A strong and mutually loyal friendship that spans over forty years, one that started in Kindergarten and remains today, is the foundation on which this is submitted.

Instances that required my seeking his counsel regarding specific legal situations have been limited. However, based on feedback from others who have interacted with him in this capacity, all have a common perspective of his leadership qualities and his unselfish sharing of personal knowledge and experiences. Being a Special Agent of the Office of Special Investigations for the United States Air Force, I have relied on his uncommon skill to take what seems to me as an extremely complex and complicated legal matter and translate it into understandable, and more importantly, actionable language. This certainly enhances my ability as a federal criminal investigator which is a benefit to all who I serve.

For as long as I've known Beez, he has always possessed a calm and even-keeled demeanor; a good natured, disarming disposition that immediately puts those around him at ease. This enables a more complete excursion toward seeking common ground, a negotiated position, and in many cases, the truth. While not only accepting, but encouraging divergent and sometimes competing points of view, his approach allows for all participants to keep an open mind which most often results in an effective, fair, and unbiased solution to the issue at hand. He himself contributes a perspective based on profound thought and diligent/comprehensive research coupled with an honest assessment of the diverse opinions around him. To reiterate, he is a facilitator, an enabler, and most importantly a stalwart purveyor of the truth.

As previously mentioned, my interaction with Beez has been constant for over 40 years. Even when I resided in other states or foreign countries, he would always be one of the first people I would meet upon my return trips home. His standing in the community is stellar. I, or anyone, would be hard pressed to find someone who would speak ill of who he is or what he stands for. This is due to his living by the highest standards of integrity dedicated to following a moral compass that is always pointed to true north. His honorable reputation and the guiding principles by which he lives each and every day is certainly not for debate.

An incredibly remarkable example of Beez's humanity and selflessness is his, and his wife Cindy's, adoption of a Micronesian infant over six years ago. Baring witness to the results of their provision of a loving, warm, and nurturing family setting for little William is truly amazing. To see the development of this child, from being without a family shortly after birth to today, an assertive and intelligent first grader, is nothing short of touching and heartwarming. It is a true testament to the compassion and loving grace in which Will lives; characteristics of the environment created by his parents.

Beez has spent the majority of his adult life dedicated to public service. His tireless and selfless diligence and strong dedication not just for justice, but in the entire judicial system as a whole are inspiring and most admirable. To summarize, the rare and inimitable combination of Beez's patience, passion for fairness, understanding, compassion, humility and strong moral character, makes him uniquely qualified to be selected as a district judge; one worthy of serving the people of Hawaii.

Submitted with great respect,  
/S/ Kel P. Ide

Kel P. Ide  
Special Agent  
OSI Office of Special Projects (PJ) OL-H  
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI

Date: September 27, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary  
JDCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: JC3, Written Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court  
of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

Dear Senator Rhoads, Senator Keohokalole and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

Thank you for this opportunity to share with you my letter of support for the confirmation of Bryant G. F.Y. Zane to the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawai'i.

I had the good fortune to first meet and come to know 'Beez' when I worked at the Office of the Public Defender. I joined the OPD as a felony assistant/secretary and I was able to witness firsthand Beez's diligent work ethic, calm and steady demeanor and his overall professionalism in action.

A very self-sufficient and competent attorney prepped and prepared for court or any matter at hand, committed to his clients and engaged in their cases, and always respectful and consistent in his temperament and mood. And though carrying the workload and responsibilities of a senior deputy, he is a willing mentor. Available to lend his insight and support to his supervisors, colleagues and to staff members, like me!

His welcoming, positive, and humble nature always comes through in just the way Beez carries and presents himself. This is true from the first day we met back in early 2018 and remains unchanged to today. He is a generous friend, giving community member, and a much-devoted father and family man. Intelligent, hardworking, and fair, dedicated, honest and kind. This is how I know Beez to be. His character, values and integrity are simply unquestionable and unwavering.

All this, and so much more, is why I strongly support the confirmation of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane, and what I truly believe makes him an ideal selection, a most valuable addition to the Judiciary and one who will serve as a Judge for the District Court of the First Circuit and all the People of Hawai'i, honorably and proudly!

Sincerely,



Kelly Chun

Date: September 25, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Kenneth M. Nakasone, Esq.

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

I am writing to recommend and support the confirmation of Deputy Public Defender Bryant G.F.Y Zane to the District Court of the First Circuit.

Bryant who goes by "Beez" is the right person for this position. Not only does he have substantial legal experience necessary to be a great District Court Judge, he also has the good character you need for the Hawaii judiciary.

Beez' integrity and honesty have been clear to me since I first met him when we were undergraduates at the University of Hawaii and ran UH's Pre-Law Society together. While we did not go to law school together, Beez and I kept in touch as we both practiced law in Honolulu for over 20 years.

I trust Beez, his legal abilities and most importantly his character and judgment.

Please confirm him to the District Court of the First Circuit.

Thank you.

KYLE T. DOWD  
Office Tele: (808) 768-7479  
Office Email: kdowd@honolulu.gov

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

September 25, 2020

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**  
STATE CAPITOL  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE:** JC3, Testimony in support of the confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and other members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

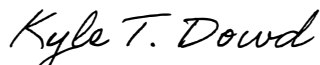
I am a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu, employed by the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney. I have served in this role since February of 2012, and am currently a Captain in the Department's felony Trials Division where I supervise a team of attorneys. In addition, I also carry my own felony caseload, which allows me to practice in the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. It is in this capacity over the years, that I have had the pleasurable opportunity to become quite familiar with judicial nominee Bryant G.F.Y. Zane ("Mr. Zane"). In support of Mr. Zane's nomination, I wish to highlight a few things for the committee.

First, I would like to tout the high and respected reputation Mr. Zane has amongst my fellow prosecutors. Mr. Zane is known as an opposing counsel who is trustworthy in *all* his representations, on and off record. In short, his integrity is unquestionable.

Second, through both plea negotiations and multiple jury trials opposite one another, I can say that Mr. Zane's temperament in how he carries himself is exceedingly professional and unbiased, yet humble. Mr. Zane is an individual that would show no partiality to either side or party before him, and would thoroughly research all applicable laws prior to rendering well-reasoned and thought out rulings.

Third, I have never seem him rattled in trial, nor riled in person or character. He is one of the most all around talented attorneys I have come across in my practice of law. I really cannot speak sincerely enough regarding the good opinion I hold of him.

Respectfully & unreservedly,

  
Kyle T. Dowd

Date: September 28, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Bryant Zane and I have been friends for over 40 years. From a young age, Bryant was always a little quiet, very good natured, genuinely humble, funny, and kind. We kept track of each other throughout our educational years – I would often see Bryant at Loyola Marymount University where I would frequently visit my brother and I would run into Bryant during summers when he was at Howard University Law School. After receiving his law degree, Bryant moved to the Big Island where he clerked for the Honorable Riki May Amano (ret.) and then on to Kauai where he was a deputy prosecuting attorney until he was hired on Oahu at the Office of the Public Defender.

It wasn't until 2005 that Bryant and I were "reunited" when I moved from the island of Maui back to Honolulu and resumed work at the Oahu Office of the Public Defender. Bryant greeted me with his usual smile and it was very special to be working at a job we loved so much with a long and trusted friend like Bryant.

Being a "frontline" trial attorney working along side Bryant was impressive and educational at the same time. I learned of his work ethic and admired his commitment to his clients. His case preparation was thorough, intelligent, and exhaustive. His advocacy skill and talents in the courtroom highlighted his sincerity and his ability to relate to anyone. Bryant's soft-spoken style in jury trials proved to be highly effective

Bryant is additionally impressive because of the unique perspective that he possesses. Having been on both sides of the courtroom, prosecution and defense, Bryant has the ability to examine and appraise a case from either perspective, having compassion for both the defendants charged with criminal conduct, and the victims of that criminal conduct. All of these attributes, I imagine, will serve him well on the bench.

Another attribute that will serve Bryant well as a judge is his ability to keep his cool in even the most extreme situations. While working in criminal defense, relations and interactions with clients and opposing counsel can sometimes be very rough and contentious. Working under extreme stress and pressure, whilst dealing with a difficult client, is something that Bryant has managed with ease and grace. Never losing his temper or lashing out in anger, I consider Bryant to be unflappable and exceedingly tolerant.

Finally, Bryant holds a lot of the "old school" values that some might say are no longer in fashion. Bryant likes to spend time with his wife and son, visiting with his mom, and golfing with his friends. Bryant believes in respecting other people, being polite, and treating everyone equally. Bryant takes

pride in his work, doing a good job for the sake of doing a good job. He loves Hawaii and the people of Hawaii and has a special interest in the Hawaiian language and the Hawaiian culture. With an innate sense of fairness and an insistence on always doing the right and moral thing, Bryant promises to be an exceptional judge.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee S. Hayakawa  
Assistant Public Defender  
State of Hawaii Office of the Public Defender





#### **Our Mission**

Hawai'i Meals on Wheels, Inc., a private, not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization, is dedicated to helping O'ahu's elders and individuals with disabilities preserve their independence at home. We do this primarily by providing hot, nutritious meals and regular personal interaction with those we serve.

#### **Hawai'i Meals on Wheels, Inc.**

P.O. Box 61194  
Honolulu, HI 96839-1194  
(808) 988-6747  
www.hmow.org

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---

**Michelle Cordero-Lee**

Chief Executive Officer

## ***Meals from the Heart = Food for the Soul***

Date: September 29, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the  
District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee,  
Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

This letter is in support of Bryant Zane for a judgeship with the District Court and District Family Court of the First Circuit of Oahu.

Having both graduated from the same high school, I have known Bryant Zane personally for more than 15 years as a friend and volunteer. His commitment to serving the community is outstanding and inspiring as he has held many volunteer positions working with children, families, and elderly.

Bryant Zane is currently one of our volunteers and deliverers meals to our vulnerable at-risk kūpuna every Wednesday during his spare time. He has a great sense of humor, dedication, and strong commitment to helping others as exemplified when talking to our seniors and working with our volunteer team.

Also, having known Bryant Zane personally, he is a devoted family man to his wife and adopted 6-year old son. Our sons play in the same soccer league and Bryant Zane spends many weekends coaching and rooting for his son from the sidelines of the soccer field.

Because of Bryant Zane's dedication and commitment to the public, as well as his extensive legal background, I believe he has earned much respect and admiration from those of us in the

community and would make an excellent justice.

Should you have any questions, feel free to call me at my direct number (808) 784-2751 or email me at [michelle@hmow.org](mailto:michelle@hmow.org)

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, consisting of stylized initials 'ML' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that curves slightly upwards at the end.

Michelle Cordero-Lee, CEO  
Hawai'i Meals on Wheels

September 30, 2020

**Via E-mail: [JDCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)**

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Bryant G.F.Y. Zane (JC3)

To Senator Rhoads, Senator Keohokalole and Committee Members,

I write this letter in full support of the appointment of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane to the District Court bench, as a First Circuit District Court Judge.

I have known Bryant for over twenty years as a colleague and friend. I first met Bryant as a law clerk and had the pleasure of working with him at the Office of the Public Defender. As a colleague, Bryant was always very bright, hardworking, pleasant and reasonable. I witnessed him treating clients, witnesses and attorneys with the utmost respect and humility. As a friend, he is always caring, thoughtful and supportive.

Bryant has a breadth of experience as a prosecutor and defense attorney. He is well respected by his colleagues, attorneys and the Court. He is extremely qualified and possesses the appropriate demeanor to be judicial, objective and fair.

I am confident that Bryant would be an asset to the District Court. He has all the right attributes and abilities to be an outstanding District Court Judge. Without hesitation, I recommend him for the position.

Sincerely,

Michelle L. Agsalda

Date: September 29, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the  
District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee,  
Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Senator Rhoads, Senator Keohokalole, and Members of the Senate  
Committee on Judiciary:

This written testimony is to support the confirmation of  
Judicial Nominee, Mr. Bryant Zane, to the District Court of the  
First Circuit of the State of Hawai'i.

Mr. Zane and I worked together at the Office of the Public  
Defender from February 2002 to June 2004 as Deputy Public  
Defenders. At that time, Mr. Zane was my friend, my colleague,  
and at times, my mentor. Our meetings are purely social now. We  
finished the Great Aloha Run together earlier this year. I also  
see him at times while he is out with his wonderful wife Cindy  
and their son William.

Mr. Zane is a true professional with the highest integrity and  
character from my personal and professional relationship with  
him. With passion and dedication, Mr. Zane represented and  
assisted the disabled, elderly, Native Hawaiians, as well as the  
State of Hawai'i in his capacities as a prosecutor and public  
defender, for 20+ years. With his sound legal mind, and his  
passion and dedication to the law, Mr. Zane as Judge will make  
significant contributions to the courts and to the people of  
Hawai'i. I assure you that he will represent our courts well  
and help continue to instill public trust and confidence in our  
courts.

Mr. Zane clearly possesses the required judicial temperament. Mr. Zane practices aloha everyday and exudes kindness and compassion with all. I've personally witnessed a former client stop Mr. Zane near District Court to show his appreciation years after Mr. Zane's representation. I remember Mr. Zane sincerely and enthusiastically responding to his former client. I understand Mr. Zane has also been recognized by his peers at the Public Defender's Office for his demeanor.

Based on his sound legal mind, 20+ passionate and dedicated years of legal public service, and his aloha ways, I wholeheartedly support his confirmation as Judge of the District Court of the First Circuit of the State of Hawai'i.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mitsuhiro Murakawa

Date: Sept. 25, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Nicholas R. Monlux, Esq.

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

I am writing to recommend and support the confirmation of Deputy Public Defender Bryant G.F.Y. Zane to the District Court of the First Circuit.

Though my interactions with Mr. Zane has been limited, he has impressed me with his legal acumen, wittiness, humor, and compassion. By way of example, I was handling a case involving areas of law that I do not generally practice in. I spoke to a number of defense attorneys about the legal issues I was grappling with and none of them seemed to understand the nuanced legal argument I believed could be made in my client's favor. I discussed the matter informally with Mr. Zane, who not only confirmed what I thought to be the correct interpretation of the law, but also freely shared with me his thoughts on other procedural questions I had. He was very kind, professional, and clear during our conversation. Everything you would want and expect from a judge serving in the First Circuit.

I believe that Mr. Zane has the right character, legal knowledge, and temperament to serve our community as a Judge on the District Court of the First Circuit and therefore I recommend he be confirmed to this position.

Thank you

Date: September 28, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street

It is my honor to write this testimony in support of the confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane. I have worked with Mr. Zane at the State Office of the Public Defender for approximately 14 years. He is a colleague, a mentor, and a friend.

Mr. Zane possesses extensive knowledge of criminal law. He is a senior attorney in our office and has conducted approximately 80 jury trials. He has defended individuals at trial accused of such crimes as murder and sexual assault. Mr. Zane is one of the most experienced trial attorneys in our office and he freely shares his knowledge and expertise with others. He takes the time to train, advise, and mentor junior attorneys. He is a leader of our office's weekly brainstorming session in which he helps attorneys prepare written motions and cases for trial. He provides feedback to junior attorneys during office voir dire exercises. He makes time to work one-on-one with attorneys. His peers seek his assistance with case analysis and trial preparation.

Though Mr. Zane possesses many strengths and characteristics that would make him an outstanding judge, his greatest trait is his temperament. Mr. Zane is fair and respectful in his dealings with everyone he encounters. He treats people with dignity no matter the individual's status. I have never witnessed Mr. Zane behave or speak inappropriately. I have never witnessed Mr. Zane lose his composure or temper towards anyone. He remains calm in situations where others do not. His demeanor has a calming effect on others. He would be the model of judicial temperament.

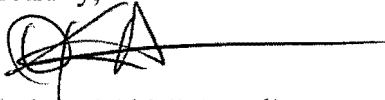
Mr. Zane's reputation in the community is one of honesty, trustworthiness, and great citizenship. Mr. Zane works with parents and children as a leader of the Awana Ministry at Hawaii Kai Church. He is an active volunteer in the legal community. He volunteers as a mock trial judge for the Prosecution and Defense Clinic Course at The William S. Richardson School of Law. He has volunteered his time with Courts in the Community. Mr. Zane is a person of great character and integrity. He is one of the few attorneys I confide in when I have problems at work or when I need personal advice. He is a great counsel to me. I trust him unequivocally.

Mr. Zane is one of the most selfless individuals I have ever met. He is humble and I cannot emphasize enough his great temperament. Mr. Zane is worthy of serving as a judge because of all the good he can do in the position for the community and our State.

Mr. Zane's willingness to help attorneys with cases without judging an attorney's skill or level of knowledge is invaluable to the Office of the Public Defender. While Mr. Zane's departure would be a great loss for our office, the greater good is served by his confirmation as a judge. As a judge, Mr. Zane would have a far-reaching positive impact on our community.

Again, I support the confirmation of Judicial Nominee, Bryant Zane. If confirmed, Mr. Zane would be a positive reflection of our judiciary. If you give Mr. Zane this opportunity to serve as a judge, he will not disappoint you. Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my testimony.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Okie' Amadi, with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Okechukwu "Okie" Amadi  
Deputy Public Defender  
State of Hawaii



The Honorable Karl Rhodes, Chair  
And Members  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Via email: JDCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: District Court Judge Nominee Bryant Zane. Hearing 10/1/20

Dear Senator Rhodes and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in strong support of Bryant Zane (“Mr. Zane”) for confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit. I have known Mr. Zane professionally for several years, and I have admired his calm demeanor, love of the law, and ability to relate to people from all walks of life.

I first met Mr. Zane when I was a law clerk at the First Circuit Court, where he appeared as a Deputy Public Defender. During my time as a law clerk, I watched Mr. Zane defend a difficult client in a difficult trial, and admired his ability to connect to the jury, speak with his client and the client’s family, and relate to the Court and Court staff. He encouraged me to apply to work at the Office of the Public Defender and made me feel welcome when I began working with him in the office.

As a co-worker, Mr. Zane was reassuring and thoughtful. He was always willing to talk to younger deputies, using his time and experience as a source of information to assist budding trial lawyers. In addition to practical advice, Mr. Zane was a great source of information on case law and the rules of Penal Procedure. During the time that I worked with Mr. Zane, he became a parent, which only served to increase his ability to understand and be understood by his co-workers, clients, and opposing counsel.

While his kindness and amiability is notable, his love of the law and his desire for justice is also admirable. I observed Mr. Zane’s ability to deliver bad news to a client in a respectful manner, and to disagree with a client in a way that did not belittle or demean the client, even while the client was loud, brash, and insulting. I have also been able to observe the way that Mr. Zane remains cool and collected during difficult arguments, where he has proven his ability to think quickly on his feet, maintain his composure, and effectively answer questions based on his knowledge of applicable law and rules.

In my opinion, Mr. Zane would be an invaluable addition to the bench of the District Court of the First Circuit. I enthusiastically support his confirmation.

Very truly yours,

*/s/ Page C. K. Ogata*





**Pamela I. Lundquist, Esq. (808) 726-4400**  
P.O. Box 37757 ◦ Honolulu, Hawai'i 96837

Date: September 30, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

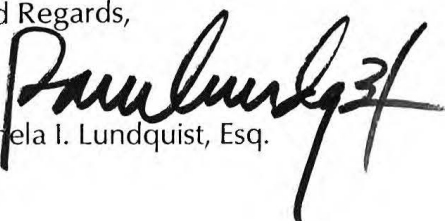
Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I write to express my hearty support for appointing Bryant Zane ("Beez") to the District Court bench. I have known Beez since we attended high school together at 'Iolani. Years later, when I became a lawyer, I reconnected with him and he was a wonderful friend, giving me early career advice and encouraging me to join him at the Office of the Public Defender when I expressed interest.

While we were at the Office of the Public Defender together, Beez made himself available to answer questions. He regularly attended a weekly brainstorming session in which he shared his wisdom (gained from completing over 60 jury trials) with less-experienced attorneys. He demonstrated a vast knowledge of procedural and substantive law and was always approachable, calm and kind. I also witnessed Beez as a consummate professional effectively dealing with difficult clients, never losing his cool. All of these qualities indicate that he has a perfect judicial temperament.

In summary, you can be confident that Bryant Zane will be an excellent addition to the Judiciary as a District Court Judge. Thank you for your kind consideration of testimony.

Kind Regards,

  
Pamela I. Lundquist, Esq.

1130 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite A-254  
Honolulu, HI 96817

September 30, 2020

Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
Hawai`i State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Support for Bryant Zane for District Judge and/or District Family Judge of the  
First Circuit

Honorable Committee Members:

I write in strong support of Bryant Zane (“Beez”) for District Judge or District Family Judge of the First Circuit. I first met Beez in January 2002 when he started at the Office of the Public Defender, and I was doing felony trials. Beez has always been laid back, approachable, friendly, and helpful. His career path was unusual in that he had first been a prosecutor (on Kaua`i), then became a public defender and has now spent the bulk of his legal career as a PD. Returning to the adjective “helpful,” Beez has actively demonstrated his kind and compassionate heart by his numerous volunteer activities. I was most impressed by his willingness to take a week of vacation time from work, pay his own airfare to New Orleans, and spend time on the ground helping with the cleanup from Hurricane Katrina. Beez is very willing to do hands-on work for the community. He is an extremely kind and giving person: when his wife went to graduate school in Oklahoma for a year, he quit his PD job to go with her, with no promise that he would be re-hired upon his return; when by chance he learned that I was looking for a used car for my son, he gave my son his wife’s used car that he had been “assigned” to sell and refused to accept payment. The adage “what goes around comes around” is true, as my son was sideswiped while the car was still under Beez’ insurance, so Beez got a total loss payout for his generosity. Another impressive contribution is that, for years now, he has been one of the leaders of weekly all-office brainstorming sessions to help, particularly the younger attorneys, analyze approaches to their cases.

I believe Beez would make a great District Court judge. In addition to his legal competence, Beez is practical and aims to be a problem-solver (two must-haves for the volume in District Court). He is a person of good moral character and high integrity. I am confident that Beez has the moral courage to make decisions that he believes are legally correct, even if those decisions may be unpopular in the court of public opinion. As to judicial temperament, I also have no doubt that Beez will treat all parties and counsel evenhandedly and courteously. He’s always very even-keeled; I’ve never witnessed an angry outburst from him. He is a good and compassionate listener who will be able to relate to clients from all walks of life.

Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
Nomination of Bryant Zane for District Judge and/or  
District Family Judge of the First Circuit  
Page Two  
September 30, 2020

Obviously, I think he will make an excellent judge. Thank you for considering this input.

Sincerely,

/s/Phyllis J. Hironaka  
Phyllis J. Hironaka  
Deputy Public Defender

**VIA EMAIL: [JDCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)**

Date: September 29, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

This testimony is submitted in strong support of judicial nominee **Bryant G.F.Y. Zane**. I have the highest respect for Bryant's character and wisdom, and I trust him to act with selflessness and integrity in any situation.

From my own twenty years as an actively licensed attorney and having served on our state's attorney admission board, I understand personal and professional qualities associated with excellent, respected judges and attorneys. Bryant's experience, level-headed temperament, and willingness to work hard would serve him well as a judge. He's able to manage others' emotional interactions and make difficult decisions. In 35+ years knowing him, I've never seen Bryant lose his composure or direct anger at others.

Bryant's colleagues in the Office of the Public Defender recognized him in 2009 with an award for "*always exhibiting compassion, understanding and treating the client with respect*," and I'd expect him to have the same demeanor and professionalism on the bench. This honor is in addition to outstanding legal and service experience as a Deputy Public Defender (2002 – present) and a Kauai Deputy Prosecuting Attorney (1997 – 2002): nearly 100 jury trials and 150 bench trials, a judicial clerkship, extensive volunteering of legal services and mock trial mentoring, and coordinating community service activities.

Bryant has a fine reputation throughout our shared network of friends and attorney colleagues – he's honest, trustworthy, and a model citizen who generously gives but expects very little in return. A devoted husband, father and friend, Bryant would undoubtedly continue to serve the Judiciary and our State very well as a judge – a position for which he is highly qualified. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

/S/ R. Scott Simon

Randy M. Leong  
801 South Street, #729  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

September 25, 2020

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair  
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary  
The State Senate  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 204  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senators Rhoads and Keohokalole, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

SUBJECT: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

I work at the Department of Customer Services for the City and County of Honolulu as the Deputy Director and I have known Bryant for over 30 years since we were classmates at Iolani School as well as teammates on Iolani School's golf team. I am very honored to write this letter of support on behalf of my friend, Bryant Zane.

His nomination for the judicial openings in both the District and Family Courts acknowledges his vast legal experience spanning over 25 years which includes over 95 jury trials and over 150 judge trials. This alone provides him with the necessary resources and tools to reference as a judge. However, it is Bryant's dedication, commitment, strong work ethic and passion in the field of law that makes him an outstanding candidate to seriously consider. This was demonstrated when his coworkers awarded him with the Gandhi Award "for always exhibiting compassion, understanding and treating the client with respect".

Furthermore, Bryant is so proud of his service to our community always volunteering for many non-profit organizations to fundraise or help in their cause. As for his family, Bryant's heart to establish his roots and foundation in Hawaii while providing a secure and loving home for his son is exemplified when he adopted a Marshallese boy when starting a family with his wife, Cindy.

It is my pleasure to support Bryant and recommend him to the District Court and Family Court.

Sincerely,



Randy M. Leong

**From:** [Dr. Reed Shiraki](#)  
**To:** [JDCTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane  
**Date:** Friday, September 25, 2020 8:32:00 AM

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September 25, 2020

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary:

I am writing this letter of support for Bryant “Beez” Zane who has been nominated for seven judge openings, four in District Court and three in Family Court.

I have known Bryant for most of my life. We went to school together at Iolani and worked together at the YMCA as Summer Fun leaders during our college years. We have stayed in touch throughout these many years and I am honored that he asked me to write a letter of support for him as a judicial nominee.

I have an interesting perspective of Bryant Zane’s character which may help you in your important decision as you consider him to be a judge. Personally, I have never seen Mr. Zane in the courtroom or in any professional setting as an attorney. I have, however, observed him as a youth, a leader of children and teens, a family man, and a good friend.

While I may not know the exact needed qualifications of a judge who serves in Hawaii, my common sense tells me that a judge must be calm, respectful, and possess the highest levels of integrity and honesty. My friend, Beez, exemplifies these virtues perfectly, as well as any one I know.

I know that as a judge, he will serve justly and mercifully as the law requires with great wisdom. I wholeheartedly recommend and support him and I sincerely hope you appoint him to one of the judge openings.

Thank you for your consideration and taking the time to read this letter.

Respectfully,

Reed S. Shiraki, D.C

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Date: September 25, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

I have known Bryant Zane (Beez) since the late 1980's. He was working as a group leader at the Kaimuki YMCA Summer Fun Program and I was a junior leader. While I did not work directly under him, the staff at our program location (Waialae Elementary School) was very close and we got to know each other. It wasn't until 2008 or so, that we reconnected at running races since we were both training for the Honolulu Marathon. Beez and his wife, Cindy, were also members of the Nuuanu YMCA (where I have been employed at since January 2001). Beez's son, William, is the same age as my son, Brady. My family started attending Hawaii Kai Church at the beginning of 2018. The Zane family are members and regular attendees of Hawaii Kai Church. Our boys attend the AWANA program on Friday evenings, Sunday school and have previously been on the same soccer team! We enjoying hanging out with their family!!

No matter where we are, Beez always goes out of his way to introduce himself to new people or reconnect with people from the past. One day, he walked all the way across the soccer field to say hello and talk with an old intern from his office. He always has a smile on his face and never shows his frustration. His son could be running away from him on the playground because he wants to play more and Beez will calmly and gently get William to cooperate.

Beez is a devoted son, husband, father and church member. He has a way of making people feel comfortable and at ease when interacting with him. I am sure that he will be very successful as a District Court Judge.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Shannon Kaneko  
Associate Director of Human Resources  
YMCA of Honolulu

Date: September 28, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
And Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

I am writing on behalf of Bryant Zane, an appointee for District Court judge. I have known Bryant for over 30 years. Throughout the course of our friendship, I have seen Bryant grow and develop into a wonderful husband, dad, professional and upstanding citizen. Even as a young college student, Bryant has always operated with a strong moral compass. His ability to be open-minded and always see the good in people is admirable.

Bryant is compassionate and a true believer in people, which is why, in my opinion, makes him a great candidate for this position. He is fair and doesn't form bias or place judgement without hearing and understanding the entire picture. I have witnessed Bryant demonstrate this on many occasions. I grew up and attended public school in Waianae. After graduating from Waianae High School, I attended Loyola Marymount University where I met Bryant for the first time. As you can imagine, a rural public school graduate going to college with private school kids from Hawaii – a little intimidating to say the least. Bryant was kind, open-hearted and never made me feel "less than" from the start. From there, our relationship has grown into a life-long friendship.

The second example I would like to share is when Bryant and his wife, Cindy adopted their son William. We were fortunate to share William's homecoming with them. To see Bryant and Cindy as parents for the first time was such a special day for all of us. Their love and commitment to their son and each other is nothing but commendable and sets a great example of what family means.

In summary, I highly recommend Bryant for this judicial appointment. He has a high-level of integrity in everything he does and can be trusted to represent the state courts with honor and morality. These are characteristics that Bryant has demonstrated throughout his life and career.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Sharlene R. Ginoza-Lee

Date: September 30, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

I am testifying on behalf of Mr. Bryant Zane. I have known Bryant for a little over 30 years now. I met him on my first day of college on the mainland. We met in my very first class, a Speech class at 8:00 a.m. There are not a lot of people that I can remember the exact time and place that I met them but Bryant (who I have come to fondly know as Beez) was a friendly face in a sea of people that I had never met. I never forgot that he made me feel like I had someone I could trust 2500 miles away from home. Ever since then, he has always been the type of friend I could trust to have serious conversations about a variety of topics and also a person who I felt I could share anything, because I knew he wouldn't be judging me but giving his fair opinion. I would love to see Bryant become a judge because of those characteristics; he is fair, non-judgmental, a good listener, courteous and also someone you can trust. I have always thought that Bryant was a very well rounded person with excellent character because he can fit into any situation and has always stayed true to himself. I have seen him with his family members, and friends and I can attest that he has never changed from the smart, friendly, open-minded boy to a caring, fair and patient man that is worthy of becoming a judge in our Family Court system. He has always had a big heart for children and families and I am sure Bryant will make an excellent judge.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Won

**From:** [TANA CABANIERO](#)  
**To:** [JDCTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Judicial Nominee Bryant G.F. Zane  
**Date:** Friday, September 25, 2020 7:31:16 AM

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Date: September 24, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support of Bryant (Beez) Zane to the District Court and District Family Court of the First Circuit. Beez and I have known each other professionally for approximately 12 years. I am a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney and have worked on several cases with him in Circuit Court. As a lawyer, he is always professional, well-prepared, reasonable and friendly. Personally, his wife Cindy Zane and I are law school classmates and have known each other for almost 30 years. I see them often with their son around town. They are a close and loving family.

Beez's work experience, legal background and personality justify his District Court appointment. He has the qualities we need on the bench: legal knowledge, experience, integrity, patience and compassion. As a judge, Beez will courageously and conscientiously apply our Hawai'i laws to each case he presides over. We need Beez serving the community through the judiciary. He is very qualified to preside over any case in the District or Family Court and will treat all who enter the court with kindness and fairness.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

*Tana Kekina-Cabaniero*

Taryn Tomasa  
1130 N. Nimitz Hwy. A-254  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
(808) 586-2080  
taryn.r.tomasa@Hawaii.gov

September 30, 2020

Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Judiciary Committee, Room 204  
State Capital  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
via email: JDCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: IC3 District Court Judge Nominee Bryant Zane  
Hearing: October 1, 2020, 1:00 PM

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

This letter is in support of the nomination of BRYANT ZANE to the district court bench. I have known Mr. Zane for eighteen years, both professionally and personally. It is without hesitation that I submit this letter in support of his nomination. I believe that Mr. Zane possesses the character, intellect, and demeanor that this significant judicial position demands.

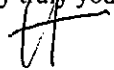
In the years that I worked with Mr. Zane at the Office of the Public Defender, he is a dedicated and diligent advocate for his clients. Mr. Zane is always prepared with a thorough understanding of the applicable law and authority, including for matters involving complex legal issues. More significantly, he has a charismatic and amicable personality that is enjoyed and valued by his colleagues, judges and clients.

I am also familiar with Mr. Zane and his family, his wife Cindy and son William. Mr. Zane has always embraced strong family morals, practicing and instilling in his son humility, kindness, and respect. Mr. Zane, along with his wife, Dr. Cindy Goodness-Zane, J.D., Ph. D., are equally involved and present in every aspect of William's growth; morally, emotionally, and intellectually. I am fortunate to consider Dr. Goodness-Zane, J.D., Ph. D., a friend, who is in her own right a talented, generous and amazing professional and person. The fact that the Zane family is altruistic and successful, is a testament to Mr. Zane and Dr. Goodness-Zane's ability to lead by example.

Undoubtedly, Mr. Zane's character, intellect, and values make him a leading candidate for a position as a district court judge. I have practiced substantially in both courts, both in private practice and public service. Thus, I am familiar with both courts and recognize that a successful judicial applicant must possess the legal aptitude, charisma, and judicial demeanor to handle a variety of legal issues, a high volume of cases, and the various members of the public and the bar that appear in the courts on a daily basis. Beyond Mr. Zane's legal qualifications, which alone highly qualify him for this position, his incomparable character and personality truly set him apart from other judicial nominees. Based on my knowledge and experience with Mr. Zane, it is apparent that he has the ability, character, and dedication to be an invaluable asset to the State of Hawaii as a judge.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Taryn Tomasa

September 26, 2020

Hon. Karl Rhoads  
Chairperson  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
State of Hawai'i  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: JC 3 BRYANT ZANE

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in support of Bryant Zane's judicial confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Bryant for over twenty years, having supervised him when he was at the Office of the Public Defender. As an attorney, Bryant is respected for his high degree of legal intellect and professionalism. As a friend, I can think of no one more optimistic, supportive and inspirational than Bryant. He is one of the kindest persons I know. I firmly believe that Bryant will treat all parties that appear before him fairly and respectfully.

I urge you to confirm Bryant Zane to the judicial position of Judge of the District Court, First Circuit. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony on his behalf.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Timothy E. Ho

Testimony by  
Tracy Fukui  
c/o 530 S. King St., Rm. 110  
Honolulu, HI 96813

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair  
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary  
RE: District Court Judge Nominee Bryant G.F.Y. Zane (JC3)  
HEARING: Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Aloha,

I am writing in support of District Court Judge Nominee Bryant G.F.Y. Zane. I have known Bryant for approximately (14) years. We first met while working as Deputy Public Defenders at the Office of the Public Defender. Although I later left the office, we remain friends. As an attorney, I have known Bryant to be diligent, hardworking, and extremely competent. As a person, he is compassionate, selfless, and humble. I strongly believe the Judiciary and our community will greatly benefit by having him on the bench. Thus, I am in strong support of Bryant's nomination for District Court Judge.

Mahalo,



Tracy Fukui

THE LAW OFFICE OF  
**WALTER J. RODBY**

---

733 BISHOP STREET, MAKAI TOWER, SUITE 2302  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE NO.: (808)545-5490

September 30, 2020

Senator Karl Rhoads

Chair- Senate Judiciary Committee

RE: **Bryant Zane &**  
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as District Family Court  
Judge for the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

DATE: Thursday, October 1, 2020  
TIME: 1:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 229- State  
Capitol

To Whom It May Concern:

I write this letter to express my complete support of **Bryant Zane** and his nomination to Judge of the District / Family Court of the First Circuit.

I am certain that he will be an asset to our judiciary, and the people of the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Very truly yours,

WALTER J. RODBY



September 29, 2020

The Senate  
The Thirtieth Legislature  
Interim of 2020  
Committee on Judiciary  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Re: JC3, Written Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to  
the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee,  
Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Senator Karl Rhoads,  
and Senator Jarrett Keohokalole:

I have known Bryant professionally for approximately 15 years through my position as a deputy prosecuting attorney, City and County of Honolulu (retired), and Bryant as a deputy public defender, State of Hawaii.

During that time, Bryant and I have had numerous substantive motions hearings and one jury trial against each other as adversaries. Bryant was a worthy opponent based on his knowledge of the law (statutory and case), as well as procedure. His arguments were well thought out and based on law and fact. These are qualities that all judges should possess.

Additionally, Bryant presented well in court, was even tempered and very respectful to all. To be a judge is a two-way street, you must respect to gain respect. I firmly believe that Bryant will make a conscious effort to be the best jurist that he can be.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration on this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [whtash69@gmail.com](mailto:whtash69@gmail.com)

Very truly yours,

/S/ WAYNE H. TASHIMA

September 30, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary

RE: JC 3, TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF NOMINATION  
BRYANT G.F.Y. ZANE to the District Court of the First Circuit

HEARING: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m., Conference Room 016

I have known Bryant Zane (or Beez as he is affectionately called) for over 18 years. I have been his supervisor through most of his employment at the Office of the Public Defender. His experience at our Office has prepared him well to become a District Court Judge. While at the Office of the Public Defender he has accumulated an impressive number of jury trials and amassed substantial court room experience. Beez has demonstrated himself to be a leader, teacher and team player in the Office. Furthermore, his additional legal experiences of over 4 years at the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney has further prepared him to become a fair and impartial jurist.

In working with him over the years, it is obvious that he is a highly talented individual, an extremely hard worker and conscientious lawyer.

Beez is patient, compassionate and kind. He has always represented himself and his clients in a respectful and dignified manner in court. Party litigants will find him to be approachable and to have an open mind. He is the type of individual that will put others before himself, and who will strive to do the right thing and do so in the right way. Thus, I fully expect that he will have excellent judicial temperament and demeanor on and off the bench.

Beez is a good person who comes from a very supportive family. He is a wonderful loving father to his son, William, and husband to his wife Cindy. Moreover, his commitment and record of community service through his volunteer work has been exemplary.

I can further testify that Mr. Zane is a person of the highest integrity and ethical standards. I have no doubt that he will be able to fulfill his responsibilities and duties as District Court Judge. Mr. Zane has all the tools to become an excellent jurist and I recommend him for the position of District Court Judge without hesitation.

William C. Bagasol, Esq. (Supervising Attorney, Felony Division, Office of the Public Defender.)

STATE OF HAWAII  
**OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER**

**Testimony of James S. Tabe,  
State Public Defender**

**Senate Committee on Judiciary**

September 28, 2020

JC3: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

I fully support the confirmation of the Mr. Bryant (“Beez”) G.F.Y. Zane, Judicial Nominee, to the District Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Mr. Zane since 2002 when he joined the Office of the Public Defender. I was immediately impressed in the path he had taken before joining the office. How many ‘Iolani School graduates attend Howard University School of Law? And before joining the Oahu Branch of the Office of the Public Defender, he clerked for a judge on the Big Island, and was a county prosecutor for the County of Kauai.

I simply admire and respect Mr. Zane. He is simply a kind, decent and generous person. He truly thinks of others before himself. He makes it a point to spend time with the inexperienced attorneys and with the law school and college interns. He holds weekly formal brainstorming sessions so that the attorneys can discuss their cases. When the office hires law school and college interns, he will seek them out and invite them to accompany him to court or to the jail. While many attorneys do not want to be bothered by reaching out to interns, he takes the time involve them in his cases. Because of his generosity and his willingness to mentor young people, he will be an outstanding judge, as the District Court and the District Family Court are staffed with inexperienced prosecutors and deputy public defenders. When I was assigned to those courtrooms (many years ago), I was fortunate to appear before judges who took the time to counsel and critique me and to also discuss the law. I fondly remember the time I spent with the judges after court adjourned. Although counseling young attorneys is not in the district/family court judge job description, I believe the best judges are those who are willing to take the time to mentor the young attorneys.

Not only does Mr. Zane possess outstanding character, he is also an excellent attorney. He may have done more jury trials than anyone else in the Office of the Public Defender. He holds himself to high standards of preparation and performance. He is often the first one in the office and the last one to leave. He is well respected by the judges and the prosecutors for his professionalism, integrity, and legal knowledge. He has not only the intellect to grasp complex legal issues, but

more importantly, the ability to articulate and explain his analysis in a thoughtful, thorough, and intelligent manner.

In addition to his legal acumen, Mr. Zane has a strong work ethic, good common sense and practical judgment, which make him well qualified to serve as a district court and/or district family court judge. Although it has been a number of years since I regularly appeared before the District Court and the Family Court, I have not forgotten the rigors and the demands placed upon the district court and district family court judges. Judges must be intelligent, thoughtful, and fair. District and family court judges must also have the demeanor, character, and sensitivity to treat each individual -- including litigants, witnesses, and attorneys -- with dignity, patience, respect and compassion, as they touch the most people in the community on a daily basis and have the broadest reach and impact upon the public. Moreover, district and family court judges must also be hardworking, efficient, and organized to deal with the voluminous and demanding workload. Having worked closely with Mr. Zane, I can say without reservation that he possesses such qualities.

As long as I have known him, Mr. Zane has practiced law with competence, zealousness, compassion, integrity, and humility. He has demonstrated that he possesses the ability, the experience, and the qualities to be either a district court judge or a district family court judge. Mr. Zane will certainly be an asset to the judiciary, and I am proud to support him for a seat on the bench.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in this matter.

Sincerely,

James S. Tabe

Jennifer D.K. Ng, Esq.

101 Aupuni Street, Suite 248

Hilo, Hawaii 96720

808.935.6000 phone

jen@jennifernglaw.com

October 1, 2020

Via <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/submittestimonyss.aspx>

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: JC3  
Letter in Support of Bryant G.Y. F. Zane for  
Judge of the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Rhoads, Senator Keohokalole and Committee Members:

Please accept this letter in strong support of Bryant G.Y. F. Zane's nomination as judge of the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii. I have known Mr. Zane for nearly twenty years, and can say with all confidence that he has the intellect, character, and experience necessary to be an outstanding district court judge.

I first met Mr. Zane while serving together as deputy public defenders for the State of Hawaii. Mr. Zane, zealously represents clients and is known for his thoughtful and calm demeanor. Although his background is primarily in criminal defense work, I have no doubt that he would adjudicate cases fairly and objectively, with respect and compassion for all litigants.

It is without reservation or hesitation that I offer this letter in support of Mr. Zane to serve as Judge of the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Jennifer D.K. Ng

# LATE

**From:** [kachusy silander](#)  
**To:** [JDCTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Re: JC3, Testimony In Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y Zane  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 30, 2020 1:57:45 PM

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Aloha to all members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

My name is Kachusy Silander. I would like to respectfully convey my solid support for the nomination of Mr. Bryant Zane for a Justice position in the First District Court. I have known Mr. Zane for ten years through the legal profession. Although I am not an attorney, but I have worked with him on numerous occasions to interpret for his clients who speak the Chuukese language. It is amazing how he asks questions during interviews and trials for he always look for details. He represents his clients to the full extend of the law. Moreover, I consider him as one of the best defense attorneys I have worked with. One important aspect of him that I have always observed is that he respects other people's cultural values and/or point of views.

I am confident that Mr. Bryant G.F.Y. Zane will be a fair judge. I will be willing to testify before the committee if call upon.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kachusy Silander  
Chuukese Language Interpreter  
Email: ksrepis@yahoo.com  
Phone: 808-954-0487

Kachusy Silander  
Chuukese Language Interpreter  
Email: ksrepis@yahoo.com  
Phone: 808-954-0487

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# LATE

Date:9/30/2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

I have worked with Mr Zane since 2006. I am the IT staff in the Office of the Public Defender. He has always been an outstanding person, coworker and friend. He was always open to talk about matters and always held himself professional. I have never seen Mr Zane lose his temper or acted unprofessional. He will be a bonus to the State of Hawai'i as a judge. He is an outstanding person, husband, father and friend. I consider Mr Zane a personal close friend.

Sincerely Kyle Kawamoto



September 29, 2020

**LATE**

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit,  
Judicial Nominee, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

It gives me great pleasure to learn that Mr. Bryant G. F. Y. Zane has been appointed by the Chief to a District Court judge position, to be assigned to Family Court. As a Native Hawaiian graduate of the University of San Francisco, during my 2L summer, I had the privilege of interning at the Hawai'i Office of the Public Defender in Honolulu. There, Mr. Zane was one of the veteran attorneys who provided trial advocacy training to me and trial strategy and practice advice to many of the newer attorneys in the office. It is on the basis of this experience, my knowledge of his professional journey and training, and my direct observations of his intellect, temperament, and character that I write to enthusiastically support his appointment.

Mr. Zane specifically mentored me through cases where families dealt with the very difficult impact of criminal behavior within. At each step of dealing with those cases, he was very well-versed in the law, respectful of the prosecutors' cases, and he brought a quiet and calming manner into his work with clients and witnesses. He made clear to me that a lawyer's advocacy should be grounded in respect for the human impact of justice and court proceedings. I feel very fortunate to have trained with Mr. Zane that summer; his work with me has really shaped my own development in the law for the better.

It is clear to me from Mr. Zane's educational pathway, his commitment to public service, and his years of experience that he will diligently bring his best to serve on the bench. He is wonderful resource for the people of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,  
Laura Lehuanani Yim, Ph.D., J.D.

# LATE

**From:** [rochelle.vidinha](#)  
**To:** [JDCTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Re: JC3, Testimony in Support of the Confirmation to the District Court of the First Circuit, Judicial Nominee  
Bryant G.F.Y. Zane  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:01:46 PM

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Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,

It is an honor and a privilege to write this letter in full support of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane for the position of District Court Judge. As a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for 19 years, I have handled many cases with Mr. Zane as opposing counsel. My first jury trial was with Mr. Zane, my most recent jury trial was with Mr. Zane, and we have handled many cases together during the 18 years in between. I can say, without hesitation, that Mr. Zane will be a fair and compassionate judge and will be an asset to the judiciary.

Mr. Zane has earned the reputation in the legal community as an excellent attorney who carries himself with professionalism and integrity, a zealous advocate for his clients who treats opposing counsel and court staff with courtesy and respect. Mr. Zane is one of the most even-tempered, kind people that I have had the pleasure of working with throughout my career as a prosecutor. He will bring these qualities to the bench, where he will treat litigants and counsel with compassion and professional courtesy.

Mr. Zane is a dedicated public servant who served our community for over 20 years. Having worked as deputy prosecuting attorney and public defender, Mr. Zane is well equipped with the legal knowledge and courtroom experience that is required to efficiently handle a full court calendar, and effectively deal with the wide range of people who will appear before him. His lengthy career in public service highlights his commitment to help and serve our community, and I am excited to see Mr. Zane transition to the judiciary for the next phase of his career in public service.

Mr. Zane has the integrity, legal experience, commitment to public service, and the judicial temperament which will make him a wonderful addition to the bench. He will rule with competence, fairness, and compassion, and will be the judge that our community deserves.

If I can provide any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 258-5508.

Mahalo,  
Rochelle Vidinha

Testimony of Susan L. Arnett  
to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

October 1, 2020

RE: JC3. NOMINATION OF BRYANT ZANE TO THE DISTRICT FAMILY  
COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT, STATE OF HAWAII

Senator Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

I write in support of the nomination of Bryant “Beez” Zane to the District Court of the First Circuit.

I have known Beez as a colleague and friend for over 20 years. He became a senior trial attorney in the State Office of the Public Defender when I was a Felony Trial Supervisor. He has handled the most serious cases in our office. His skill and dedication are outstanding. Equally important has been the compassion he extends to his clients, often charged in difficult cases to defend,

Beez has personified the collaborative effort we prize in our office. He is a steady source of advice and counsel to our younger attorneys. He has led weekly brainstorming sessions for the last number of years. He continues his study of the law and knowledge of appellate decisions. He brings a wealth of trial experience to the judiciary. He has always been someone who treated opposing counsel with respect and sought only to try his cases fairly. I know him as a man of integrity who will treat counsel and parties with respect. Most importantly, he will always try to keep learning, an essential commitment to be an accomplished judge.

He is a devoted father to son William and an involved member of his community. He has done volunteer work through his church, including traveling to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina to help with clean up efforts there.

Simply put, he is a fine man who will be a valuable addition to the bench. It is a pleasure to recommend him to the District Court of the First Circuit.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this nomination.

TRISHA Y. NAKAMURA

P.O. Box 61619, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96839 • [trishanakamura@gmail.com](mailto:trishanakamura@gmail.com)

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To: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair  
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Date: September 30, 2020

Hrg: October 1, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Re: JC 3; Strong Support for the Nomination of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane

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Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Mr. Bryant G.F.Y. Zane for his appointment to the District Court of the First Circuit (“District Court”).<sup>1</sup> I have known “Beez” since I started at the Office of the Public Defender (“PDs”) nearly 10 years ago. Though we are no longer colleagues at the PDs, I have had the opportunity to see how much Mr. Zane invests in law students and making sure they play meaningful roles as volunteers at the PDs.

### ACTIVE LEARNER AND CREATIVE THINKER

When I was a new Deputy Public Defender (“DPD”), the DPDs who were assigned to the felony calendar seemed intimidating to my inexperienced self. Beez was one of the felony attorneys who were friendly and reached out to new attorneys in the office as co-workers, colleagues, and equals. I recall he had a challenging sentencing for a felony defendant. Beez walked to the offices of the District Court DPDs, with his HRS book in hand. Specifically, he was seeking out information on deferrals, something District Court DPDs would frequently ask of judges. I appreciated this as he smartly understood that attorneys, even though less experienced in years, would have another and perhaps important view on the statute providing for deferrals.

### COMMITTED TO YOUNG TALENT

In my role as Career Services and Externships Director at the Law School, I worked and spoke with students who volunteered or externed at the PDs. Students who were helping Mr. Zane consistently noted their appreciation of “Beez” and enjoyment in the work they were contributing to his cases. Some were also invited to second chair high-level felony trials—a special treat for a law student seeking a career in litigation. The students possessed different skills; Beez assessed their talents and found interesting ways to build from their strengths and provide new opportunities for growth. (As an important aside, while I was a colleague, I had not seen this side of Mr. Zane; it was only while at the Law School did I come to appreciate Beez’s commitment to building the generation of attorneys. Beez did not broadcast this investment to others—a sign of his humility and focus on the work, not his ego.)

### SOLID FAMILY MAN AND PUBLIC SERVANT

Beez’s family is simply wonderful. Beez is a proud father and supportive husband, having moved with his wife as she pursued her career goals. I bring this up because Mr. Zane has strong supports and simultaneously supports those around him. His positive attitude and selflessness make him a prime choice for the District Court, the People’s Court.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane as a District Court Judge of the First Circuit.

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<sup>1</sup> This testimony is submitted in my personal capacity.



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

**Bryant G.F.Y. Zane**  
**District Court Judge of the First Circuit (JC3)**

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair  
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: P. Gregory Frey  
President, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 016  
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the nomination of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane for the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit.

The HSBA Board of Directors followed its multi-step process to inform the confirming authority of its findings on this appointment.

- Notification to the nominee of the HSBA appointment review process, which includes a questionnaire requesting educational credentials, legal and other professional work experiences, personal references; a resume; a copy of the JSC application; a form authorizing disclosure from the Office of Disciplinary Counsel of any disciplinary action; and an interview with the HSBA Board of Directors.
- Notification via electronic transmission to the HSBA membership of the appointment and a request for comments on the nominee.
- Appointment of a three-person review subcommittee of HSBA Board members by the President which serves as a neutral fact-finding body to: review documentation submitted by the nominee, contact references submitted by the nominee, review comments received from the HSBA membership, and conduct follow-up member contact for clarification, if necessary, for presentation to the HSBA Board.
- Submittal of a report by the three-person review subcommittee to the President, and subsequently to the entire Board.

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## Testimony of HSBA

JC3

Hearing on October 1, 2020

Page 2

- Meeting of the President, the Executive Director, and the nominee prior to the scheduled interview of the nominee by the Board.
- Interview of the nominee by the HSBA Board.
- Deliberation of the HSBA Board to determine if the nominees is qualified or unqualified.
- Submittal of the HSBA Board's recommendation to the confirming authority.

The HSBA President and the Executive Director met with Mr. Zane on September 22, 2020 to discuss the subcommittee's findings. On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mr. Zane was interviewed by the HSBA Board of Directors in executive session.

Documentation submitted by Mr. Zane was reviewed and the references listed were contacted for their personal opinions and observations. The comments and letters received from HSBA members reflected an affirmation of Mr. Zane in all categories of the HSBA criteria which include:

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

Nominee Bryant Zane has been an attorney with the Office of the Public Defender bringing over 50+ cases to trial. Mr. Zane has a different legal professional development beginning with his tenure as a student at the Howard University School of Law, an institution of higher learning with a predominantly Black population, and the interruption of his legal career to move to Oklahoma to support his wife as she pursued her career development as a therapist. He was also employed by the Public Defender's Office on Kauai.

Mr. Zane is known to be well-prepared for court appearances including trials, and well-versed in the law, statutes, rules of court, and current legal authority developments. It was reported that Mr. Zane was not one to rely on "canned" motions and for submitting motions that are well researched and well written.

While being appointed to an Oahu District Court position, there is a reported inclination to assign Mr. Zane to the Family Court. His experience with dealing with people from a wide spectrum of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds will be an asset wherever he is assigned. In addition to a court advocate, Mr. Zane has first-hand experience as a consumer of court services with the adoption of his young son.

Mr. Zane's recognition that individuals and families come to court to resolve some of the most difficult, emotional and trying time of their lives, and resolve to treat everyone respectfully and fairly as expeditiously as possible, will serve him well whenever he is assigned.

Testimony of HSBA

JC3

Hearing on October 1, 2020

Page 3

After the interview of the nominee, which included dialogue and questioning relating to his background, experiences, and reasons for pursuing the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit, the Board of the Hawaii State Bar Association found Mr. Bryant G.F.Y. Zane to be **QUALIFIED** for the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit.

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