

STAND. COM. REP. NO. |

Honolulu, Hawaii

JUN 20 2022

RE: JUD. COM. NO. 3

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
First Special Session of 2022  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Judiciary Communication No. 3, submitting for study and consideration the appointment of:

DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

J.C. No. 3            GREGORY H. MEYERS,  
                          for a term to expire in 6 years,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Gregory H. Meyers for service on the District Court of the Fifth Circuit, State of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Gregory H. Meyers from Kauai Credit Adjusters, Ltd.; Oma'o Ranch Lands; Kaua'i Air Conditioning & Refrigeration, Inc.; and sixty-six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the appointment of Gregory H. Meyers from a deputy prosecuting attorney from the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for the County of Kaua'i. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Gregory H. Meyers from the Hawaii State Bar Association Board of the Directors.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors (HSBA Board) uses a rating system that considers several criteria to assist the HSBA Board in making a recommendation to your Committee on whether the appointee is "qualified" or "not qualified". Specifically, the criteria the HSBA Board employs is the same criteria found in the American Bar Association's Guidelines for

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Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Those guidelines include the following criteria, which are not exclusive: integrity, diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. Upon review of the established criteria, the HSBA Board found the appointee to be qualified for the position of District Court Judge of the Fifth Circuit.

Mr. Meyers attended the University of Michigan where he received a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. He received his Juris Doctor from the George Washington University Law School in May 2001. Mr. Meyers has been licensed to practice law in the State of Hawaii since 2002.

Mr. Meyers currently works as an attorney with Meyers & Meyers LLC, a firm specializing in family law, criminal defense, civil litigation, personal injury, administrative law, and landlord-tenant law. Previously, Mr. Meyers served as a part time Per Diem Judge for the District Family Court of the Fifth Circuit where he presided over divorce, custody, child support, adoption, guardianship, temporary restraining orders, involuntary hospitalization, and civil matters. For over ten years, Mr. Meyers also worked as an attorney and partner at De Costa Hempey Meyers LLC, formerly known as Hempey & Meyers LLP, where he handled complex civil litigation cases involving contract disputes, derivative lawsuits, dissolution, commercial lease negotiations, declaratory judgements, trusts and estates, real estate and property title disputes, product liability, fraud and misrepresentation, wrongful death, landlord-tenant law, civil rights litigation, criminal law, and family law.

Mr. Meyers additionally served as a managing attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii on Kauai where he directed and supervised the day-to-day operations of attorneys and staff who provided free legal services to indigent clients. He also personally handled cases involving paternity, custody and visitation, temporary restraining orders, guardianship, adoption, child support, disability benefits, income maintenance, landlord-tenant, and consumer dispute matters.

Mr. Meyers has been an active participant and volunteer in the legal community throughout his career and has demonstrated his commitment to serving the public. He currently serves as a board



member for Junior Achievement - Kauai, which teaches financial literacy and entrepreneurial skills to Kauai grade school students; a Teen Court judge; and a board member of Hale Opio, a non-profit organization dedicated to nurturing Kauai's youth. Mr. Meyers previously served as a board member of the Friends of Children's Justice Center, a non-profit organization dedicated to aiding and assisting abused and neglected youth on Kauai; a board member of Ho'ike Community TV, a non-profit public access television station; board president of Niumalu Outrigger Canoe Club, a non-profit outrigger canoe paddling club whose mission is to perpetuate the culture and tradition of outrigger canoe paddling; and a board member of Garden Island Arts Council, a non-profit organization that specializes in bringing arts to the people.

Testimony submitted in support of Mr. Meyers's appointment commends his compassion, moral character, and dedication to the community. Testimony further indicates that during his time in private practice, Mr. Meyers has shown exceptional judgement and legal skill, fairness, and respect for others. Numerous testifiers also praise his integrity, as well as his intelligence and critical thinking.

Your Committee received written testimony in opposition from one individual who alleged wrongdoing by Mr. Meyers during Mr. Meyers' representation of a criminal defendant. The testimony was brief and stated that the matter had been reported to the appropriate entities for further investigation. During the hearing, your Committee discussed the allegations with Mr. Meyers and several other testifiers who practice criminal law. Your Committee confirmed that similar information had been provided to the Judiciary in advance of the appointment of Mr. Meyers and to the HSBA Board in advance of their assessment of him. Additionally, your Committee questioned the Administrative Director of the Courts and verified that there are procedures in place if the allegations are validated that would allow the Judiciary to take any necessary action against a judge for conduct that occurred prior to assuming duties as a judge. Your Committee finds that the allegations are being suitably addressed.

Therefore, your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on his behalf, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about him and his qualifications, Gregory H. Meyers has the expertise, dedication, and other competencies to be a



District Court Judge of the Fifth Circuit, and he has the knowledge, diligence, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

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

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



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KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Judiciary**  
**JDC**  
**Consent**

Gov. Msg./Jud. Com. No.:* <b>JC3</b>	Committee Referral: <b>JDC</b>	Date: <b>06-20-2022</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent 2347 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Consent 2349				
<b>Members</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye (WR)</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Excused</b>
RHOADS, Karl (C)	/			
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett (VC)	/			
ACASIO, Laura	/			
GABBARD, Mike	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado				/
LEE, Chris	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	-	-	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:                      Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report                      Clerk's Office                      Drafting Agency                      Committee File Copy				

\*Only one Message/Communication per Record of Votes