

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of
Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Monday, June 24, 2024
10:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016 and Videoconference

In consideration of
Governor's Message No. 3

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of Governor's Message No. 3, the appointment of Dyan Medeiros as a Circuit Court Judge of the First Circuit of the State of Hawai'i.

Judge Medeiros earned her Juris Doctorate from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, William S. Richardson School of Law and earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in English also from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Currently, Judge Medeiros is a District Family Court Judge with the Family Court of the First Circuit where she is the lead judge of the Domestic Division presiding over divorce cases and serves as a presiding judge of Girls Court. Prior to this, Judge Medeiros also served in the Juvenile Division and presided over juvenile criminal cases and child welfare and neglect cases, and she also was assigned to the Special Division presiding over numerous cases such as paternity, adoption, guardianship of the minor, and assisted community treatment. Judge Medeiros also served nearly two decades in private practice prior to her appointment as a District Family Court Judge. She served as a Partner at Kleintop, Luria & Medeiros LLLP, and was an Associate at Stirling & Kleintop and at Damon Key Leong Kupchak Hasert.

I am confident that Judge Medeiros has the experience necessary to serve the State well as a Circuit Court Judge for the State of Hawai'i and am pleased to offer my full support of her nomination.

Mahalo for your consideration.

The Honorable R. Mark Browning (Ret.)
820 Wanaao Road
Kailua, HI 96734

Re: Nomination of Dyan M. Medeiros to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit,
State of Hawai'i

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I am in full support of Judge Medeiros' nomination to the Circuit Court of the State of Hawai'i.

I base my strong support on my 26 years plus as a judge who served as a District Family judge, as a Circuit Court judge, as the Senior Judge of the Family Court, and as the Chief Judge of the First Circuit. Based on my years of experience, I am fully aware of the qualities and experience that an individual must have to be an excellent Circuit Judge. Further, I have extensive and direct experience supervising, observing and teaching Judge Medeiros. I could detail fully on all of the above but it would require a lengthy letter. However, I am happy to fully elaborate if the Committee has any questions.

Suffice to state, Judge Medeiros is an excellent judge who has all the experience, tools, and human qualities to be an outstanding Circuit Judge. She is a leader and a fine jurist who our community can trust and have confidence that justice will be served by her confirmation.

Aloha,

/s/ R. Mark Browning

R. Mark Browning

THOMAS D. FARRELL

Attorney at Law, LLC. Certified Family Specialist*

TESTIMONY OF THOMAS D. FARRELL
IN SUPPORT OF GM 3, NOMINATION OF DYAN MEDEIROS
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Hon. Karl Rhoads Chair
June 24, 2023 10:30 a.m.

Good Morning Senator Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the nomination of Dyan Medeiros to move up from Family Court to the Circuit Court. I strongly urge your favorable action.

I have known Dyan Medeiros for over 25 years.

I first encountered her as opposing counsel in family court matters, before she became a judge. In that capacity, I found her highly competent, honest, reasonable, and professional. When she was first proposed to be a district family court judge, I supported her selection, nomination, and confirmation because I knew that she would hit the ground running on day one, and that she had all the qualities we look for in a judge.

Since then, I have appeared before her in innumerable hearings, as well as some extremely complex trials. I don't always get what I want, but I have never felt that I didn't get a fair shake in her courtroom. If nominated and confirmed, I see her eventually becoming the Senior Family Court Judge.

In short, I believe that Judge Medeiros will do well on the Circuit Court, and hope that this committee will recommend that the Senate confirm her nomination.

Divorce ♦ Paternity ♦ Custody ♦ Child Support ♦ TROs ♦ Arbitration
also handling national security cases involving revocation or denial of security clearances

700 Bishop Street, Suite 2000, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone 808.535.8468 ♦ Fax 808.585.9568 ♦ E-mail tom@farrell-hawaii.com

*Certified by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. The Supreme Court of Hawaii grants Hawaii certification only to lawyers in good standing who have successfully completed a specialty program accredited by the American Bar Association.

GM-3

Submitted on: 6/18/2024 7:35:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 6/24/2024 10:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| James Nelson | Individual | Support | In Person |

Comments: I am in strong support of GM3, nomination of Dyan Medeiros to circuit court judge of the first circuit. I have known Judge Medeiros personally for over 30 years, and closely watched her career path from law student to family law practitioner and law firm partner to family court judge. I have always known her to be fair-minded and extremely diligent. I understand that she has an excellent reputation among both her peers in the judiciary and attorneys who have come before as a family court judge. I urge you to confirm her nomination to circuit court.

**TESTIMONY OF BOB TOYOFUKU IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF
DYAN MEDEIROS AS A JUDGE TO THE FIRST CIRCUIT COURT**

June 21, 2024

To: Chairman Karl Rhoads and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Bob Toyofuku and I am an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Hawaii. I am testifying in strong support of Judge Dyan Medeiros to be a judge on the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. I have known Judge Medeiros for over 15 years. My first encounter with her was when she was the President of the Family Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association. I was at a hearing at the state legislature in 2009 for a client and she appeared to testify in opposition to the bill that my client was supporting. I subsequently met with her at her law firm and we discussed the issues and worked on compromise language after she explained the position of the HSBA section she represented. The details were worked out and the bill passed that year.

I have also sponsored continuing education seminars for over 40 years, primarily through the Pacific Law Institute, a not-for-profit Institute, and Dyan was always willing to participate as a seminar speaker to share her expertise on family law issues. She was a dependable and excellent trainer, always prepared and very diligent.

Some of the basic criteria considered by the Judicial Selection Commission as well as by the Hawaii State Bar Association when attorneys are requested to submit comments on a nomination for a position as a judge to the Hawaii State Judiciary are the following: integrity, diligence and decisiveness, legal knowledge and ability, judicial temperament, compassion and fairness, intelligence and wisdom, and public service. My opinion is that Judge Medeiros scores highly in all of these categories. Before being assigned to the Family Court, Judge Medeiros was a well-respected and competent attorney in family law,

and I feel that he has proven herself as an excellent judge during her years on the Family Court.

I wholeheartedly support her nomination for the Circuit Court and urge her confirmation by this committee and by the Hawaii State Senate. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

1003 Bishop Street, Suite 1600
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-6452
Telephone (808) 531-8031
Facsimile (808) 533-2242
E-Mail: aho@hawaiilawyer.com
www.hawaiilawyer.com

June 23, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol,
Room 409 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Dyan Medeiros Circuit Court Judge Nomination

Dear President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

I first met Dyan Medeiros when she was a young associate at Damon Key. I was impressed then with her excellent writing, her seriousness, and her work ethic, but also with her quiet wry humor and consistent common sense. She became a close friend, although I did not get to work alongside her for long, as after two years with us she elected to pursue her passion and begin work at a respected family law firm. I have since watched with pleasure but no surprise as she became a partner at her firm, then a District Court judge for the family courts, and has now been selected for a judgeship at the Circuit Court. Everything I know about Dyan, and I have now known her for over two decades, makes her well suited for this role. She is professional, hard working, and serious, but she is also compassionate, funny, and kind. She is an excellent writer, a fast reader and learner, and an academic, but she also has practical common sense – a wonderful combination for a judge. She does not suffer fools, but she will maintain her cool and decorum and, importantly, will never expect anything more from practitioners than she would demand from herself. She will be a credit to the Hawaii bar and an important asset to the judiciary of this State.

Dyan Medeiros is a wonderful and loyal friend, daughter, sister, granddaughter, and aunty, and a dedicated public servant, but I suspect she will be an even better Circuit Court judge. I wholeheartedly endorse her for confirmation.

Very truly yours,

DAMON KEY LEONG KUPCHAK HASTERT



Anna H. Oshiro

AHO:kynf
861466

David H. Abitbol
Kira-Nariese K. Brown
Nicholas K. Ernst
Matthew T. Evans
Tred R. Eyerly
B. Matthew Gozun
Clint K. Hamada
Diane D. Hastert
Daniel J. Koller
Christine A. Kubota
Gregory W. Kugle
Kenneth R. Kupchak
Na Lan
Megan L.M. Lim
Jonathan N. Marchuk
David P. McCauley
Casey T. Miyashiro
Mark M. Murakami
Anna H. Oshiro
Christopher H. Pang
Katie T. Pham
Douglas C. Smith
Ross Uehara-Tilton
Toren K. Yamamoto
Michael A. Yoshida
Madeleine M.V. Young

Of Counsel
Jed Kurzban

Denis C.H. Leong
(1942-2023)
R. Charles Bocken
(1921-2020)
C. F. Damon, Jr.
(1926-2017)
Charles W. Key
(1929-2008)



Providing business clients
worldwide access to
sophisticated legal advice
and exceptional service.

DAMON KEY LEONG KUPCHAK HASTERT
A LAW CORPORATION

[hawaii**lawyer**.com](http://hawaiilawyer.com)[®]

GM-3

Submitted on: 6/18/2024 1:17:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 6/24/2024 10:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Salina Kanai | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments: I knew Judge Medeiros when I was a per diem Family Court judge and learned much from her by observing how she ran her courtroom. Judge Medeiros is bright, pragmatic, and dedicated to serving our community. She would be a great asset to the judiciary by serving as a Circuit Court judge, and I fully support her nomination.



June 23, 2024

To: Senator Karl Rhoads
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary
Submitted via Capitol website

Re: **GM3 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, Gubernatorial Nominee, DYAN MEDEIROS, for a term to expire in 10 years.**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

Hawaii Women Lawyers (“**HWL**”) respectfully submits testimony in **support** of the nomination of DYAN MEDEIROS to the First Circuit Court for a term of 10 years.

HWL is a nonprofit organization of over 350 attorneys whose mission includes improving the status of women in the legal profession, increasing the number of women attorneys in positions of authority and responsibility, and promoting the advancement of all women.

Increasing opportunities for qualified women in the Judiciary is extremely important. As highlighted by the World Justice Project, the rule of law depends on having justice delivered by “competent, ethical, and independent representatives and neutrals who... reflect the makeup of the communities they serve.” HWL believes that increasing opportunities for, and improving the visibility of, qualified women in the Judiciary is vital. The judicial bench should be adequately balanced and reflect the composition of Hawaii’s citizens. Significant strides have been made in the past several years to improve the diversity of our bench, but HWL believes that more can be done to appoint qualified women to fill judicial vacancies to bring balance to the bench.

Noting that the Hawaii State Bar Association has found Judge Medeiros to be qualified for the position of Judge of the First Circuit Court and for the reasons above, HWL supports this nomination.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

KLEINTOP & LURIA, LLP

CHARLES T. KLEINTOP
TIMOTHY LURIA

HARBOR COURT, SUITE 2000
55 MERCHANT STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

TELEPHONE:
(808) 524-5183

OF COUNSEL:
LYNN K. KASHIWABARA
MARIA Y. WANG

FAX:
(808) 528-0261

ALAN Y. OKAMOTO
KATYA KATANO

E-Mail:
L.Kashiwabara@hifamlaw.com

June 19, 2024

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of Judiciary Committee
www.capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: Letter in support for the confirmation hearing of Gubernatorial
Nominee, DYAN MEDEIROS to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit.

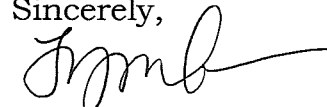
Dear Senator Rhoads, Senator Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

I write in support for the confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, Dyan Medeiros ("Judge Medeiros") for the appointment to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. I've known Judge Medeiros since 1993 when we attended the William S. Richardson School of Law together. Since then, for the majority of our legal careers we've both practiced in family law as adversaries.

With such a long history of knowing Judge Medeiros first as a law school classmate and then as an adversary, I know that Judge Medeiros possesses the knowledge, demeanor, and experience to be an asset to the Circuit Court bench. Judge Medeiros' knowledge, analysis, and application of the statutes, case law, rules of court, rules of evidence, and rules of procedure are in my opinion bar none. Judge Medeiros possesses years of experience as a practicing litigation attorney which is evident in how she interacts with attorneys and litigants in her courtroom; is an efficient courtroom manager; and takes on challenging projects on behalf of the judiciary. Lastly, Judge Medeiros has characteristics of humility, diligence, and precision that has and will continue to serve her well on the bench.

In conclusion, please consider and confirm Gubernatorial Nominee DYAN MEDEIROS to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit.

Sincerely,



Lynn K. Kashiwabara



June 19, 2024

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Legislature

Re: Judicial Appointment of Dyan Marie Medeiros, for the Circuit Court of the First Circuit (O'ahu)

Dear Chair Rhoads and the Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

I am Stephanie A. Rezens. I am an attorney who has practiced in the area of family law in Hawai'i for over 45 years.

I write in support of the judicial appointment by Governor Josh Green of Judge Dyan M. Medeiros, for the position of Circuit Court Judge of the First Circuit (O'ahu).

I have known Judge Medeiros in her many capacities as:

- Opposing counsel in several family court cases;
- The former Chair of the Family Law Section;
- A co-speaker at several Family Law seminars;
- A member of family law committees of which she was the chair, including the Family Law Rules Committee and the Rule 9 Committee
- As a judge of the Family Court of the First Circuit in the Domestic Division.

Both before and after becoming a judge, Judge Medeiros worked diligently and tirelessly to improve the family court system. Prior to becoming a judge, she along with another family law attorney, coordinated the recruitment and scheduling of attorneys to serve as Pro Bono Settlement Masters to assist the O'ahu Family Court in clearing a backlog of cases set for trial.

After being appointed a family court judge, Judge Medeiros continued to devote her time and energy to making the family court a more efficient and user-friendly court for attorneys and parties. When she and other family court judges observed a lack of knowledge of courtroom procedures by newer lawyers, she created a training program designed to develop the habits, practical skills and professionalism required for a successful family court practice. She recruited an experienced family law practitioner and myself to teach a workshop on family court practice and procedures for attorneys with fewer than 6 years of family court practice. The workshop was conducted over four Friday afternoons. Judge Medeiros arranged for sitting family court judges to start off

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary
June 19, 2024

Page 2.

each session with tips and information about court appearances by attorneys in their courtrooms.

The program was a complete success. The attendees welcomed such training and asked for additional programs. Judges at family court reported a noticeable improvement in the standard of practice in the attorneys who attended the program.

Judge Medeiros is one of the hardest working judges that I know. In addition to her busy court calendar, Judge Medeiros assumed the leadership role for the successful online transition to the Judiciary's Electronic Filing System (JEFS). She coordinated and provided a series of online trainings and practice pointers for family court practitioners. It was a massive undertaking. Her guidance has continued to prove invaluable for both attorneys and support staff.

Another of Judge Medeiros' strengths is her ability to settle disputed matters brought before her. Her practical, no-nonsense manner and knowledge of the law has earned her the respect of many of my colleagues and the gratitude of clients who were able to settle their case and avoid a prolonged and costly trial.

As the Lead Judge of the Domestic Division, Judge Medeiros presided over many complex divorce cases. Complex divorce cases often require knowledge and familiarity with many different areas of the law including corporate and business law; tax law; real property; bankruptcy and estate/probate issues as well as disputed custody issues. Complex divorce cases can also include choice of law issues and the interpretation and enforcement of agreements executed by parties in another state. Having first been an experienced divorce attorney and then a family court judge, Judge Medeiros was well prepared to handle the various types of complex litigation over which she presided.

Judge Medeiros demonstrates the highest level of integrity both in and outside the courtroom. I have absolutely no doubt that she will be an excellent circuit court judge.

Thank you for this opportunity to support Judge Medeiros' judicial appointment.

Very truly yours,



Stephanie A. Rezens

GM-3

Submitted on: 6/20/2024 8:09:51 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/24/2024 10:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Makia Minerbi | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments: Testimony of Makia Minerbi, in support of the nomination of Dyan Medeiros to serve as a Circuit Court Judge in the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. My name is Makia Minerbi. I have known Judge Dyan Medeiros since she began presiding in Family Court and have appeared before her numerous times. I have worked alongside her on a former Child Support Guidelines Committee and the standing committee on Hawai'i Family Court Rules. I was admitted to the bar in 2008 and after clerking in Circuit Court (J. Michael Wilson) began practicing law with a focus on family law. I manage a staff of six attorneys and paralegals who provide legal services exclusively in the area of family law and coteach an experiential learning course (Family Law Clinic) at William S. Richardson School of Law each Spring. I give this testimony in my personal capacity. I have appeared before Judge Medeiros in Child Protective Act Cases (587A), Divorces (580), and several other case types as well. In addition, I was present in her courtroom scores of times, as part of the court assistance project, to observe hearings and draft orders in cases where both parties were unrepresented. So, I have had the opportunity to observe Ms. Medeiros in several settings over a number of years. Judge Medeiros arrived on the bench after having spent the first part of her career as litigator and partner with one of the most venerable family law firm in the state. She expects a lot from attorneys appearing before her, and for her part she is always prepared, having carefully studied the pleadings. I know this because at times, when drafting her orders, she would provide me with her type-written notes, notes that could only have been prepared in advance of the hearing. This is level of care and attention she brings to bear even in cases where both parties are unrepresented. I appreciate Judge Medeiros' calm demeanor and ability to lower the emotional thermostat in court. In her approach to deciding cases, she is thoughtful and thorough, which translates into detailed rulings that resolve issues and prevent future ones from cropping up. She is sensitive to the special challenges and struggles of economically disadvantaged litigants. What I appreciate most is that she upholds the rights of unrepresented litigants. In one case, she defended the right of an unrepresented litigant to consult with our office before signing an order that the attorney for the other party had drafted and insisted needed to be signed immediately and without consulting anyone. In committee meetings, Judge Medeiros actively seeks out input and differing perspectives to views issues from several perspectives. I fully support her appointment as a Circuit Court Judge, though her absence from the Family Court bench will be felt. Respectfully submitted, Makia Minerbi # 9028

GM-3

Submitted on: 6/20/2024 9:57:06 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/24/2024 10:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| John C Bryant Jr | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments: I have known Judge Medeiros for over 20 years. I have worked with her in private practice, and have worked with her on the Family Court bench. She is very smart and extremely professional. She is one of the best judges in Family Court, and I have no doubt that she will be one of the best judges in Circuit Court. I wholeheartedly support her appointment to Circuit Court.



June 20, 2024

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Legislature

**Re: Support for the Judicial Appointment of Dyan Medeiros, for the
Circuit Court of the First Circuit (O'ahu)**

Dear Chair Rhoads and the Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Tom Crowley. I was a member of the first graduating class of the UH law school and have practiced law for 48 years. I've served as a public defender, an attorney for the Senate Intelligence Committee in Washington, D.C., a trial attorney in civil litigation and, most recently, representing clients in complex family law matters. I know how important it is that our judges understand the law, follow the rules of evidence and the rules of procedure. It is from this point of view that I assure you that Judge Medeiros is highly qualified to be a Circuit Court judge.

As an attorney, Judge Medeiros was an excellent advocate for her clients while being ethical and fair-minded toward opposing counsel. As a judge, her skills have been exemplary. She is smart, well-organized, prompt, careful, and efficient. In addition to managing complicated family relationships, a Family Court judge is regularly tasked with making decisions involving complex legal issues relating to the interpretation and enforcement of agreements, asset valuation, taxes, trusts and estate planning. Judge Medeiros has been a faithful student of the law, humble and dedicated to upholding its principles. She can make the "hard call" when necessary and yet she's a committed settlement judge who uses her natural sense of fairness and candid approach to help parties reach agreement.

In addition to legal ability and moral courage, she has the right judicial temperament. She would conduct trials and hearings so that each party would be able to present its best case, and each would feel the process was fair and dignified, even when the ruling went the other way.

Judge Medeiros' hard work and dedication to the fair administration of justice will continue to reflect well on the Hawaii State Bar and the Judiciary. I'm grateful for the opportunity to support her appointment to the First Circuit Court.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Crowley".

Thomas E. Crowley
Rezens & Crowley, LLP

KLEINTOP & LURIA, LLP

CHARLES T. KLEINTOP
TIMOTHY LURIA

HARBOR COURT, SUITE 2000
55 MERCHANT STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

TELEPHONE:
(808) 524-5183

OF COUNSEL:
LYNN K. KASHIWABARA
MARIA Y. WANG

FAX:
(808) 528-0261

ALAN Y. OKAMOTO
KATYA KATANO

E-Mail:
C.Kleintop@hifamlaw.com

June 20, 2024

VIA E-MAIL: www.capitol.hawaii.gov

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the Judiciary Committee
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: The Honorable Dyan M. Medeiros

Dear Senator Rhoads, Senator Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Charles T. Kleintop and I am the Managing Partner of Kleintop & Luria, LLP here in Honolulu. I have been engaged in the private practice of law here in Honolulu since April 1, 1976.

I am submitting this letter to you in strong support of the confirmation of The Honorable Dyan M. Medeiros for the position of Circuit Court Judge, Circuit Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawai'i.

Judge Medeiros is currently a District Family Court Judge in the Family Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawai'i. She has been appointed by Governor Green to a Circuit Court Judge position in the First Circuit from the list of nominees given to him by the Judicial Selection Commission.

I know Judge Medeiros very well. She started working for me as an associate attorney in my prior law firm, Stirling & Kleintop, in 1998 and joined me as a partner in my current law firm, Kleintop & Luria, in 2008. I supervised her work on a daily basis when she was an associate attorney and, of course, had daily contact with her when she became my partner in 2008. She remained a partner of my firm until she was appointed to be a District Family Court Judge in 2015 by the Chief Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Judge Medeiros was a skilled and talented lawyer, and went on to become one of the best Family Court Judges in the State of Hawai'i. I do not

June 20, 2024

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Members of the Judiciary Committee

Page No. 2

appear before her as her former law partner, but lawyers in my firm do and they and other lawyers report to me on her successes. We also serve on numerous committees together and are close personal friends.

Judge Medeiros is bright, articulate, and dedicated to the law. When she worked for and with me, she demonstrated on a daily basis extraordinary listening, analytical, organizational, and leadership skills in representing her clients effectively in settlement negotiations, alternative dispute resolution efforts, and trials and motion hearings. In addition to these strength skills, Judge Medeiros was extremely diligent in her preparation, articulate orally and in writing, and persuasive in her reasoning. She was also unfailingly decisive, compassionate, and committed to her clients and the legal profession. All of these skills transferred seamlessly to the Bench when she was appointed to be a District Family Court Judge.

As a judge, Judge Medeiros has sat in all the Divisions at Family Court and been the Lead Judge for both the Special Division and the Domestic Division (her current position) because of her leadership skills. She has been a very effective settlement judge and trial judge, eliciting praise from both attorneys and parties who have appeared before her. She will bring all that talent and skill to the Circuit Court.

Judge Medeiros' judicial temperament is exemplary. She is calm, respectful, and patient, but she is also decisive and fair. Exemplary is simply the best word to describe her judicial temperament.

The Family Court environment is often emotional, for parties and their counsel, and it is imperative that the judge stay above the emotion and control it as best as possible. Judge Medeiros has always accomplished this in her courtroom and in doing so, been able to render decisions that are understandable, consistent with the law, and in the best interest of all concerned. There is no question that she is well prepared for the challenges of the next level (Circuit Court).

Judge Medeiros is the type of judge we all want to appear before

June 20, 2024
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the Judiciary Committee
Page No. 3

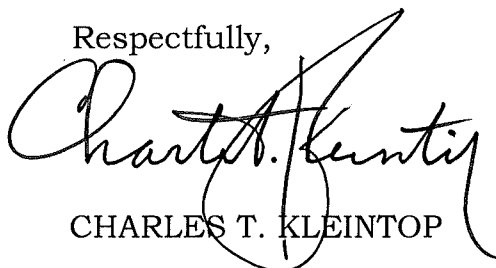
since we know that our clients and their counsel will get a fair hearing and a fair decision. We also know that this judge's opinions and comments in settlement conferences will be duly considered because they will be intelligent, thoughtful, and realistic. It is these kinds of judges who are most effective in Circuit Court because not only can they preside capably and competently over a trial, but they can provide meaningful assistance to parties and their counsel in settlement discussions. Judge Medeiros will be such a judge in Circuit Court.

Judge Medeiros' reputation in the community for honesty, trustworthiness, character, integrity, and citizenship is above and beyond reproach. I know of no one who doesn't hold her in the highest regard in all of these areas. My opinion is obviously the same.

I therefore respectfully give you my highest recommendation of Judge Dyan M. Medeiros for the position of Circuit Court Judge, Circuit Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawai'i. I am confident that she will distinguish herself as a Circuit Court Judge for many years to follow.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Respectfully,



CHARLES T. KLEINTOP

TIMOTHY LURIA
1340 KAHILI STREET
KAILUA, HI 96734

June 21, 2024

Re: Written Testimony to the Hawai'i State Senate in Support of the
Nomination of Dyan Medeiros to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit

I am submitting written testimony in support of the nomination of Family Court Judge Dyan Medeiros to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. I have practiced law in Honolulu since 1982, concentrating in Family Law, and I served as Chair of the Family Law Section of the Hawai'i State Bar Association in 2001.

Judge Medeiros was a partner in my law firm from its inception in 2008 until she was appointed as a Family Court Judge in 2015. While she was a partner the firm's name was Kleintop, Luria & Medeiros, LLP. I had contact with her almost every working day during the time when she was a partner. We discussed cases, worked on cases together, and discussed and analyzed appellate court opinions, statutes, and rules of court.

Based on the foregoing experience with Judge Medeiros, it is my opinion that she has a superb intellect as well as common sense. I have total confidence in her judgment and analytical skills. My experience with her in cases while she was a partner in my law firm was that she was always well-prepared, had an excellent working relationship with her clients and opposing counsel, and was fair, reasonable, and oriented toward solving problems.

Equally important is her work ethic and devotion to the legal profession. I cannot imagine anyone working harder and caring more about making sure that her work accurately and articulately reflected the case law, statutes, or court rules that she cited.

While she was a partner in my firm, Judge Medeiros was a "team player." In other words, she was always mindful of the needs of the firm, and she worked hard to continually improve it. In particular, she went out of her way to mentor and teach the younger and less experienced associate attorneys in our firm, and she volunteered to help with administrative matters when necessary. Those efforts on her part are evidence of her ability to work well with others, her sense of responsibility, and her consistent striving to achieve excellence not only for herself but also for those working with her and for the organization to which she belongs.

Finally, I want to stress my confidence in her integrity, including her financial responsibility. You will not find a more decent, compassionate, and honorable person to serve as a judge.

Very truly yours,
Timothy Luria



FUKUHARA & BLACKSTONE
The Children's Law Center LLLC

June 21, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to submit testimony in support of the confirmation to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, DYAN MEDEIROS, for a term to expire in 10 years.

I have been a family law attorney and child advocate for 25 years, and have had many opportunities to work with Judge Medeiros, both as a family law attorney and judge.

As a lawyer, she was very impressive, but as a judge she has been outstanding. Very early in her career she established herself as one of the best judges in family court, and each year she has taken more of a leadership role at court.

In every case I've had before her, she has also come prepared. She reviews the entire file and has notes and questions ready for the attorneys and parties. It can be very intimidating because she knows her stuff and she runs a tight ship. She expects the professionals to be prepared. She is also very knowledgeable about family law, but just as importantly, she understands the other special intangible considerations when working with separating and divorcing families. She has made it a point to educate herself about very important issues such as child development, the effect of divorce and separation on children families, developmentally appropriate parenting plans, and so on. She has served on many committees.

I have been the co-chair of the Child Law Section of the bar for two years. Judge Medeiros has been very supportive of our section and is always willing to help. She is often the first person I reach out to when we are planning trainings and other events. Additionally, I enjoy serving on her committees because she is very detailed, organized, and wise.

Judge Medeiros has taken a major leadership role in family court. She not only serves on a lot of committees and volunteers her time, but she also is constantly looking to implement new programs and streamline procedures. She is always available to answer questions and speak to attorneys.

Quite frankly, I have mixed feelings about her confirmation. I definitely support her becoming a Circuit Court judge, but I am worried that she may have to spend

some time away from family court. It's hard to imagine family court without her. It would be such a big loss. She has the most institutional knowledge of family court and she has so many great ideas and projects in the works.

Additionally, we are all worried about four judges possibly leaving family court at once. I don't recall the last time that happened. Our family court judges have so many cases and work so hard. A loss like that is scary, especially since, I believe, she has been the longest serving family law judge in the state. I would hate to lose her, even for a short time.

Sincerely,

Stacy Fukuhara-Barclay

Stacy Fukuhara-Barclay

GM-3

Submitted on: 6/23/2024 9:41:14 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/24/2024 10:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Crystal Glendon | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments: I support Judge Medeiros' nomination to the Circuit Court of the State of Hawai'i.

GM-3

Submitted on: 6/23/2024 11:37:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 6/24/2024 10:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Nani Medeiros | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments: I strongly support the nomination of Dyan Medeiros to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. I have known the nominee for 52 years, and gone thru every milestone in her life by her side, including when she became a family court judge. Dyan has a wealth of experience and knowledge which makes her fully qualified. Dyan is native Hawaiian. Where she really shines is her diligence and dedication: you won't find a harder working judge to get the work done. That is what Hawai'i needs, and what our people deserve.



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

Dyan M. Medeiros
Circuit Court Judge of the First Circuit (GM3)

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

FROM: Jesse K. Souki
President, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Monday, June 24, 2024
Conference Room 016 and Videoconference
State Capitol

Thank you for the opportunity to share the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) Board of Directors' comments on Judge Dyan Medeiros' nomination for Circuit Court Judge of the First Circuit.

After a rigorous process, described below, the HSBA Board of Directors concluded that Judge Medeiros is **QUALIFIED**. Judge Medeiros has served as a First Circuit District Family Court Judge since 2015 and is currently serving her second term which began in July 2021. She is presently the Lead Judge of the Domestic Division, presiding over divorce cases. She also is the Presiding Judge of Girls Court. She has practiced primarily in the area of family law for the better part of her career, and has brought a wealth of knowledge to the bench. She has earned respect from the legal community for her even judicial temperament, her preparation and research on cases, her knowledge of novel areas of law and application to cases before her, her hard work, diligence, and commitment to the integrity of the court.

Judge Medeiros will continue to bring her strong work ethic and respect for the law and parties appearing before her to the Circuit Court.

The HSBA Board of Directors followed its multi-step process to arrive at its conclusion, which included:

- The nominee was notified of the HSBA appointment review process, which includes a questionnaire requesting educational credentials, legal and other professional work experiences, and personal references; a resume; a copy of the Judicial Selection Commission (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.

OFFICERS

Jesse K. Souki, President
Mark M. Murakami, President-Elect
Mark K. Murakami, Vice-President
Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao, Secretary
Lanson K. Kupau, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Jocelyn W.C. Chong
Steven J.T. Chow
Jessica R. Domingo
Geraldine N. Hasegawa (East Hawaii)
Amanda M. Jones
Ronette M. Kawakami
Carol S. Kitaoka (West Hawaii)
Erin M. Kobayashi
Jacob K. Lowenthal (Maui)
Simeona L.L.A. Mariano
Emiko Meyers (Kauai)
Robert S. Miyashita
Arsima A. Muller
Paul W. Naso
Zale T. Okazaki

YLD PRESIDENT

Kelcie K. Nagata

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Rhonda L. Griswold

HSBA/ABA DELEGATE

Leslie A. Hayashi

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Catherine A. Betts

- The HSBA membership received an electronic notification of the appointment and a request for comments on the nominee.
- A neutral fact-finding body comprised of three HSBA Board members was called upon to review documentation submitted by the nominee, contact references submitted by the nominee review comments received from the HSBA membership, conduct follow-up for clarification, if necessary, and prepare a report for the HSBA Board.
- Documentation submitted by Judge Medeiros 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 Judge Medeiros in all categories of the HSBA criteria, which include Integrity, Diligence, Legal knowledge and ability, Professional experience, Temperament, Financial responsibility, Public service, and Ability to fulfill the responsibilities and duties of the position.
- The Executive Director and I met with Judge Medeiros on June 19, 2024, to discuss the subcommittee's findings.
- On June 20, 2024, the HSBA Board of Directors interviewed Judge Medeiros in an executive session.
- The HSBA Board deliberated and voted that Judge Medeiros was qualified.

Thank you for your time and attention.