



HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS

NEWSLETTER

September, 1989

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September Monthly Meeting: Judicial Application and Selection Process

Time: September 22, ** 1989, at noon ** (Note Date Change)

Place: Cades Schutte Fleming & Wright Conference Room,
15th Floor, 1000 Bishop Street

Topic: Applying for Judicial Vacancies:
A Step by Step Guide to Selection Process & Procedure

In a recent survey of women attorney in Hawaii, more than half the respondents voiced an interest in serving on the bench. HWLF has a five-year goal of 50% female judges in the State. To date, no female judges have been appointed to the Hawaii Supreme Court or the Intermediate Court of Appeals, and the number of women on the bench in the Circuit Courts and District Courts remains very low.

In view of the September 29, 1989 application deadline for the current Hawaii Supreme Court vacancy, and in hopes of increasing numbers of female Judges in the state through anticipated appointments to these courts in the coming years, HWL is offering a practical, nuts and bolts guide to becoming a judge. We have invited Momi Cazimero, former Judicial Selection Commission member, and two state court judges to discuss the selection process and to offer practical tips on selection criteria, applying for judicial vacancies, and recommending persons for these va-

cancies. Sample application forms and a Rules Book will be available for your review. Please join us and help us make our goals a reality!

October Meeting: Annual Conference for Women Professionals

Please plan to attend the Sixth Annual Joint Conference of Women Professions (aka "Communications Workshop"), to be co-hosted by HWL on Saturday, October 14, 1989, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Tapa Tower. This annual event is a great way to meet new professional women and share common business concerns in Hawaii. The conference, entitled "Women Making the Difference", will offer six workshop sessions, each focusing on current issues of interest to women. More than 300 island women are expected to attend, including members of HWL, Professional Women's Network, National Association of Bank Women (Hawaii State Council), Women in Communications, Inc., Organization of Women Leaders, and the Society of Women Accountants (Hawaii Chapter). A registration brochure is slated to be mailed with this newsletter; if you have not received one, please call Sandra Duckworth, 946-9234, for a copy. Registration fee is \$35.00 (students \$25.00) prior to October 6, and includes brunch.

New HWL Brochure/Membership Drive

We are sending to all HWL members a copy of HWL's new membership brochure, which describes HWL's ongoing efforts to improve the status of women and women attorneys in Hawaii. Please share the brochure with a new friend or colleague and ask them to join HWL.

We are also instituting a new honorary membership category called the "HWL President's Circle," for persons who donate \$100, \$500, or \$1000 or more to Hawaii Women Lawyers. These members will be recognized at the Annual HWL luncheon and specially thanked by the HWL Board. Previous monetary gifts have made a major difference in the success of HWL's programs. Nancy Stiver's testamentary gift gave life to the Hawaii Women Lawyers Foundation, which provides major funding for HWL projects. Harriet Bouslog's contribution to HWL's Women's Biography Project will help publish a biography of early women lawyers in Hawaii, slated for publication this winter. Your gift, too, can make a major difference. Please think of us when you are making charitable donations.

Recap of August Monthly Meeting

HWL thanks Petty Officer Vanita Conti for presenting an informative session on administering first aid to children and infants. We hope to have increased the awareness and capability of HWL participants in providing emergency assistance to young children in distress.

Your Elected Federal Officials and Reproductive Rights

In light of the Supreme Court's decision on Webster, our elected officials have more power than ever to determine the scope and ability of women's reproductive rights. In response to letters by HWL members to our elected federal officials concerning where they stand on reproductive choice, we wish to report excerpts of their responses:

President Bush: "The President opposes abortion and will continue to support a Constitutional amendment to outlaw abortion, except in the cases of rape, incest or when the life of the mother is threatened."

U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye: "I remain committed to reproductive choice, and ... will continue to support the availability of safe, legal abortions for women who decide to terminate their pregnancies."

U.S. Senator Spark Matsunaga: "I have co-signed a Congressional amicus curiae (friend of the court) brief urging that [Roe v. Wade] be upheld. The Court's historic finding [in Roe v. Wade that women have a fundamental right of privacy in abortion] is now settled constitutional doctrine and it is entitled to the weight of stability that law expects under the longstanding doctrine of stare decisis.

U.S. Representative Daniel Akaka: The issue of abortion is an extremely personal one. A woman should be able to choose a course of action that is right for her, be it abortion or pregnancy. The responsibilities associated with such a decision must be freely decided, and not dictated by law. I have supported the authorization of federal funding for abortion in cases where the woman's life was endangered or where conception occurred through rape or incest. I also support the state's right to provide local funding for abortions.

U.S. Representative Patricia Saiki: I believe in pro-choice. It is a women's right to decide what happens to her body. If a woman chooses to have an abortion, it should be performed by a professional and in a proper medical facility just as with any other medical treatment. For this reason, I believe that women below the poverty level should be eligible for federal funding for abortions. Please know that I will do everything I can to preserve the right of privacy for women.

We would like to see similar statements of position (and support) by each of our elected state officials. Please write your elected officials, tell them you are a member of HWL who supports pro-choice, and ask them to state where they stand on reproductive rights. Then send HWL a copy of the responses so we can publish a similar column on our elected state officials and reproductive rights.

Announcements

Personals

Congratulations to HWLF President Joyce Neeley and HWL member Anne Anderson-Metcalf in the opening of their new law firm, Peterson, Neeley, Gravelle, and Anderson-Metcalf. The firm's address is City Financial Tower, Suite 2110, 201 Merchant Street, Honolulu, 96813. Phone: 531-9797; FAX: 537-6458. The firm specializes in community association law and real estate law.

Commendations are also due to UH Professor Katherine Hunt Fedele, author of an article entitled "Putting Children on the Stand," in the August 1989 Trial Magazine. Her article provides insight and expertise for handling child witnesses in initial interviews and preparation for trial, with the perspective that children's testimony can be as credible as that of adults.

Job Positions

Hawaii Supreme Court has a vacancy for appointment of a new justice. All interested candidates, or persons who wish to recommend someone for this vacancy, should attend HWL's September 22, 1989 monthly meeting for details regarding the judicial appointment process.

Legal Aid Society of Hawaii has a staff position available, for an attorney admitted to practice in Hawaii, with 0 - 2 years experience. Duties include litigation, client consultation, advice and negotiations relating to civil litigation, family law, housing, employment, and public entitlement. Applications should provide a resume and short writing sample by September 15, 1989 to Executive Director, Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, 1108 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96817, Attn: Honolulu attorney.

Events of Interest

Federal Practice will be the topic of a seminar by Magistrate Daral G. Conklin and Attorney Richard R. Clifton, at a Lawyer Kokua Program brown bag luncheon on October 4, 1989. The meeting starts at noon at the Intermediate Court of Appeals, 3rd Floor, Old Federal Building, 335 Merchant Street. All interested persons are invited. Free of charge.

HWL MEMBERSHIP

If you have not done so already, please renew your membership. Dues are \$25, \$15 (Out of State Members), \$15 (New Admittees), \$5 (Students). Please remit with the following form to HWL, P.O. Box 2072, Honolulu, Hawaii 96805:

Name _____ Business Address _____

Phone _____ Residence Address _____

Please indicate the committees, if any, on which you would be willing to serve _____

Please note any topics or projects in which you are interested _____

Moved? Name change? Receiving duplicates? Please send old mailing label with corrections to HWL, P.O. Box 2072, Honolulu, Hawaii 96805.

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P.O. Box 2072
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