



# HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS NEWSLETTER

November 1992

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## MESSAGE FROM HWL'S PRESIDENT:

### THE YEAR(S) OF THE WOMAN JUDGE

1992 and 1993 represent unprecedented opportunities for women attorneys in Hawaii to serve their community as judges.

With the election of Democrat Bill Clinton as President, we will finally see some action taken on the appointment of a fourth Hawaii Federal District Court Judge. The position has been authorized and funded by Congress. Never has a woman sat on the Federal Court in Hawaii since before statehood. It's time that our federal judges no longer dispense justice from a segregated bench. Let's get a qualified woman on the Federal Court in 1993!

Last spring, we watched while two capable male jurists were appointed to the Supreme Court of Hawaii, while we listened to complaints that there were just not enough qualified women. Now, only months later, two more positions on the Supreme Court have opened. We know that we do have sufficient number of women ten years out in practice to justify appointment of both Supreme Court positions to women. (It only takes two.) How much longer will our society tolerate one half of the population governing the other half?

These Supreme Court positions, and the two Circuit Court appointments now also open, are for ten year renewable terms. The Federal District Court appointment is for life. The judges who fill these vacancies will impact the lives of women in Hawaii well into the 21st century.

Ours is the transition generation. While we all work for the day when gender is no longer relevant to judicial selection based on merit, at this juncture in our society's history, some acknowledgement must be made of the discrimination against women which has gone before, even if some would call this remedial affirmative action.

It is incumbent upon each and every woman in our community to let her voice be heard by writing to our public officials as private citizens to encourage them to select qualified women for these judicial positions.

For those among us who are qualified, it is especially our privilege as well as our responsibility, as women attorneys, to come forward and apply for these positions which have such an impact on women's lives. We must not give anyone the opportunity to say again, there were not enough qualified women.

Amelia Earhart said: "Courage is the price which each of us must pay for peace of mind." Have the courage to apply. Believe in yourself. Encourage each other. **APPLY TODAY.**

For information on judicial openings, please contact Rhonda Nishimura, Esq. (537-6119), Chair of the HWL Career Opportunities Committee, or Trudy Burns (528-8200).

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## FREE FINANCE & ACCOUNTING HSBA PRACTICE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Friday, December 11, 1992, 3-5 p.m.,  
HSBA Conference Room

- *Form of Business - Michael Porter*
- *Financing Your Law Practice - John Candon*
- *Setting Up Your Books - John Shigemitsu*
- *Basic Accounting & Billing Software & Hardware - Judith Sterling*
- *Checking & Trust Accounts - Michelle Tucker*
- *Billing & Collections - Richard Morry*

Open to attorneys and their staff. Space is limited.  
Call Nancy at 537-1868 to sign up today!

## BILINGUAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON WIFE BATTERING

Alice Yun Chai from the University of Hawaii and Joan Ishibashi of Hawaii Council of Churches will conduct a bilingual clergy training workshop for the Hawaii Association of Korean Christian Churches on "Wife Battering" at 7:00 p.m., Monday, November 9, 1992 at Aiea Korean United Methodist Church.

## HWL BAR CONVENTION

Hawaii Women Lawyers will sponsor a welcome reception for women attorneys during the Bar Convention. Join us in the Ti Leaf Room for an after-lunch social from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 24, 1992. This is an opportunity to meet and talk with HWL Board members and officers, share your ideas for projects, and learn more about applying for boards and commissions. Neighbor island women are especially urged to attend.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CLEARINGHOUSE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline is always looking for volunteers to assist in providing services to battered women, attorneys and service providers. Two unique opportunities for attorneys who want to rack up pro bono credit are the following:

### 1. The Right-To-Know

We need attorneys to work with our facilitator in exploring legal options with victims of domestic violence and answer their specific legal questions.

Commitment: Three hours, one Wednesday evening every three months. Family Law experience required.

### 2. Legal Hotline

Help victims of domestic violence connect with the solutions and services they need.

Commitment: Two hours per month (between 8 and 5, Monday thru Friday). Family Law and domestic violence training provided.

Contact Nanci Kreidman at 531-3771.

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## PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S NETWORK LUNCHEON

**Event:** November Luncheon Meeting

**Guest Speaker:** Honorable Corinne Watanabe,  
Associate Judge, Hawaii Intermedi-  
ate Court of Appeals

**Topic:** "Life as a *Bench Warmer*"

**Date:** Monday, November 16, 1992

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Place:** Hale Koa Hotel, 2nd Floor,  
DeRussy Hall

**Cost:** \$14.00 Members  
(includes lunch) \$19.00 Guests

Public Invited

**Reservations:** Required. Please make reservations  
by calling 533-4800 prior to noon,  
Friday, November 13, 1992.

### COLLOQUIUM ON GLOBAL FEMINIST COALITION POLITICS

Alice Yun Chai will give a colloquium on "Global Feminist Coalition Politics: the Jungshindae/Military 'Comfort Women' Movement" at 3:30 p.m., Friday, November 20 at Tokioka Room, Moore Hall 319, sponsored by the Center for Japanese Studies, University of Hawaii-Manoa.

## PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S NETWORK PRESENTS:

**Speaker:** Honorable Corinne Watanabe,  
Associate Judge Hawaii  
Intermediate Court of Appeals

**When:** Monday, November 16, 1992

**Where:** Hale Koa Hotel, 2nd Floor, DeRussy  
Hall

What is the Intermediate Court of Appeals? What is its function? What is the ICA's relationship to the justice system in Hawaii? How does Hawaii's justice system compare to others on the mainland? What's it like to be a judge and what is a typical day like?

When we contacted Judge Watanabe, these questions came to mind and you could add more of your own. Judge Watanabe admits that many people ask these questions out of interest and curiosity, so whatever your motives, come to the November meeting to hear the answers!

Watanabe was born and raised in Wahiawa, attended Leilehua High School, University of Hawaii and Baylor University School of Law, graduating in 1974. Her career included State of Hawaii Deputy Attorney General, 1974 - 1984, Attorney General in 1985 and on to First Deputy Attorney General in 1987. In 1987 Watanabe was appointed to the Intermediate Court of Appeals and is one of a few women to receive such an appointment.

Join us in November to meet this dynamic woman and to bring to a close another stimulating meeting year.

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## **HWL MEMBERSHIP**

HWL invites you to become a member, or to renew your membership dues, if you have not already done so. (Dues run from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.) Please send the following form to P.O. Box 2072, Honolulu, Hawaii 96805. Dues are as follows:

Regular member \$40    Out-of-state members \$20    Student members \$10  
New admittees (within 1 year of Hawaii admission ) \$20

HWL President's Circle:    \$100    \$500    \$1000 (circle one)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (night) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Please indicate if you are interested in information about serving on the HWL Board or Committees

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Please note any topics or projects in which you would be interested in assisting

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Moved? Name change? Receiving duplicates? Please send old mailing label with corrections to HWL, P.O. Box 2072, Honolulu, Hawaii 96805. If you have any announcements you wish to submit for the monthly newsletter, please call Susan Li at 543-4791, Rhonda Nishimura at 537-6119, or Kathy Young at 524-4880, or send a copy to HWL by the end of the month.

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### **HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS**

P.O. Box 2072  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96805

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