



HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS NEWSLETTER

May 1993

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WOMEN'S FORUM

DATE: May 28, 1993

TIME: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: Plaza Club (20th Floor), 900 Fort Street Mall

SPEAKER: Susie Anderson

Susie Anderson of Visually Speaking, Inc. will be presenting the program "How to Wake Up the Court—Creating a Lasting Impression with Litigation Graphics" to the May 28, 1993 Hawaii Women Lawyers' Women's Forum luncheon meeting at the Plaza Club. Previously she has been an invited speaker of the American Bar Association, the Hawaii Bar Association, the Richardson School of Law and the Hawaii Association of Legal Assistants.

Ms. Anderson founded Visually Speaking, Inc. in 1984 with the objective of providing Hawaii's legal community with expert consulting on the preparation and presentation of demonstrative evidence media. Specializing in designing customized legal graphics for all fields of litigation used throughout arbitration, trial and appeal, she uses her considerable creative background in visual media to assist her clients in communicating in the courtroom. Visually Speaking has a client base of more than 90 Hawaii firms and has been retained for more than 350 lawsuits, large and small, including the Marcos human rights litigation.

Ms. Anderson serves on the Board of Directors of the Demonstrative Evidence Specialists Association (DESA), a national professional organization committed to establishing and maintaining standards and levels of excellence in the field of demonstrative evidence preparation and presentation. She holds degrees in both Medical Illustration and Visual Design.

Call Mary Houghton at 396-8506 for reservations. ("Walk-ins" are \$17.00)

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE APPROACHES CITY COUNCIL ON ISSUES

For the first time, the Legislative Committee has focused its attention on the City Council. In February, the Legislative Committee Chair invited Councilman Andy Mirikitani (a member of HWL) to a joint meeting of the Legislative Committee with the Chair of the Honolulu County Committee on the Status of Women, and the Chair and Executive Director of the State Commission on the Status of Women, to discuss police misconduct with respect to women. Councilman Mirikitani was very receptive and helpful.

The committee submitted testimony at a subsequent hearing on Police Misconduct which had been previously initiated by Councilman Mirikitani. HWL raised questions about police procedures for domestic violence and sex assault cases that were brought to the attention of the Committee by numerous members. The Committee requested: 1) information regarding police procedures; 2) that a special hearing be held on the issue

of women and police misconduct; and 3) that a Task Force be created, including HWL, the U.H. Women's Studies program and others, to begin work on these issues. Councilman Mirikitani has agreed to hold a special hearing. He has also requested information from the Police Chief regarding police procedures and he supports our idea of a Task Force being formed.

If you have any information which you would like brought to the attention of the City Council regarding police treatment of women, or if you would be willing to testify, or if you have questions you would like answered on this topic, please write to: Councilman Andy Mirikitani at the City Council, Honolulu, HI 96813-3065, or to the HWL Legislative Committee c/o Sara Lyn Smith at 345 Queen Street, Suite 700, Honolulu, HI 96813 so that the committee may prepare for the hearing.

The Legislative Committee has appeared before the State Legislature this year testifying on only a few select bills. The results of that effort will be reported later.

The Chair of the Committee wishes to thank Cori Lau, President of HWL for her leadership in initiating and coordinating a "facilitated" forum in March to discuss and to debate the many issues surrounding the proposed abolition of Interspousal Tort Immunity which is currently pending before the State Legislature. The forum was stimulating, informative and thought provoking—an important exchange of ideas and a contribution to the Bar and to HWL.

JUDICIAL SELECTION COMMISSION OPENINGS

Significant strides have been made in increasing the numbers of women appointed to judicial vacancies, including the appointment of Judge Paula Nakayama to the Hawaii Supreme Court, the first woman justice to serve in 25 years. Another historic opportunity has arisen which HWL feels should not be neglected: the chance for the first woman attorney to serve on the Judicial Selection Commission, the powerful body charged with interviewing applicants, reviewing their qualifications, and for-

warding the short list of candidates' names to the Governor and Chief Justice for appointment to the bench. There are at present, three openings to be filled: one each by the Governor, Senate President and Speaker of the House. Only one of these positions can be filled by an attorney. HWL would like to submit names of interested women attorneys and non-attorneys to each of the appointing authorities for consideration. Please note that service on the Commission demands many hours of your time and lots of hard work, and that you may not aspire to an appointment to the bench for the duration of your six year term or for three years afterward. Interested individuals should contact HWL president, Cori Lau as soon as possible at 956-6551 for further information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline is recruiting volunteers to staff the hotline which assists victims of domestic violence and abuse. Training for volunteers will be provided. If interested or to obtain more information, leave a message for DVCLH President Jan Tamura at 531-3771.

U.S. ATTORNEY AND U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE POSITIONS

You are probably aware that names have been forwarded by Senator Daniel Inouye's office to President Clinton and Attorney General Janet Reno for the positions of U.S. Attorney and U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Hawaii. If you would like to write to the President and/or the Attorney General to support a particular individual on those lists or to encourage the appointments of qualified women to the positions, the addresses are as follows:

President William Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington D.C. 20500

Janet Reno, Esq.
U.S. Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Main Justice Building
Washington D.C. 20530

It may also be helpful to send copies of your letters to Hawaii's Senators:

Honorable Daniel K. Akaka
United States Senate
Prince Kuhio Federal Bldg., Suite 3104
300 Ala Moana Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96850

Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
United States Senate
Prince Kuhio Federal Bldg., Suite 7325
300 Ala Moana Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96850

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Judicial Appointments

Rather than get involved at the endorsement stage, HWL should work towards a better nomination process. The Judicial Selection Commission needs a major overhaul. It needs to be less political and subjective and more open with a broader cross-section of representation. Instead, of political plums to the favored, the judicial selection process should be a process of picking the "best and the brightest" balanced with multi-cultural, gender, etc. needs.

Cynthia Lee

"Nannygate" Sparks Changes

Dear HWL Members:

I am writing to urge HWL members to support the plight of foreign national homecare workers in the United States.

The recent attention on "Nannygate" has brought a long and serious immigration problem to the forefront. As an immigration attorney, I am well aware of the inadequacies of the immigration law. Without a doubt, a change is needed!

Right now, if you wanted to hire a foreign national to care for your child, you would have to wait twelve to fifteen years before a visa would be

available for the individual to begin working for you. Your child can grow up faster than the visa can become available. The state of the Immigration law gives new meaning to the words "planned parenthood." Could you imagine planning a pregnancy twelve years ahead of time?

This year Congress will be asked to pass legislation intended to correct this problem. The law will probably provide for temporary, conditional visas for homecare workers, with permanent residence available after the passage of a conditional period of time.

As a voting member of the Board of Governors of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, I am working to change the law. I hope HWL members will support changing the law by writing to their U.S. Senators and Representatives.

Linda Rose

LAWYER KOKUA PROGRAM BROWN BAG LUNCH

The Lawyer Kokua Program of the HSBA Young Lawyers Division is designed to assist new attorneys in making the transition from law school to practice, and to maintain a high standard of competence among Hawaii's attorneys. Schedules and speakers for the June brown bag luncheon meetings on Oahu, Hawaii and Kauai are as follows:

Oahu—HSBA, 1136 Union Mall, Penthouse 1 both
Honolulu, Hawaii

June 3, 1993	Hon. Lloyd King Bankruptcy Court Practice
12p.m. - 1:15p.m.	

West Hawaii—Judge Ibarra's Courtroom,
Kealahou, Hawaii

June 25, 1993	Hon. Ronald Ibarra Courtroom Etiquette and Administrative Procedures for Family Court and Third Circuit Court
12p.m. - 1:15p.m.	

Hilo—Third Circuit Courtroom,
Hilo, Hawaii

*[Date]

12p.m. - 1:15p.m.

Hon. Ronald Ibarra
Third Circuit
Court Practice

Kauai—Front of the County Building,
Lihue, Kauai

**[Date]

12p.m. - 1:15p.m.

Small Firm
[TBA]
Practice

*For date of meeting contact Henry Nakamoto 961-0641

**Contact Galen Nakamura 241-6315

SOLO & SMALL FIRM PRACTITIONER'S HANDBOOK

A kick-off workshop for the **SOLO & SMALL FIRM PRACTITIONER'S HANDBOOK** will be held on May 1993 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Intermediate Court of Appeals courtroom. Author-practitioners of the handbook will be featured as panelists on such topics entitled: "Setting Up"; "Employment & Office Policies"; "Getting Down to Business" and more. Call Nancy at 537-1868 for workshop reservations or additional information.

HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS

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in HI

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