



**FIRST CIRCUIT COURT — THE JUDICIARY • STATE OF HAWAII**

777 PUNCHBOWL STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5093 • TELEPHONE (808) 539-4400 • FAX (808)

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor**

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair

Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 22, 2017, 9:30 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

by

Lori Ann Okita

Chief Court Administrator

First Circuit

**Bill No. and Title: GM 506 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Intermediate Court of Appeals as Associate Judge, Gubernatorial Nominee, DERRICK H.M. CHAN, for a term of 10 years.**

This is written in strong support of the appointment of Judge Derrick H.M. Chan as associate judge to the Intermediate Court of Appeals.

I have had the honor and privilege of working directly for Judge Chan, Chief Judge of the First Circuit, since 2012. Judge Chan has always been fair, understanding, supportive and compassionate. Further, Judge Chan is uncompromising with respect to doing what is just and right. This is why it has been so easy working for him - because, even with the tough, oftentimes complex issues we are presented with in the First Circuit, Judge Chan expects no less of us regardless of the outcomes of the decision. Coupled with his unassuming, common sense and realistic approach to review and problem-solving of issues, Judge Chan has provided stable, consistent and encouraging leadership to the First Circuit.

On a final and personal note, I believe that we are blessed with many gifts throughout our life. Based upon what I have seen working with Judge Chan for these many years, one of his many gifts is his ability to make people feel good about themselves, which is apparent in his interactions with so many throughout the Judiciary.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.