Supreme Court of the State of Hawai'i



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Nelson K. Doi was born on January 1, 1922 in Pahoa on the Island of Hawai'i. He was a graduate of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and obtained his law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School. Judge Doi was admitted to the Hawai'i Bar on December 6, 1948, during the state's Territorial years, and immediately started work as a Deputy County Attorney in Hilo; and

WHEREAS, at the age of twenty-eight, Judge Doi was elected the youngest delegate of the Hawai'i State Constitutional Convention and was one of five members sent to successfully lobby for Hawaii's statehood in Washington, D.C. He held the honor of being the last surviving signator of the Hawai'i State Constitution adopted in 1950; and

WHEREAS, Judge Doi has the distinction of serving the public in all three branches of government. First, in the Legislative Branch, beginning in 1955where he held Territory and State Senate seats representing the Island of Hawai'i for 14 years, serving as Majority Floor Leader and Senate President; and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 1969, the Judiciary became the beneficiary of Judge Doi's wisdom and expertise when he was appointed by Governor John A. Burns as Judge of the Circuit Court of the Third Circuit, presiding over family court cases and thereby serving families in the community in which he was raised; and

WHEREAS, Judge Doi left the bench on November 30, 1973, to pursue a position as Lieutenant Governor with the Executive Branch, an election he successfully won in 1974. Following his four-year term, the Judiciary was once again fortunate to have him return to the courts as a Per Diem District Family Court Judge in the First Circuit, an appointment made by Chief Justice William S. Richardson on September 4, 1979. Judge Doi served as a per diem judge until his resignation on December 15, 1979; and

WHEREAS, Judge Doi was a strong advocate of juvenile assistance programs, and throughout his career on the bench, was able to make a direct impact on the lives of many families. He served with honor and distinction, and had great compassion for those in need. His contributions that have shaped our state will always be remembered, and he will be greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Judiciary expresses its sincere condolences to the family of the late Nelson K. Doi and extends our sincere appreciation for the many contributions he has made to Hawaii's legal community.

DONE, at the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai^{*}i, this 12th day of July, 2015.

MARK E. RECKTENWALD Chief Justice, Hawai' i State Supreme Court