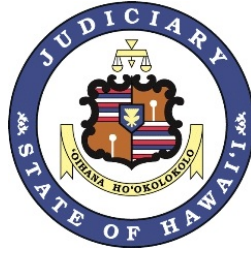


Supreme Court of the State of Hawai‘i



Proclamation

*WHEREAS, **Betty M. Vitousek** was born in Wenatchee, Washington. She earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology from the University of Washington in 1940, and a law degree from Stanford Law School in 1948. After graduating, Judge Vitousek came to Hawai‘i where she was admitted to the Hawai‘i bar; and*

WHEREAS, early in her career, Judge Vitousek specialized in adoptions, both in her private practice, and as a volunteer consultant with Child and Family Services. She also conducted the research which laid the groundwork for the formation of the Legal Aid Society of Hawai‘i in 1950, and served as the first Executive Director of the Hawai‘i State Bar Association from 1961 to 1968; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 1970, the Judiciary became the beneficiary of Judge Vitousek’s wisdom and expertise when she was appointed by Governor John A. Burns, as Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, and presided in the newly created Family Court. At that time, Judge Vitousek held the distinction of being the only active female judge in the State of Hawai‘i. In 1977, she became the Senior Family Court Judge, and continued in that role until her retirement in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Judge Vitousek’s service throughout her 18 years on the bench was marked with honor and distinction. As a jurist and a leader, she personified grace, compassion, and wisdom. She was innovative and collaborative, and envisioned an expanded role for the court in addressing the root causes and impacts of disputes. Her work has left a lasting impact on Hawaii’s families as the values, vision, and culture she fostered have continued to be shared by a new generation of judges and lawyers. She was generous with her time and expertise, and served as a mentor and role model to many. Her contributions to the court and the people of Hawai‘i will always be remembered, and she will be greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai‘i State Judiciary expresses its sincere condolences to the family of the late Honorable Betty M. Vitousek and extends our sincere appreciation for her many outstanding contributions to Hawaii’s legal community, and especially to Hawaii’s families.

DONE, at the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai‘i, this 17th day of November, 2017.

/s/ Mark E. Recktenwald

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