Supreme Court of the State of Hawai'i



WHEREAS, Associate Justice Richard W. Pollack earned a Bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, in 1976; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Justice Pollack began his legal career in Hawai'i working as an Associate with Sherman S. Hee, A Law Corporation. In 1980, he joined the Office of the Public Defender on O'ahu as a Deputy Public Defender, and in 1983, was promoted to Supervisor of the Maui Branch. A year and a half later, he became the Litigation Research Director where he supervised the work of the appellate division, writing and reviewing appellate briefs and presenting oral arguments in the appellate courts. In 1987, Justice Pollack became the State's Public Defender, overseeing approximately 100 attorneys plus support staff in five locations across all islands, while continuing to supervise the office's appellate division. Justice Pollack served admirably in this role for more than thirteen years. The professionalism and dedication of the staff under his leadership was a reflection of his high standards and genuine caring for every member of the office; and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2000, the Hawai'i State Judiciary became the beneficiary of Justice Pollack's wealth of experience and knowledge when he was appointed by Governor Benjamin J. Cayetano as Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. He served in the civil division for the first four years, followed by eight years in the criminal division. On August 6, 2012, he was appointed by Governor Neil Abercrombie as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Hawai'i, where he has served with distinction for the last eight years; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Supreme Court, Justice Pollack was extraordinarily productive, authoring more than 150 opinions, all of which were meticulously researched and clearly written. He shaped the court's jurisprudence in areas including public trust resources and the environment, criminal procedure, evidence, and public access to governmental proceedings. He was always respectful in his decisions, even when others held different points of view; and

WHEREAS, Justice Pollack has made extensive contributions on key Judiciary committees, including the Permanent Committee on Rules of Penal Procedure and Circuit Court Criminal Rules, the Standing Committee on the Rules of Evidence, the Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions, the Penal Code Review Committee, and the Standing Committee to Review the Hawai 'i Rules of Appellate Procedure. He also took on the leadership of the Supreme Court's Commission on Professionalism shortly after joining the court, whose vital work has helped to enhance professionalism among Hawai 'i's lawyers; and

WHEREAS, since 1990, Justice Pollack has served as an Adjunct Professor with the William S. Richardson School of Law, teaching courses such as the Criminal Defense Clinic, Criminal Procedure, and Law of Evidence. Even after being appointed as a judge, he continued serving in that role on a voluntary basis. His great respect for the law and his passion to elevate the legal profession has made him a valued mentor to countless students; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many professional contributions, Justice Pollack has been an unwavering source of friendship, goodwill, and aloha to countless Judiciary employees, attorneys, and other members of our community, and a valued colleague and friend of his fellow judges and justices; and

WHEREAS, although his retirement after forty years of dedicated service to the legal community and the people of Hawai'i is, indeed, well-deserved, he will be greatly missed. The Judiciary 'Ohana extends its heartfelt appreciation to Justice Pollack for the privilege and honor of working with him, and extends best wishes to him, his wife, Candy, and their family, for continued good health and prosperity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK E. RECKTENWALD, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, July 1, 2020, to be

"JUSTICE RICHARD W. POLLACK DAY" in the Courts of the State of Hawai'i

DONE, at the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai'i, this 1^{ST} day of July, 2020.

/s/ Mark E. Recktenwald

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