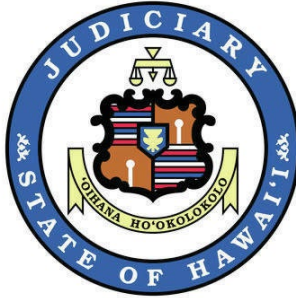


Supreme Court of the State of Hawai‘i



THE HONORABLE JEANNETTE H. CASTAGNETTI 2022 JURIST OF THE YEAR

The Honorable Jeannette H. Castagnetti's distinguished 15-year judicial career began on December 10, 2007 when she was appointed by Chief Justice Ronald T.Y. Moon as a Per Diem District Court Judge in the First Circuit. Three years later, on September 30, 2010, she was appointed by Governor Linda Lingle to the Circuit Court bench. Initially, Judge Castagnetti presided over family court matters, including domestic violence cases, and then transitioned to the civil calendar, where she has been ever since. On January 9, 2017, in recognition of her strong leadership skills, Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald designated her as the Deputy Chief Judge and Administrative Judge of the First Circuit's Civil Division. She also served as the First Circuit's Senior Environmental Court Judge when the court was first established on July 1, 2015. As this new and unique court took shape, she was instrumental in developing processes and establishing a high bar for justice excellence in this specialized area.

Judge Castagnetti is the model of professionalism and civility in her courtroom. She conducts herself in a manner that instills confidence in her independence, impartiality, and integrity. In addition to being an excellent jurist, she is well known for her exceptional work ethic, and is particularly effective as a mentor. Judge Castagnetti has provided a vast amount of her time and talent to key Judiciary initiatives, including serving as Chair on both the Permanent Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure and Circuit Court Civil Rules and the Committee on Pattern Civil Jury Instructions. She is also Chair of the Judicial Arbitration Commission and a member of the Committee on Judicial Education.

In 2018, Judge Castagnetti served on the Task Force on Civil Justice Improvements, which developed innovative proposals to reduce delays in civil litigation and to streamline the litigation process. The Task Force's extensive findings and recommendations resulted in numerous rule amendments promulgated in an effort to enhance, update, and improve civil litigation practice in Hawai'i's circuit courts. Judge Castagnetti then stepped up to spearhead the Committee on the Implementation of Rules Promulgated for Civil Justice Improvements to determine procedures and guidelines that would ensure a smooth transition to the new rules. Under her leadership, the committee provided informative training for the legal community and Judiciary staff which facilitated the rollout of the new rules, and provided an opportunity to immediately address concerns before the rules took effect.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought on a new set of challenges, and all throughout, Judge Castagnetti played an integral role in shaping the Judiciary's response as a member of the Committee on Operational Solutions. When confronted with a disruption of jury trials and the potential of a sizeable increase in foreclosure cases, her practical approach to problem solving kept everyone focused on how the Judiciary could best address those challenges, while keeping the needs of the litigants at the forefront.

*The Jurist of the Year is selected for exceptional judicial competence evidenced by decisional quality, significant extra-judicial contributions to the administration of justice, and active participation in public service to the community at large. **On behalf of the Hawai'i State Judiciary, it is my privilege to bestow upon the Honorable Jeannette H. Castagnetti the recognition of 2022 Jurist of the Year.***

*DONE, at the Supreme Court of the State
of Hawai'i, this 23rd day of September, 2022.*

/s/ Mark E. Recktenwald

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