

*Eighteenth Annual Ku'ikahi Mediation Center*  
**RECOGNITION DINNER**  
*together with the Hawai'i County Bar Association*

*Sunday, November 12, 2023*  
*Hilo Hawaiian Hotel's Moku'ola Ballroom*

**COCKTAIL HOUR**

☞ Music by Larry Conklin

☞ No-Host Cocktails

☞ Silent Auction (closes 7:30 p.m.)

**PROGRAM**

☞ Welcome by Emcee Lincoln Ashida

☞ Introduction of Ku'ikahi Mediation Center  
Board of Directors, Staff, and Mediators

☞ Introduction of Hawai'i County Bar Association Officers

☞ Blessing & Dinner

☞ Welcome & Mahalos by Ku'ikahi Mediation Center

☞ Ku'ikahi Mediation Center  
'Peacemaker Award' to Gerald De Mello

☞ Wine Auction

☞ Live Auction by Newton Chu

☞ Hawai'i County Bar Association  
'Meritorious Service Award' to The Honorable Robert D.S. Kim

☞ Closing Remarks

☞ Auction Payment (after 8:30 p.m.)

# MAHALO NUI LOA

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### *WHAT'S IN A NAME?*

**Ku'ikahi means a treaty, covenant, agreement,  
feeling of unity, peace, reconciliation.**

*(excerpted from the Hawaiian Dictionary by Mary Kawena Pukui & Samuel H. Elbert)*



# Mahalo

Mahalo Honorable Robert D.S. Kim, Chief Judge of  
the Third Circuit for your years of service.

Ho'omaika'i Gerald De Mello, Director of  
Community Relations at University of Hawai'i  
at Hilo (ret.) on receiving the prestigious  
'Peacemaker Award'.

Thank you Ku'ikahi Mediation Center  
for your commitment and dedication  
to our community.

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## **Congratulations to Gerald De Mello for being a recipient of the Peacemaker Award.**

Bob and I were both raised on Hawai'i Island. Since 1995, on our visits to Hilo we would visually see UH Hilo "growing taller." Today, there is a wealth of tall buildings that visibly evidence Gerald's history of collaborative efforts with our elected officials at the State Legislature, our Congressional Delegation, County Government, and private sector to enrich and grow UH Hilo. Today's campus serves to remind us of what has been accomplished and what still remains to be done to fully embrace the campus educational potential as well as the socio-economic benefits to the community and Hawai'i's people.

Congratulations, Gerald, on the Peacemaker Award. Your work and collaboration with many others to come together is a contribution that helped to build and expand UH Hilo... to educate and inspire students to realize and develop their potential and interests as well grow a campus that the Hawai'i Island community can be proud of.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Governor John Waihe'e  
1986-1994

Robert McFarlane  
Hawai'i

## *GERALD DE MELLO*



**Gerald De Mello** was born and raised in Hilo as a fourth generation Hilo resident from a family that now spans six generations in Hilo and Hamakua. A graduate of Hilo High School, he holds a B.A. in Education from Eastern Washington State University and an M.A. in Sociology from University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Over 14 years, Gerald taught at Hawai'i Community College and University of Hawai'i at Hilo. He was appointed as Governor John Waihe'e's Administrative Liaison Officer and was part of the team that helped displaced workers find educational options or new employment to stabilize families after the closure of the sugar plantations. For Gerald, this type of uplifting community work was something he sought out throughout his career. In 1991, he became UH Hilo's Director of University Relations and External Affairs, a post he held for 21 years under five different chancellors. Working in collaboration with Chancellor Rose Tseng for 12 years, the Hawai'i State Legislature, and the community, Gerald is credited as the lead at the legislature with bringing together vital UH Hilo projects, including the University Classroom Building, Marine Science Building, Student Life Center, Student Services Center, Science and Technology Building, and Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College Hawaiian Language Building, among others.

Gerald worked collaboratively with many others on major team projects including the building of the North Hawai'i Education and Research Center in Honoka'a (now the Kō Education Center), the initial proposed vision for the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center, the transfer of the U.S. Army Reserve Center on Lanikaula Street to UH Hilo, the donation of the Bank of Hawai'i building in downtown Hilo to UH Hilo, and securing funding for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy building at UH Hilo. His community service includes being a member of the Hawai'i State Board of Land and Natural Resources, Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board, Lyman Museum board of trustees, Hawai'i Tourism Authority board of directors, and task forces to select sites for Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i campus in Kea'au, UH Hilo Science and Technology Park, and Hawai'i Island Portuguese Chamber of Commerce Cultural and Educational Center. He says that, "Alone we can do so little, together we can do much." Gerald credits his high school sweetheart and wife, Claudette, with support and encouragement given over the years because "without her being supportive," he says, "I would not be able to do the long hours and long days of work; in short, I would not be able to go out the door."

# CONGRATULATIONS AND MAHALO TO

**Ku'ikahi Mediation Center  
Peacemaker Award Recipient  
Gerald De Mello**

**Hawaii County Bar Association  
Meritorious Service Award Recipient  
The Honorable Robert D.S. Kim  
Chief Judge of the Third Circuit**



# THE HONORABLE ROBERT D.S. KIM



**The Honorable Robert D.S. Kim** grew up on the Big Island, having attended Waiakea Elementary and Intermediate. He is a graduate of Hilo High School, Class of 1972. He received his B.A. in Political Science from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and served as Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i (ASUH) President from 1976-1977. Judge

Kim worked in the Hawai'i State Senate prior to law school for five sessions, and served for two years as the Committee Clerk for the Senate Judiciary Committee. He also served as Chairperson for the Hawai'i Democratic Party for the Island of Hawai'i from 1996-1998.

Judge Kim received his J.D. from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law, where he was a member of the law review. After law school, he worked on O'ahu for several firms in the areas of construction, banking, and other civil litigation. In 1990, he returned to the Big Island where he practiced in the areas of real estate and civil litigation. Thereafter, he opened his own firm in Kona and practiced civil, criminal, family, and environmental law. Judge Kim was elected West Hawai'i Bar President nine times in an effort to secure the funding for the Keahoulū Courthouse in Kailua-Kona. He also had been appointed by U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye to serve on the Saddle Road Task Force to help guide the development of the cross-island road. He volunteered his time on this task force for 20 years. Judge Kim litigated numerous cases on a *pro bono* basis, including serving as local counsel for Na Loio in domestic violence matters, assisting the most vulnerable members of our society, namely immigrant women who were unable to converse in English and were susceptible to domestic and financial abuse. He also served as *pro bono* counsel in environmental cases in West Hawai'i, including the landmark decision in *Ka Pa'akai O Ka'aina v. Land Use Commission* which addressed the constitutional obligation to preserve and protect customary/traditional rights of Native Hawaiians.

In 2017, Robert D.S. Kim was sworn in by Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald to serve as Judge of the Circuit Court of the Third Circuit in Kona. He is currently Chief Judge for the Third Circuit Court, Island of Hawai'i, State of Hawai'i. He oversees over 200 employees and 10 judges, with an annual budget of approximately 20 million dollars. Judge Kim was recently selected by the Chief Justice as the Jurist of the Year for 2023, for outstanding leadership and service.



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# CONGRATULATIONS

Gerald De Mello and Judge Robert D.S. Kim!



Visit our website!

Explore our offerings!

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- ☎ (808) 933-6700
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## *Congratulations honorees Gerald De Mello & Chief Judge Robert Kim*

*From Dale & Sandra Tokuuke*



Please celebrate **40 years** of mediation, facilitation, and training to strengthen the ability of diverse individuals and groups to resolve interpersonal conflicts and community issues.

**Join us in giving!**

<https://hawaii-mediation.org/donate/>  
or text "Peacemaker" to 801801



*Congratulations to our friend  
Judge Robert Kim*

*Gerald is humbled and honored to receive Ku'ikahi's  
Peacemaker Award. We sincerely appreciate your  
attendance at tonight's recognition dinner.*

*We wouldn't be here without all of you...  
whose hands and hearts helped shape our campuses  
and communities into the special places they are today.*

*With Warmest Aloha,  
Gerald & Claudette De Mello*

**Congratulations to Peacemaker  
Award recipient Gerald De Mello.**

**And HCBA honoree  
The Honorable Robert D.S. Kim.**

Your many contributions to our Hawai'i Island families,  
organizations and communities have  
helped us find solutions and come together in peace.



**Hawaiian  
Electric**

*Mahalo to community contributors*

**Gerald De Mello**

**Ku'ikahi Mediation Center  
Peacemaker Award**

**Judge Robert Kim**

**Hawaii County Bar Association  
Meritorious Service Award**

*With deep appreciation, Janet Fujioka*



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*Congratulations to the  
2023 Honorees!*



# Congratulations

**Peacemaker Award  
Gerald De Mello**

**HCBA Honoree  
The Honorable  
Robert D.S. Kim**

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808-935-3751

KTA Puainako, Hilo  
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KTA Waikoloa Village  
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## 18TH ANNUAL RECOGNITION DINNER & AUCTION

Congratulations to the Honorees:

### **Honorable Robert D.S. Kim**

Chief Judge of the Third Circuit. 2023 Jurist of the Year

### **Gerald De Mello**

(ret.) Director of University Relations, UH Hilo. 21 years of service

“Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.”

–Martin Luther King Jr.



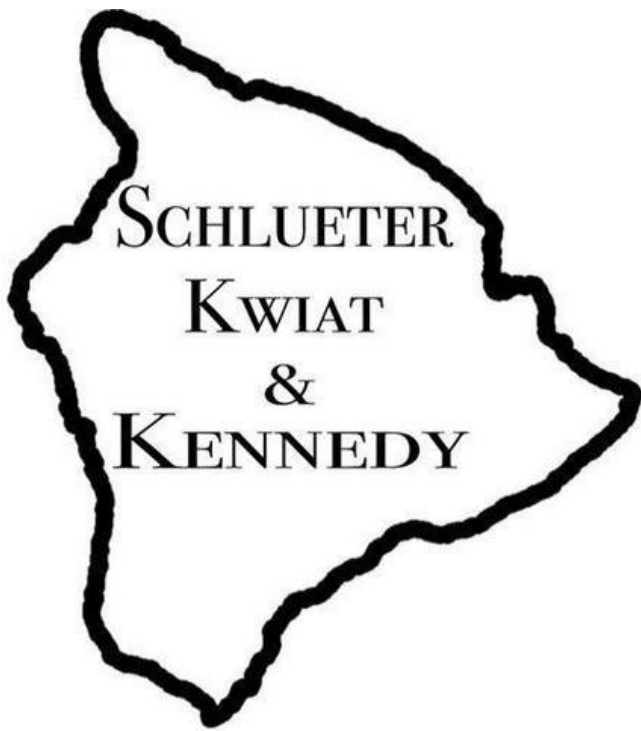
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Congratulations to the honorees!



TED H.S. HONG

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**Congratulations to Gerald De Mello  
and The Honorable Robert D.S. Kim**

## ***MAHALO NUI LOA***

### ***Cash Donors***

Community First Hawai'i, Green Point Nurseries,  
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Wilma Matsumura, Jo-Lyn & Judge Greg Nakamura (ret.),  
Gerald & Judge Barbara Takase (ret.), Dr. Rose Tseng,  
Roberta & Judge Andrew P. Wilson (ret.)

### ***In-Kind Donors***

Basically Books, Big Island Delights, Day-Lum Rentals & Management,  
Inc., Hawaii Printing Corporation, Hilo Medical Center Foundation,  
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Shaunda Liu Makaimoku, Cheryl Matsumura, Julie Mitchell,  
Roy Takemoto, Georgette Yaindl,  
and all our gracious special event volunteers

***And to all of our Ticket Buyers, Bidders & Auction Donors...***

***because of you, our community is  
"FINDING SOLUTIONS, GROWING PEACE"***

## *\$40K for 40 years*

The support of generous people like you has helped individuals, families, organizations, business, schools, and others to find creative solutions to challenging situations since 1983.

When people have an opportunity to be heard, working through problems is possible. When you contribute, you allow even more voices to be heard. You become a partner in peacemaking!

**How can you celebrate 40 years of “Finding Solutions, Growing Peace”? Support the movement to...**

✧ Increase Civil Dialogue.

Your generosity changes people’s lives right now. The Landlord Tenant Mediation Program provides free conflict prevention and resolution services to residential renters and property owners in Hawai’i County. Mediators help community members have productive conversations to prevent misunderstandings, explore available options, and avert legal action. ***Help people talk it out to prevent evictions.***

✧ Promote Collaborative Problem-Solving.

Your donation enables clients to access services. Over 50% of mediation clients have incomes of under \$20,000 and live in some of the most economically disadvantaged areas in the state. Allowing people to mediate wherever they are, including via videoconference, removes barriers to service. ***Ensure professionally trained volunteer mediators have the capacity to serve the most vulnerable among us.***

✧ Spread Courteous Curiosity.

Your contribution allows keiki to kupuna to learn crucial communication skills that let cool heads and warm hearts prevail. From Free Brown Bag Lunch talks and Basic Mediation Training to conflict resolution for kids, community members learn how to be courteous and curious, both essential for critical thinking. ***Encourage calm communities and open-minded citizens who know how to work things out.***

Please celebrate 40 YEARS of mediation, facilitation, and training to strengthen the ability of diverse individuals and groups to resolve interpersonal conflicts and community issues. Be a partner for peace!

TEXT TO GIVE OR SCAN QR CODE BELOW

# Text “Peacemaker” to 801801



*Give now. Find Solutions. Grow Peace.*

- \$50 ☞ prints co-parenting workbooks to empower parents to meet their children’s needs.
- \$75 ☞ assists a low-income community member resolve a dispute through mediation.
- \$125 ☞ sponsors a Free Brown Bag Lunch Series talk on “Finding Solutions, Growing Peace.”
- \$250 ☞ hosts a Landlord Tenant Mediation to prevent evictions and homelessness.
- \$500 ☞ gives scholarships to two new volunteer mediators taking Basic Mediation Training.
- \$1,000 ☞ supports meeting facilitation to assist groups to find creative solutions.
- \$2,500 ☞ provides skills-building workshops to increase communication and decrease conflict.
- \$5,000 ☞ sponsors 4-Day Basic Mediation Trainings to recruit volunteer mediators.
- \$10,000 ☞ promotes peacemaking via youth and adult education in East Hawai’i.

Please consider joining the

*Peace Growers Circle*

with a monthly recurring gift.

For less than a pint of ice cream each week,  
you can commit to growing peace year-round!

<u>1 Year</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Daily</u>
\$ 125	\$ 10.41	\$ .34
\$ 250	\$ 20.83	\$ .68
\$ 500	\$ 41.66	\$ 1.37
\$ 1,000	\$ 83.33	\$ 2.74
\$ 2,500	\$208.33	\$ 6.85
\$ 5,000	\$416.66	\$13.70
\$10,000	\$833.33	\$27.40

Give online at <https://hawaii-mediation.org/donate/>,  
mail to 101 Aupuni Street, Suite PH 1014 B-2, Hilo, Hawai’i 96720,  
or call us at (808) 935-7844 to process your tax-deductible gift.



Ku'ikahi Mediation Center has earned a Four-Star Rating (the highest possible rating) on Charity Navigator and a Candid Gold Seal of Transparency on GuideStar. These third-party accreditations validate our organization’s operational excellence and deep commitment to nonprofit transparency and accountability.





# Ku'ikahi Mediation Center

*Finding Solutions, Growing Peace*

## OUR VISION

A peaceful community where people routinely seek common ground.

## OUR MISSION

We empower people to come together—to talk and to listen, to explore options, and to find their own best solutions.

To achieve this mission, we offer mediation, facilitation, and training to strengthen the ability of diverse individuals and groups to resolve interpersonal conflicts and community issues.

## OUR VALUES

Communication, Collaboration, Confidentiality, Courtesy, Competence

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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