

THE JUDICIARY- STATE OF HAWAII

Notice to Attorneys and Non-Attorneys  
Interested in Providing Legal Counsel and Guardian Ad Litem Services to the Family Courts in  
the Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”)  
Chapter 587A and 571 Proceedings

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. J27006

The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i, invites licensed attorneys and qualified non-attorney applicants to submit letters of interest and statements of qualifications to provide Guardian Ad Litem and Legal Counsel services on a contract basis, as needed, beginning July 1, 2026. Attorneys will provide both Legal Counsel and Guardian Ad Litem services for the Family Court of the Third Circuit for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. The contract term will be for one (1) year, from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027.

The objective is to assist the Judiciary in providing Legal Counsel services for parents and Guardian Ad Litem services for parties involved in HRS Chapter 587A proceedings, as well as Guardian Ad Litem services for juveniles in HRS Chapter 571 proceedings. Qualified non-attorneys are encouraged to apply to provide Guardian Ad Litem services.

**COMPENSATION:**

Contractors shall be compensated at the following rates:

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM APPOINTMENTS:**

FIRST YEAR (months 1 through 12):  
\$310.00 per month / \$3,720.00 total

SECOND YEAR (months 13 through 24):  
\$245.00 per month / \$2,940.00 total

THIRD YEAR (months 25 through 36):  
\$140.00 per month / \$1,680.00 total

FOURTH YEAR (months 37 through 48):  
\$50.00 per month / \$600.00 total

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM SPECIALIZED RATES:**

One (1) to three (3) appointments paid at regular rate.  
Four (4) to six (6) appointments paid double the regular rate.  
Seven (7) to nine (9) appointments paid triple the regular rate.  
Payment amount will be reduced to the appropriate rate as the number of appointments are discharged from the case.

**LEGAL COUNSEL APPOINTMENTS:**

FIRST YEAR (months 1 through 12):  
\$250.00 per month / \$3,000.00 total

SECOND YEAR (months 13 through 24):  
\$170.00 per month / \$2,040.00 total

THIRD YEAR (months 25 through 36):  
\$95.00 per month / \$1,140.00 total

FOURTH YEAR (months 37 through 48):  
\$50.00 per month / \$600.00 total

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

Possess a graduate degree and the required licenses in social work, psychology, or a related field, or be licensed to practice law in the State of Hawai‘i. *(Note: Contractors who are not licensed to practice law in the State of Hawai‘i will be considered only for Guardian Ad Litem services and will be responsible for obtaining and covering the cost of legal representation when necessary.)*

Individuals who are interested in and capable of providing these services should submit a letter of interest along with a statement of qualifications that includes the required information and materials by **12:00 p.m. H.S.T., on Tuesday, March 31, 2026.**

Submittals for this RFQ must be sent by email only to the following contact, with “RFQ J27006 – Statement of Qualifications” included in the subject line:

Ms. Noreen Miyasato  
Noreen.K.Miyasato@courts.hawaii.gov

The statement of qualifications shall include:

1. The name, business address, telephone and fax number(s), and e-mail address of the Applicant.
2. Documentation or other evidence demonstrating a minimum of one (1) year of experience with cases involving HRS Chapters 587A, 571, 586, UCCJ, divorce, and/or paternity, **or** verification of at least two (2) years of experience working with children and families.
3. Description of past performance on projects of similar scope completed within the past five (5) years for public and/or private organizations in the State of Hawai‘i, including any corrective actions taken or responses to notices of deficiencies, if applicable.
4. Three (3) references whom the Judiciary may freely contact.
5. Documentation confirming that the applicant has completed training and/or education in areas such as the dynamics of child abuse and neglect, child development, cultural

competency, child sexual abuse, sex offender treatment, family dynamics, domestic violence, and/or related topics.

6. Documentation demonstrating that the Applicant is in compliance with applicable laws pursuant to HRS §103D-310. Alternatively, applicants are encouraged to provide a Hawaii Compliance Express (HCE) certificate to satisfy this requirement: <https://vendors.ehawaii.gov/hce/splash/welcome.html>.
7. Attorneys must provide proof of current Professional Liability (Errors and Omissions) insurance in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 per claim and \$2,000,000 annual aggregate at the time of contract execution.
8. Consent for the Judiciary to obtain information from the Department of Human Services–Child Welfare Services, Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC), Hawai‘i Judiciary Information System, Criminal Justice Information System, National Crime Information Center, Juvenile Statewide Information System, and the Sex Offender Registry.

A statement confirming that the Applicant agrees to consent to and submit to fingerprinting through the Judiciary–Third Circuit Program Specialist, as mandated by the National Child Protection Act of 1993 (NCPA), Public Law 103-209; the Volunteers for Children Act (VCA), Public Law 105-521; and Section 846-2.7, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, as amended. This authorizes national and state fingerprint-based criminal history record checks for employees, volunteers, and applicants who provide care for, or have direct unsupervised access to, children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities.

A confirmed report of child abuse or neglect will disqualify an applicant from receiving a contract.

9. Any additional information or materials the Applicant believes would be useful and relevant for consideration in providing the services described above.

#### **REJECTION OF QUALIFICATIONS:**

A qualification submittal may be rejected, in whole or in part, when in the best interest of the purchasing agency, as provided in 3-122-97, HAR.

**APPROVAL AND RETENTION OF APPLICATIONS:**

Qualified individuals whose submittals are received and approved by March 31, 2026 will be considered for professional service contracts for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. Submittals received after the deadline will be considered for contracted services for the remainder of the fiscal year.

All submissions will be kept on file through June 30, 2027. After that date, the Judiciary may issue a new solicitation to prospective contractors to provide Legal Counsel and/or Guardian Ad Litem services.

/s/ Terri Gearon  
Terri Gearon  
Financial Services Director  
The Judiciary, State of Hawaii