

Electronically Filed
Supreme Court
SCRU-11-0000068
23-JUL-2026
09:31 AM
Dkt. 176 ORD

SCRU-11-0000068

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

In the Matter of the

RULES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

ORDER AMENDING RULES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

(By: Devens, C.J., McKenna, Eddins, Ginoza, JJ., and
Intermediate Court of Appeals Chief Judge Nakasone,
assigned by reason of vacancy)

It is hereby ordered that Rule 15 of the Rules of the
Supreme Court of the State of Hawai‘i is amended effective upon
entry of this order as follows (deleted language is bracketed
and stricken; amendments are underscored):

Rule 15. JUDICIAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

(a) Filing of annual financial disclosure statement.

Every judge shall file in the supreme court clerk’s office an
annual financial disclosure statement on a form that substantially
complies with Form 1 in the Appendix of Forms. ~~[The form may
be completed and submitted electronically.]~~ The statement shall
be filed electronically in the supreme court clerk’s office under
the SCFD case type. This requirement applies to all full time and
per diem judges, including justices of the supreme court, but
does not apply to retired judges or justices called back for
temporary service pursuant to Article VI, Section 2 of the State
Constitution.

(g) Statements open to public inspection. Financial disclosure statements filed pursuant to this rule shall be available for public inspection in the supreme court clerk's office ~~[during normal business hours]~~ as provided in this Rule. Each judge's most recent long form statement and subsequent short form statement, if any, shall be accessible through the Judiciary's public ~~[web site]~~ website; provided, the following information shall be redacted from the version publicly accessible on the Judiciary's public website: the name of the judge's spouse or domestic partner; and the employer or other source of income, including any address listed for it, for the judge's family members disclosed pursuant to subsection (d)(1) of this Rule. [The Clerk shall redact from each disclosure statement account numbers and personal information, if provided, that could be used to steal identity, stalk, or put the judge or the judge's family members in danger, including residential addresses and telephone numbers, and the business address of a spouse or domestic partner, or children.]

A judge may submit a written request to the clerk to redact from the judge's financial disclosure statement information that, alone or in combination with other available information, could reveal a location where the judge or the judge's family members may be found. Upon receipt of such a request, the clerk shall, as soon as practicable but no later than five business days after receipt, redact the identified information from the version of the statement publicly accessible on the Judiciary's public website.

Cases filed in the supreme court clerk's office under the SCFD case type shall be sealed by the clerk and shall not be publicly accessible through the Judiciary's electronic case management system. Copies of SCFD filings may be posted by the clerk's office on the Judiciary's public website consistent with the terms of this Rule.

A member of the public seeking access to an unredacted financial disclosure statement may do so by submitting a written request to the clerk's office identifying their name and contact information. The requester shall present a valid government-issued identification to verify the name and contact information provided before inspection is permitted. Upon receipt of such a request, the clerk's office shall notify the Judiciary Protection Division and shall schedule an appointment to allow visual inspection to occur at the clerk's office within ten business days after receipt of the request. Public access to unredacted financial disclosure statements shall be limited to in-person inspection, and the clerk shall not provide a copy of an unredacted financial disclosure statement to a member of the public.

Public inspection of financial disclosure statements shall be governed by this Rule and shall not be subject to the Hawai i Court Records Rules.

The clerk of the supreme court shall have 60 days to implement the sealing of all "SCFD" cases from public access on eCourt Kokua and the Judiciary's Electronic Filing System, and the redaction of SCFD case filings currently publicly accessible on the Judiciary's public website.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawai'i, July 23, 2026.

/s/ Vladimir P. Devens

/s/ Sabrina S. McKenna

/s/ Todd W. Eddins

/s/ Lisa M. Ginoza

/s/ Karen T. Nakasone

