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SCMF-15-0000566

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

In the Matter of the

HAWAI'I APPELLATE PRO BONO PROGRAM

ORDER

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

On August 7, 2015, this court approved the Appellate Pro Bono Pilot Project (pilot project) on a trial basis. The court noted with approval the pilot project's goals of providing (1) those in our community with limited financial means access to volunteer appellate counsel, (2) volunteer counsel the opportunity to gain valuable appellate experience, and (3) experienced appellate counsel in our legal community the opportunity to mentor the next generation of appellate attorneys, and noted with gratitude the vital role of Volunteer Legal Services of Hawai'i in the practical administration of the pilot project.

On April 19, 2017, in light of the pilot project's accomplishments since its inception and the importance of continued provision of *pro bono* assistance to financially

deserving *pro se* litigants in matters on appeal, this court entered an order making the Appellate Pro Bono Pilot Project permanent and renaming it the Hawai'i Appellate Pro Bono Program.

In light of the program's accomplishments and development since its inception, and the importance of providing continued *pro bono* assistance to financially deserving *pro se* litigants in matters on appeal, including access to self-determined outcomes through alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and assistance navigating the appellate mediation program process,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Appellate Pro Bono Program's scope is amended to provide that qualifying *pro se* litigants may also be represented by volunteer counsel, free of charge, in appellate ADR proceedings, including but not limited to mediation with the Hawai'i Appellate Mediation Program, and may receive assistance navigating that process.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawai'i, September 16, 2026.

/s/ Vladimir P. Devens

/s/ Sabrina S. McKenna

/s/ Todd W. Eddins

/s/ Lisa M. Ginoza

/s/ Karen T. Nakasone

