



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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Abercrombie Administration Releases Lists of Judicial Nominees

HONOLULU – Attorney General David M. Louie, acting on behalf of Governor Neil Abercrombie, today released three lists of judicial nominees provided to the Governor by the Judicial Selection Commission. Mr. Louie stated:

“Governor Abercrombie believes that the selection of individual judges is one of the most significant and enduring decisions made by any governor. The Governor has consistently maintained that the controlling legal authority for the release of such lists was the Judicial Selection Commission's rule of confidentiality. In *Pray v. Judicial Selection Commission*, the Hawaii Supreme Court held that this rule allowed for confidentiality and said it was within the sole discretion of the Governor to decide whether to release such lists after he received them. The Governor has also said that if the lists of nominees were to be disclosed, they should be disclosed by the Commission.

One week ago, in a process that was ongoing for the last six months, the Commission changed its rule and decided to disclose such names in the future. The Governor continues to maintain, pursuant to the *Pray* decision, that he has discretion with regard to prior lists provided to him, and disagrees with the recent ruling by a judge that he should disclose such lists. However, in light of the changed circumstances with the Commission's actions, judicial applicants will no longer have any expectation of confidentiality. Consequently, the following lists are now being released.”

Associate Justice, Hawaii Supreme Court

Derrick H.M. Chan
Daniel R. Foley
Sabrina McKenna
Craig H. Nakamura
Richard W. Pollack

Judge, First Circuit Court

Leslie A. Hayashi
Shirley M. Kawamura
Lono J. Lee
Karen T. Nakasone
Bode A. Uale

Judge, Second Circuit Court

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