



# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

## AJS NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Judicial Independence in an Age of Political Polarization

November 21-24, 2021  
Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel  
Honolulu, Hawai'i



AMERICAN JUDICATURE SOCIETY

*Advocating for a fair system of justice*

## CONFERENCE NOTES

- **CLE Credits:** Hawai'i continuing legal education credits are available for the conference. For more information, see conference registration on the AJS website.
- **Dress:** Aloha wear or business casual will be appropriate at all conference sessions and events. The Sunday reception will be held on a grass lawn so flat shoes are recommended for women.
- **Health and Safety:** Attendees will be required to provide proof of vaccination. On a daily basis, attendees will have their temperatures checked and complete a health assessment before engaging in conference activities. Masks will be required and should be worn at all times, unless actively drinking or eating. These health and safety guidelines are subject to change to align with Hawai'i government guidelines.
- **Speakers:** The presentations by speakers will be made in-person or virtually. The list of speakers can be found in a later section of this program.
- **Problems:** For technical (e.g., Zoom meeting issues) and other problems during the conference, contact Pacific Rim Concepts: phone 808-864-9812 or email [events@pacificrimconcepts.com](mailto:events@pacificrimconcepts.com).
- **Registration:** The registration desk, located in the Kaua'i Ballroom foyer of the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, will be open on Sunday, Nov. 21 at 12 noon and throughout the conference.
- **Sunday Reception:** During Sunday check-in, attendees will be informed where they should go at 3:00 pm to prepare for an opening Cultural Protocol, part of the reception welcome ceremony.
- **Tuesday Dinner:** Attendees will be able to select their table and seatmates at the registration desk on Tuesday.
- **Time:** Times listed in program are Hawai'i Standard Time (HST).
- **Volunteers:** Volunteers should check-in at the registration desk on each volunteer day.

## CONFERENCE EVENT VENUES

Event venues are within 5-7 min. walking distance from each other.



### Sheraton Waikiki Hotel

AJS National Conference Site  
AJS Annual Meeting  
and Awards Luncheon



### Royal Hawaiian Hotel

Helumoa Garden:  
AJS Opening Session  
Monarch Room:  
AJS Reception and Dinner

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

**12:00 NOON**

**Registration desk opens at 12 noon:** Kaua'i Ballroom foyer, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel

**3:00 – 5:00 PM**

**Opening Session** (Helumua Garden, Royal Hawaiian Hotel)

- Introduction of cultural protocol: Ivan Lui-Kwan, Vice Chair, Conference Steering Committee
- Cultural protocol: Daniel Akaka, Jr. and Anna Akaka
- Welcome and overview of conference: Sylvia Yuen, AJS Executive Director
- Opening remarks: Lawrence Okinaga, Chair, AJS Board of Directors
- Royal Emma Dancers
- Light refreshments

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

**7:00 AM**

**Registration desk opens:** Kaua'i Ballroom foyer, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel

**8:00 - 9:30 AM**

**Opening Program**

(Kaua'i Ballroom, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel)

- Emcee: Barbara Tanabe, Co-chair, AJS Communications Committee
- *Oli Aloha* and *Pule*: Daniel Akaka, Jr.
- Opening remarks: Lawrence Okinaga
- Welcome:
  - David Ige, Governor of Hawai'i
  - Rick Blangiardi, Mayor, City & County of Honolulu
  - Hon. Mark Recktenwald, Chief Justice, Hawai'i Supreme Court
- Keynote Presentation: Charles Geyh, Distinguished Professor and John F. Kimberling Professor of Law, Indiana University Mauer School of Law

**9:30 - 9:45 AM**

**BREAK**

**9:45 - 11:00 AM**

**General Session I: Assault on the Courts—the 2020 Election and Beyond**

(Kaua'i Ballroom, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel)

- Presenter: Dean Erwin Chemerinsky, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law
- Moderator: Dean Avi Soifer (Ret.), University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, William S. Richardson School of Law

**11:00 - 11:15 AM**

**BREAK**

- 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM**      **General Session 2: Politics, Judicial Selection and the Administration of Justice**  
(Kaua‘i Ballroom, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel)
- Presenter: Alicia Bannon, Managing Director of the Democracy Project at the Brennan Center for Justice and Leader of the Center’s Fair Courts Project
  - Moderator: Colin O. Miwa, Senior Counsel, Cades Schutte
- 12:30 – 2:00 PM**      **AJS Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon**  
(Kaua‘i Ballroom, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel)
- Emcee: Brian Kang, Partner, Watanabe Ing
  - AJS Annual Meeting:
    - Presiding Officer: Lawrence Okinaga
    - Keynote Address: Hon. Mark Recktenwald
  - Recognition of AJS Awardees
    - **Herbert Harley Award:** Hon. Ronald T.Y. Moon, Chief Justice (Ret.), Hawai‘i Supreme Court
    - **Special Merit Citation:** Colin O. Miwa
- 2:00 – 5:30 PM**      **AJS Tours and Activities:** sign up at the registration desk
- 5:30 PM**      **Dinner on your own**

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- 7:30 AM**      **Registration desk opens:** Kaua‘i Ballroom foyer, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel
- 8:30 - 10:00 AM**      **General Session 3: Confidence in the Courts, Judicial Ethics and Accountability**  
(Kaua‘i Ballroom, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel)
- Presenter: Cynthia Gray, Director of the Center for Judicial Ethics, National Center for State Courts, Virginia
  - Panelist: James Alfini, Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus, South Texas College of Law Houston
  - Moderator: Marla Greenstein, Executive Director, Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct
- 10:00 – 10:15 AM**      **BREAK**
- 10:15 – 11:30 AM**      **General Session 4: Understanding the Courts, Civics, and Judicial Independence**  
(Kaua‘i Ballroom, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel)
- Presenter: Dr. Anthony Simones, Director of Civic Education, Missouri Bar
  - Moderator: Hon. Lisa Ginoza, Chief Judge, Hawai‘i Intermediate Court of Appeals
- 11:30 – 11:45 AM**      **BREAK**

**11:45 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Breakout Discussion Groups (with lunch)**

- Planning for Civics Education  
(Kaua'i Ballroom, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel)  
Facilitator: Hon. Lisa Ginoza
- Planning for the Future of AJS and the Formation of State Chapters  
(Honolulu/Kahuku Room, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel)  
Facilitator: Hon. Judith Chirlin (Ret.), Judge, Los Angeles Superior Court, California
- Planning for AJS Affiliations with Law Schools and Institutes  
(O'ahu/Waialua Room, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel)  
Facilitators: Jan Boivin, Senior Vice President and General Counsel,  
Hawai'i Pacific University and Ted Pettit, Director, Case Lombardi & Pettit

**1:00 – 4:00 PM**

**AJS Tours and Activities:** sign-up at the registration desk

**6:00 – 6:30 PM**

**No-host Cocktail Reception**

(Monarch Room, Royal Hawaiian Hotel)

**6:30 – 9:00 PM**

**Dinner**

(Monarch Room, Royal Hawaiian Hotel)

- Emcee: Emme Tomimbang
- Showcase of AJS Members and Friends

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

**7:30 AM**

**Registration desk opens:** Kaua'i Ballroom foyer, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel

**8:30 – 10:30 AM**

**General Session 5: Judicial Diversity in the Courts**

(Kaua'i Ballroom, Sheraton Waikīkī Hotel)

- Presenter: Hon. Goodwin H. Liu, Associate Justice, California Supreme Court
- Panelists:
  - Hon. Steven C. Gonzalez, Chief Justice, Washington Supreme Court
  - Hon. Susan Oki Mollway, Senior Judge, U.S. District Court, District of Hawai'i
- Moderator: Hon. Sabrina S. McKenna, Associate Justice, Hawai'i Supreme Court

**10:30 – 11:30 AM**

**Closing Program**

- Conference Highlights: Colin O. Miwa, Conference Program Chair
- Breakout Session Summaries:
  - Planning for Civics Education: Hon. Lisa Ginoza
  - Planning for the Future of AJS and the Formation of State Chapters: Sylvia Yuen
  - Planning for AJS Affiliations with Law Schools and Institutes: Jan Boivin
- Closing Remarks: Hon. M. Margaret McKeown, U.S. Circuit Court Judge,  
Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
- Acknowledgements and Aloha: Lawrence Okinaga

## CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

### **James J. Alfini, Dean and Professor Emeritus, South Texas College of Law Houston**

James J. Alfini is Dean and Professor Emeritus at South Texas College of Law Houston (STCL). Prior to his arrival at STCL, Dean Alfini was Professor of Law at Northern Illinois University, where he taught constitutional law, mediation theory and practice, legal ethics, and related courses. He served as dean of the Northern Illinois University College of Law for six years and previously was a member of the law faculty at Florida State University. Dean Alfini is widely published in the field of judicial ethics and is co-author of *Judicial Conduct and Ethics*, published by Lexis and in its 6th Edition (2020). He served on the American Bar Association Joint Commission to Evaluate the Model Code of Judicial Conduct. The Commission's work resulted in the 2007 Model Code of Judicial Conduct, adopted by the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association. Dean Alfini received his undergraduate degree from Columbia University and his J.D. degree from Northwestern University.

### **Alicia Bannon, Managing Director, Brennan Center Democracy Program**

As Managing Director of the Democracy Program at the Brennan Center for Justice, Alicia Bannon leads the Center's projects on fair courts and redistricting, directing research, advocacy, and litigation to promote a fair and impartial judicial system. The Brennan Center at NYU School of Law is a nonpartisan law and policy institute which seeks to improve the American democratic and judicial system. An experienced constitutional lawyer and an expert on court reform, judicial selection, and electoral redistricting, Ms. Bannon has authored numerous nationally recognized reports and pieces of legal scholarship published by the Center, including *Rethinking Judicial Selection in State Courts* (June 2016), and *Choosing State Judges: A Plan for Reform* (October 2018). Her work is regularly featured in national media outlets, including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Economist*, MSNBC, and NPR. She has taught as an adjunct professor at the NYU School of Law and Seton Hall Law School. Ms. Bannon received her J.D. from Yale Law School and graduated from Harvard College *summa cum laude* with a degree in Social Studies. She clerked for the Hon. Sonia Sotomayor in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and for the Hon. Kimba Wood in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.

### **Jan Boivin, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Hawai'i Pacific University**

Jan Boivin is the Senior Vice President and General Counsel at Hawai'i Pacific University (HPU) where she oversees legal affairs, board governance, and human resources. She also supports the University's innovative workforce education, HPU Next. Since joining HPU in 2009, Ms. Boivin has served in a range of capacities, including Title IX compliance, acting as the primary investigator for employee misconduct allegations, representing the University with federal and state agencies and courts, and overseeing performance evaluations for all University officers. Ms. Boivin received a bachelor's degree from Willamette University and a juris doctorate from the Georgetown University Law Center. She formerly served as an attorney at Marr Jones & Wang and as the president of the Hawai'i State Bar Foundation. She is a board member of the American Judicature Society and the State Ombudsman Director for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, Department of Defense.

### **Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law**

Erwin Chemerinsky has been the Dean of the Berkeley Law School since 2017 and was previously the founding Dean at the University of California Irvine School of Law. He was the keynote speaker at the 2019 AJS Annual Meeting in Honolulu where he discussed the *Judicial Role in Government*. Dean Chemerinsky has authored 14 books, including leading casebooks and treatises about constitutional law, criminal procedure, and federal court jurisdiction, and most recently, *Presumed Guilty: How the Supreme Court Empowered the Police and Subverted Civil Rights* (2021) and *The Religion Clauses: The Case for Separating Church and State* (2020). He has also written over 200 law review articles, is a contributing writer for the *Los Angeles Times*, and writes regular columns for the *Sacramento Bee*, the *ABA Journal*, and the *Daily Journal*, while also arguing several appellate cases before the United States Supreme Court. Dean Chemerinsky earned a bachelor's degree in communications from Northwestern University and graduated *cum laude* from Harvard Law School.

## **The Honorable Judith C. Chirlin (Ret.), Los Angeles Superior Court**

In 2009, after 24 years of service, Judge Judith Chirlin retired from the Los Angeles Superior Court where she has handled law and motion, civil trials, and mandatory settlement conferences. Prior to her appointment, she practiced business and employment litigation and represented airlines in a variety of business matters, including disputes with airports over landing rights. Judge Chirlin was also a law instructor at the University of Southern California for 18 years through the Judicial Administration Program. She received her B.A. from George Washington University, M.A. from Rutgers, and J.D. from the University of Southern California. Judge Chirlin has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Joan Dempsey Klein Outstanding Jurist Award by the California Women Lawyers, Distinguished Service Award by the National Association of Women Judges, Trial Judge of the Year Award by the Consumer Attorneys' Association of Los Angeles, Distinguished Service Award by the National Center of State Courts, and many other awards. A renowned speaker and educator, Judge Chirlin has traveled extensively, consulting on court reform, human rights and conflict resolution, and teaching programs for foreign judges, lawyers, police officers, educators, and other professionals in more than 20 countries.

## **Charles Geyh, Indiana University Mauer School of Law**

Previously director of the AJS Center for Judicial Independence, Charles Geyh is a Distinguished Professor and the John F. Kimberling Professor of Law at the Mauer School of Law at Indiana University. His research centers on judicial conduct, independence and administration—focusing on the operation of the courts in relation to the political branches of government—and he has authored numerous books, including *Who is to Judge: Judicial Elections, Judicial Appointments, and the Perennial Debate Over Judicial Selection in America* (2019), *Courting Peril: The Political Transformation of the American Judiciary* (2016), *What's Law Got To Do With It?: What Judges Do, Why They Do It, and What's At Stake* (2011), and *Judicial Conduct and Ethics* (co-authored with James Alfini, Steven Lubet and Jeffrey Shaman) (2013), and articles, including *The Twilight of Judicial Independence* and *The American Judicature Society and Judicial Independence: Reflections on the Century Mark* (2013). Professor Geyh received his B.A. in political science and his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin. He previously clerked for the Hon. Thomas Clark in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, worked in private practice for the law firm of Covington & Burling, and served as counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary.

## **The Honorable Lisa M. Ginoza, Chief Judge, Hawai'i Intermediate Court of Appeals**

Lisa M. Ginoza was sworn in as Chief Judge of the Hawai'i Intermediate Court of Appeals on April 24, 2018. Prior to being appointed to her current position, she served as an Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals. A graduate of the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i, Judge Ginoza served as a law clerk to the Hon. Samuel P. King, Senior Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Hawai'i. She then entered private practice with McCorrison Miller Mukai MacKinnon where she became a partner and had an extensive civil litigation practice. In January 2005, she was appointed First Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawai'i, after which she was appointed to the Intermediate Court of Appeals in 2010. Judge Ginoza received her undergraduate degree from Oregon State University with highest distinction. She has served as an adjunct professor in Appellate Advocacy at the William S. Richardson School of Law and was a member of the Hawai'i Supreme Court's Commission on Professionalism. Judge Ginoza is currently a board member of the American Judicature Society and also serves as chair of Hawai'i's Commission to Promote and Advance Civic Education.

## **The Honorable Steven C. González, Chief Justice, Washington Supreme Court**

Steven Charles González was sworn in as Washington Supreme Court's 58th Chief Justice on January 11, 2021, following a vote of his peers for a four-year term. He was appointed to the court in 2012, and subsequently won two contested races for six-year terms starting in 2013 and 2019. Prior to joining the Supreme Court, Chief Justice González served for ten years as a trial judge on the King County Superior Court hearing criminal, civil, juvenile, and family law cases. Chief Justice González graduated with honors from Pitzer College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in East Asian studies and received his law degree from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law. After a career in private practice, Chief Justice González served as an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Seattle, where he prosecuted domestic violence cases including cases of elder and child abuse. He then served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington from 1997 to 2002. Chief Justice González is fluent in English, Japanese and Spanish, and knows some Chinese.

### **Cynthia Gray, Director, Center for Judicial Ethics, National Center for State Courts**

Since October 1990, Cynthia Gray has been the director of the Center for Judicial Ethics, a national clearinghouse for information about judicial ethics and discipline that was previously housed at AJS and is now part of the National Center for State Courts. She summarizes recent cases and advisory opinions, answers requests for information about judicial conduct, writes a weekly blog (at [www.ncscjudicialethicsblog.org](http://www.ncscjudicialethicsblog.org)), writes and edits the *Judicial Conduct Reporter*, and organizes the biennial National College on Judicial Conduct and Ethics. She has made numerous presentations at judicial education programs and written several articles and publications concerning judicial ethics topics. Having received her J.D. from the Northwestern University School of Law, Ms. Gray clerked for the Hon. Hubert L. Will of the United States District Court of the Northern District of Illinois and then practiced as a litigation attorney in two private law firms.

### **Marla N. Greenstein, Executive Director, Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct**

Marla N. Greenstein is the Executive Director of the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct, a position she has held since 1989. She also serves as Secretary of the Board of the Association of Judicial Disciplinary Counsel. She previously served as senior staff attorney for the Alaska Judicial Council and as senior staff attorney for the American Judicature Society in Chicago. Ms. Greenstein served as Chair of the Lawyers Conference of the American Bar Association (ABA)'s Judicial Division from 1996-97, Co-Chair and Vice-Chair of the ABA's Judicial Division Ethics and Professionalism Committee, and a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the American Judicature Society. She is a graduate of Loyola University of Chicago School of Law and holds an undergraduate degree in American Government and Philosophy from Georgetown University. Ms. Greenstein serves on the Alaska Bar's Ethics Committee and Fair and Impartial Courts Committee. She is the Ethics Column Editor for the ABA's *Judges Journal*, authoring the quarterly column. She has lectured widely in the area of judicial ethics and has served as faculty for international judicial ethics seminars in Micronesia and Russia.

### **The Honorable Goodwin H. Liu, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of California**

Goodwin H. Liu is an Associate Justice of the California Supreme Court. Before joining the state's highest court, Justice Liu was Professor of Law and Associate Dean at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law. The son of Taiwanese immigrants, his areas of expertise include constitutional law, education law and policy, and diversity in the legal profession. He co-authored *A Portrait of Asian Americans in the Law* (2017), a report that examined whether Asian Americans are under-represented in leadership ranks of private law firms, government, and academia. He received a bachelor's degree in biology from Stanford University and attended Oxford University on a Rhodes Scholarship, earning a master's degree in philosophy and physiology. Returning to the United States, Justice Liu helped to launch the AmeriCorps national service program and worked as a senior program officer at the Corporation for National Service. He received his J.D. from Yale Law School in 1998 and clerked for Judge David Tatel in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. Justice Liu went on to work as Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, clerked at the U.S. Supreme Court for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and later worked in the firm of O'Melveny & Myers.

### **Ivan M. Lui-Kwan, Director, Starn, O'Toole Marcus & Fisher**

Ivan M. Lui-Kwan was born and raised in Hilo, Hawai'i and currently serves as the Vice-chair of the American Judicature Society's Board of Directors. He has practiced law for 50 years, focusing on Hawai'i's land use, administrative, and real estate law. He was presented with the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award by Pacific Edge Magazine and recognized as the 2015 Queen Emma Ball Honoree for his many contributions to the St. Andrew's Schools and the people of Hawai'i. Mr. Lui-Kwan serves as the Ambassador to the United States for the Maori King Tuheitia and was knighted by King Tuheitia in November 2015. He received the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award from Saint Martin's University, where he studied Political Science and graduated with honors. The St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii recognized him with the St. Francis Assisi Spirit Award in 2019. He was also presented with the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce 'O'O Award. A Native Hawaiian, Mr. Lui-Kwan is a managing member of Hokukahu, LLC, the for-profit subsidiary of the Hokuipili Foundation, the native Hawaiian non-profit organization, which serves approximately 60,000 residents of the Hawaiian Homelands communities in Hawai'i. Hokuipili's mission is to create economic opportunity and capacity building for Native Hawaiians.



## **The Honorable Sabrina Shizue McKenna, Associate Justice, Hawai'i Supreme Court**

Sabrina S. McKenna was sworn in as Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court on March 3, 2011. She is a graduate of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and a 1982 graduate of the University of Hawai'i William S. Richardson School of Law, where she served as Editor-in-Chief of the Law Review. Justice McKenna was a civil litigator, corporate counsel, and law professor before becoming a Hawaii state trial court judge in 1993. As a trial court judge, she presided in District, Circuit, and Family Courts, and served as Senior Judge of the Family Court of the First Circuit. Justice McKenna attended the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where she played on the Hawai'i Rainbow Wahine women's basketball team. She was one of the first beneficiaries of Title IX. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Japanese.

## **The Honorable M. Margaret McKeown, Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**

Judge McKeown was nominated to the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit by President Bill Clinton and was confirmed by the United States Senate in 1998. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she engaged in private practice for more than two decades in Seattle and Washington, D.C., including as the first woman partner with Perkins Coie. She has been involved in various community and professional activities, including AJS. In 2019, the American Bar Association's Judicial Division and the Standing Committee on the American Judicial System presented her the prestigious John Marshall Award, which recognizes individuals who have made a positive impact on the American system of justice. She is the former president of the Federal Judges Association and former chair of the ABA Rule of Law Initiative Board, focusing on judicial reform, and increased transparency and accountability in the judiciary, both in the U.S. and nearly 50 other nations. Chief Justice McKeown has lectured and taught extensively on constitutional law, international law, human rights law, intellectual property, litigation, ethics, and judicial administration in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. She earned her B.A. from the University of Wyoming and her J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center.

## **Colin O. Miwa, Senior Counsel, Cades Schutte**

Colin Miwa has been a lawyer in private practice at the Hawai'i law firm of Cades Schutte LLP since 1981, and still practices primarily in the Intellectual Property, Construction Law and Litigation, and Creditors' Rights Practice Groups. He has been an active participant in AJS including as a member of the AJS Board of Directors since 2009, co-chair of the AJS Standing Committee on Judicial Selection, Retention and Accountability, and co-chair of the Conference Steering Committee. He received his B.A. in Political Science with honors from Stanford University in 1978, and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law School in 1981.

## **The Honorable Susan Oki Mollway, United States District Judge, District of Hawai'i**

Before joining the federal bench in June 1998, Judge Mollway was a partner in the Litigation Department at Cades Schutte Fleming & Wright in Honolulu from 1981 until her judgeship. She served as Chief Judge from 2009 to 2015 and assumed senior status on November 6, 2015. Judge Mollway served on the Ninth Circuit Pacific Islands Committee and the Ninth Circuit Conference Executive Committee. She was chairperson of the Ninth Circuit Jury Instructions Committee until late 2016. She helped to oversee the \$121 million renovation of the federal district court facilities in Honolulu and worked on creating a Re-Entry program in the United States District Court, District of Hawai'i. Judge Mollway received her law degree from Harvard Law School, *cum laude* and was Editor in Chief of the *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review* (vol. 16). She received her B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in English literature. She received an LLM degree in Judicial Studies from Duke University Law School in 2020 and wrote *The First Fifteen: How Asian American Women Became Federal Judges*, Rutgers University Press, 2021.

## **Lawrence S. Okinaga, Partner, Carlsmith Ball**

Lawrence Okinaga serves as Chair of the American Judicature Society's Board of Directors. He is a partner in Carlsmith Ball's Honolulu office and concentrates his practice in financial institutions, real estate, trusts and administrative law. He received his J.D. degree from Georgetown University Law Center and his B.A. degree in economics from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Mr. Okinaga served on the national board of the American Judicature Society for ten years and as its national president for two years. He founded the Hawai'i chapter of the American Judicature Society when the organization

originally operated out of Chicago and continues to provide leadership, particularly since 2014 when the organization's programs were transitioned to Hawai'i. In Hawai'i, Mr. Okinaga served as a Member, Vice Chairman and Chairman of Hawai'i's Judicial Selection Commission. He then served as a Member and then Chairman of the State of Hawai'i Judicial Conduct Commission. From 2005 to 2013, he served as Chair of the Hawai'i Federal Judicial Selection Commission. He has also served on the American Bar Association's Standing Committees on Judicial Selection, Compensation & Tenure and on Judicial Independence as well as on the ABA's House of Delegates.

### **The Honorable Mark E. Recktenwald, Chief Justice, Hawai'i Supreme Court**

Mark E. Recktenwald was sworn in as Chief Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court on September 14, 2010. He joined the Supreme Court as an Associate Justice on May 11, 2009, and previously served as Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals beginning in April 2007. Prior to his appointment to the Intermediate Court of Appeals, Chief Justice Recktenwald served as the Director of the Hawai'i Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Hawai'i, and an attorney in private practice. He received his undergraduate degree from Harvard University and his law degree from the University of Chicago.

### **Aviam Soifer, former Dean, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

Dean Soifer received his law degree from Yale Law School. He also holds B.A. *cum laude* (1969) and Master of Urban Studies (1972) degrees from Yale. In 1972-73, Dean Soifer clerked for then-United States District Judge Jon O. Newman. He subsequently received Boston College's Distinguished Senior Research Award and was appointed as a Distinguished Scholar at the University of Wisconsin's Legal Studies Institute. His book, *Law and the Company We Keep* (Harvard University Press, 1995) was awarded the Alpha Sigma Nu Triennial National Jesuit Book Prize in professional studies. Dean Soifer began teaching law at the University of Connecticut in 1973, received a Law and Humanities Fellowship at Harvard University in 1976-77, and taught at Boston University from 1979-1993. He served as Dean and taught at Boston College Law School from 1993-1998 and continued to teach there until 2003, when he became Dean of the University of Hawai'i's William S. Richardson School of Law. He left the deanship in 2020 but continues to teach students primarily in the areas of constitutional law, legal history, legal writing, and law and the humanities. Dean Soifer has an extensive record of scholarly publications, presentations, and public service activities.

### **Dr. Anthony Simones, Director of Civic Education at The Missouri Bar**

As Director of Civic Education, Dr. Simones designs, coordinates, and delivers education programming that helps Missourians understand the American Constitutional system, focusing on the separation of powers, judicial review, and individual liberties. Dr. Simones is a board member of the National Association of the State Judicial Educators. Prior to joining The Missouri Bar's civic education initiative, he was the Manager of Judicial Education and Programming at the Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator (OSCA), working extensively with the Supreme Court of Missouri's Civic Education Committee. After earning his Ph.D. in Political Science, American Government and Constitutional Law and his J.D. from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Dr. Simones taught government for several years at Missouri State University and political science at Dalton State College before joining the Missouri OSCA.

### **Sylvia Yuen, Executive Director, American Judicature Society**

Dr. Sylvia Yuen formerly served as the Executive Director of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i where she directed a corporation with more than 2500 employees and \$263 million in volume of business. She also served as Special Assistant to the UH President, Director of the Center on the Family, Interim Dean and Director of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR)—the first woman to lead the college since its founding in 1907. Dr. Yuen received her B.S. and Ph.D. degrees from UH-Mānoa, M.S. degree from the University of Illinois, and post-graduate education at the University of Chicago, University of Michigan, and Harvard University. She has received more than \$22 million in grants, served on national and state boards, and received numerous awards, including CTAHR's and Maryknoll High School's Outstanding Alumnus awards, three excellence in teaching awards, the YWCA Community Leader Award, Hawai'i Business News 2018 Business Leader of the Year—Finalist Award, and commendations from the Hawai'i State Legislature.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 2021 AJS national conference would not have been possible without the generous assistance of the individuals and entities presented below. We are deeply appreciative of their contributions and support.

## Honorary Conference Chairs

Hon. M. Margaret McKeown  
Hon. Mark E. Recktenwald

## Conference Steering Committee

### Executive Committee

Hon. Colleen K. Hirai (Ret.)  
Brandon M. Kimura  
Russell J. Lau  
Ivan M. Lui-Kwan  
Colin O. Miwa, Program  
Carol Muranaka  
Lawrence S. Okinaga  
Daniel J. Padilla  
Barbara J. Tanabe, Communications  
Hon. John M. Tonaki, Volunteers  
Sylvia Yuen

### Other Members

William M. Harstad  
Randall Tanaka  
Timothy E. Johns

## Volunteer Staff

Susan Asato	Rebecca Neff
Brenda Cochran	Daniel J. Padilla
Alicia Fung	Ian Wesley-Smith
Avery Matro	Sylvia Yuen

## AJS Alumni

Hon. Russell Carparelli (ret.) (CO)  
Hon. Judith Chirlin (ret.) (CA)  
Marla Greenstein (AK)  
Hon. Miriam Shearing (ret.) (NV)

## Cultural Practitioners

Daniel Akaka, Jr. and Anna Akaka  
Na'uanikinau Kamali'i  
Valerie Lui-Kwan  
Royal Emma Dancers  
St. Andrew's Schools Kumu Ka'ilihwa Vaughan-Darval

## Musical Performances

The Gemini Duo (Daniel Padilla and Duane Padilla)  
The Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association Ensemble  
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