

JUSTICE IN JEOPARDY: Expanding Access to Justice in Challenging Economic Times

William S. Richardson School of Law Tuesday, June 12, 2012

- 8:00 8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast; registration
- 8:30 9:10 Dean Aviam Soifer and Robert LeClair, co-emcees

Welcoming remarks: **Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald** Hawaii Supreme Court **Associate Judge Daniel R. Foley** Chair, Hawaii Access to Justice Commission

- 9:10 10:00 **Legislative Forum** Facilitator: Dean Aviam Soifer
- 10:00 10:10 Break
- 10:10 10:55Expanding Access to Justice in Challenging Times
Martha L. Minow, Dean, Harvard Law School
- 10:55 11:45 Concurrent Workshops I

A. Implicit Bias: An Obstacle to Access to Justice

This session concerns how unconscious biases affect the way we process information and make decisions. The session will help us recognize the power of these implicit biases and how they function, so that we can be more effective in achieving justice and in helping others. Facilitator: Calvin Pang; Panelists: Justin Levinson, and others to be announced

B. Strengths and Limitations of Pro Bono

This session will consider the challenges of pro bono legal services recruitment and its appropriate place in achieving access to justice for the underserved. Facilitator: Robert LeClair; Panelists: Justice Sabrina McKenna, William Hunt, and Regan Iwao

11:45 - 12:45 Light lunch

12:45 - 2:00 Concurrent Workshops II:

1. Overcoming Disability Barriers

This session will examine the challenges facing attorneys and witnesses in situations involving individuals who have physical and mental disabilities. Facilitators: Jean Johnson and Louis Erteschik

2. Innovative Strategies to Enhance Civil Justice

This session will explore new ideas to improve access to justice, such as Veterans Treatment Court, technological resources, and right to counsel in civil cases. Facilitators: Associate Justice Simeon Acoba, Judge Ronald Ibarra, Representative Della Au Belatti, and Derek Kobayashi

3. Aging, Family Dynamics, and Caregiver Dilemmas

This session will explore issues that frequently arise for caregivers and those representing the elderly. Facilitators: James Pietsch, Lenora Lee, and Michael Cheang

4. **Overcoming Linguistic and Cultural Barriers**

This session will examine the differences between linguistic and cultural barriers and the obligations and responsibilities of lawyers and judges. Facilitators: Dew Kaneshiro and Christine Kubota

5. Native Hawaiian Legal Issues

This session will explore current issues involving equal justice for the Native Hawaiian community and how to help. Facilitators: Moses Haia and others to be announced

2:00 - 2:15 Break

2:15 - 3:30 Concurrent Workshops III:

6. Limited Scope Representation and Expansion of Roles

This session will examine unbundling of legal services (limited scope representation), expanding the roles of paralegals and law students, and ethical concerns. Facilitators: Judge Trudy Senda, Janet Hunt, and Barbara Ritchie

7. The Foreclosure Crisis Update

This session will explore the terms and possible funding opportunities under the recent national Foreclosure Settlement and will also discuss issues involved in Act 48. Facilitators: Steve Levins, James Paige, Jo Ann Uchida, and Tracey Wiltgen

8. Issues Immigrants Face

This session will discuss the various forms of exploitation and other significant issues confronting the vulnerable immigrants. Facilitators: Gary Singh, John Robert Egan, and Tatjana Johnson

9. Effectively Communicating with Low-Income Clients

This session will cover essential practice tips for any attorneys who plan to volunteer to advise or represent low-income clients, including barriers such as language and reading comprehension issues, transportation, and child care. Facilitators: Judge Joel August (ret.) and Russ Awakuni

10. Ongoing Housing Crisis

This session will explore the access to justice issues related to housing (landlord and tenant) concerns that affect the low- and moderate- income clients. Facilitators: Judge Hilary Gangnes, Victor Geminiani, and Delia L'Heureux

3:30 - 4:15 Closing Remarks: Dean Martha Minow and Associate Justice Simeon Acoba

"Hawai`i Pono`i"