



Fall 2018 Newsletter



Dear HWL Members,

It is truly humbling to have been given the opportunity and privilege to serve as your 2018-2019 President. With the swearing in of Judge Kristine Yoo on August 30, 2018, and her formal resignation as President to the Board, I have the honor of assuming the term of her Presidency. I thank you for entrusting me with this role, and I pledge to serve you to the best of my abilities.

The newly elected directors met this past July at the annual board retreat and discussed many ways to strengthen and improve on HWL activities, including community outreach, mentoring/networking, publicity, and broadening our judicial equity committee to include a professional development component.

One of my goals this year as President is to focus on the continued under-representation of women in leadership positions and on corporate boards. As such, we are excited to kick off the year with a networking and branding opportunity with HSBA's Corporate Attorney Section and HWL's Branding and Networking Event. Please see below for a list of all upcoming events.

I ask that you keep your eyes out for extraordinary women in our community that we can honor for their service and accomplishments at our annual awards dinner to be held in mid-April of next year. For more details about our award categories, please visit hawaiiwomenlawyers.org.

As a result of generations of advocacy on behalf of women, today women enjoy equal access to health care, education, civic participation, and economic justice. However, despite these gains in gender equality, there is still so much work to be done to further our mission to enhance the status of women and promote equal opportunities for all. As your President, I look forward to working with all of you in our continued push forward on fulfilling this mission.

Please feel free to contact me at any time at hawaiiwomenlawyers@gmail.com with your ideas, comments, and questions. As we rely on the strength and participation of our HWL members and community, I ask that you join me in making this a great year!

- Jacquelyn Esser, HWL Board President



Hawaii State Bar Association

**2018 elections will take place by e-mail vote, and
will be sent out within the next month!**

**For more information or questions, please visit
HSBA at www.hsba.org**

Upcoming Events!

...Save the Date...

Friday, September 28, 2018

HSBA's Corporate Counsel Section and HWL Branding and Networking Event

Time: 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Location: Pacific Club, 1451 Queen Emma St., Honolulu, HI 96813

Cost: Free for Section Members, \$10.00 for Guests

How to RSVP: <https://goo.gl/Jw2Zs4>

Please RSVP By: Friday, September 14, 2018

For new and experienced attorneys, networking and branding can help you find a job, a new career path, or expand your business. We have partnered to present a networking and branding event that will help you learn how to build your professional network, and how to brand yourself to potential employers and future clients. Our panel will discuss the key factors to getting and keeping clients and/or a new career opportunity. Then practice what you've learned in a few rounds of "Speed Networking" where you will be partnered with a few in-house counsel and partners in town and

Saturday, October 6, 2018

HWLF 28th Annual Gala Fundraiser

Time: 5:30pm - 10:00pm

Location: Hilton Hawaiian Village, Tapa Ballroom

How to RSVP: To buy tickets, tables, or to donate to the silent auction, please go to:

<https://www.hwlf.org/fundraiser/>

This year's theme is "We Love Rock 'n' Roll," a creative spin on music that originated and evolved in the United States during the late 1940s and early 1950s. Attire can be formal, semi-formal, business casual, or whatever your imagination envisions to Rock 'n' Roll.

Thursday, October 11, 2018

Career Contentment Training by Phyllis Horner

Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Location: Ashford Wriston, 14th Floor

How to RSVP: <http://hawaiiwomenlawyers.wildapricot.org/event-3071328>

Lunch: Brown Bag

Spend an hour with success coach and psychologist Phyllis Horner to find out how to gain career contentment: (1) Why it's normal to want new challenges; (2) Why dissatisfaction is not your fault; (3) How women professionals get stuck and what happens if they don't get unstuck, and much more!

HSBA Vice Presidential Candidate Statements

Karin L. Holma and Jesse Souki



Karin L. Holma - VP Candidate



I graduated from Willamette University College of Law and took the Oregon bar exam in 1989. I moved to Hawaii immediately after and worked at Liberty House for six months waiting to take the Hawaii bar exam. I was then extraordinarily fortunate enough to clerk for Associate Justice Ronald T.Y. Moon, who taught me much more than I learned in law school. In 1992, I joined Bays Deaver Hiatt Kawachika & Lezak as a litigation associate, where I still am today. I became a partner in 1999 and the managing partner in 2012. In addition to practicing law and managing the firm, I have served on the HSBA's board of directors for three terms, including the last two years as treasurer. I am also a member of the Rotary Club of Honolulu, including serving on its board of directors. I enjoy cooking (and eating), and organizing a household of one wonderful husband, four dogs and three cats.

The mission of the HSBA is to "unite and inspire Hawaii's lawyers to promote justice, serve the public and improve the legal profession." Consistent with this, I have three goals if elected. First, to help younger lawyers find satisfaction as members of the HSBA and Hawaii's legal community. Younger lawyers sometimes find themselves "overworked and underpaid" and not finding gratification in the profession for which they went to law school. I would like to inspire Hawaii's younger lawyers to continue to be in and make the legal profession a great one.

Second, I wish to continue the strong relationship with and the HSBA's support of the Judiciary. Hawaii's Judiciary is something that everyone in Hawaii should be extremely proud of. Hawaii's judges and their staffs are smart, work hard, and treat everyone fairly and with respect. Above all, they serve Hawaii with great integrity. The Judiciary deserves the HSBA's support.

Third, and finally, I wish to continue HSBA's long tradition of community service. As a board member, I have seen first-hand the generosity of HSBA members and the good causes for which they have contributed and worked. This year for example, members of the HSBA and HSBF board have been instrumental in contributing to the needs of people on Kauai and the Big Island and the challenges they have faced. Serving the public is part of the mission of the HSBA and something I feel strongly about.

Thank you for your consideration. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions – kholma@legalthawaii.com or 523-9000. I humbly ask for your support.

HSBA Vice Presidential Candidate Statements

Karin L. Holma and Jesse Souki



Jesse Souki - VP Candidate



I support the mission of our Association, “to unite and inspire Hawai‘i’s lawyers to promote justice, serve the public and improve the legal profession.” The position that I would like your vote for is vice president. This position is a long-term commitment to lead the organization. Under our Association’s Constitution and Bylaws, the president elect becomes the president of the Association upon completion of his or her term as president-elect, and the vice president becomes the president-elect of the Association upon completion of his or her term as vice president. I commit to stay the course if elected.

I have actively participated in furthering our Association’s mission, since joining the Association in 2004. As a co-chair for several years of the CLE committee, we worked hard to ensure that interesting and relevant courses provided by the Association were available and affordable. While serving in various positions, including chair and program chair of the Natural Resources Section, I worked with a team that brought together experts and practitioners to work through some of the most pressing issues affecting how we use and develop land in the State of Hawai‘i. I am fortunate to have been a member of the inaugural HSBA Leadership Institute in 2009, which provided lasting relationships with fellow Association members, and I strongly support this program for ushering in tomorrow’s leaders in the practice.

My experience leading organizations will directly benefit the Association. I was appointed and served as the Director of the Office of State Planning, First Deputy of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and Executive Director of the Hawai‘i Community Development Authority. In each of those positions, I left the organization better than I found it. I led teams in developing strategic initiatives and then implemented those initiatives, sometimes in the face of difficult and challenging circumstances, for the benefit of the community. In addition to working in the public sector, I have also practiced law in the private sector. My legal work has required advocacy before boards and commissions in all four counties and Hawai‘i’s courts.

My interest and training in good governance and strategic planning will be an asset to our Association. Previous bar leadership has provided a solid framework upon which to improve the practice. If elected, I will work to further empower our members with support from the Association so that we can practice the law with integrity and competency for the benefit of the people and communities we serve.

My life experience provides perspective that can help advance our mission. As a kid who grew up on Maui, attended its public schools, and graduated from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, I have met people from all walks of life and have an appreciation and understanding for how justice can sometimes fail those who need it most. Having lived and worked on Capitol Hill and then Seattle while in law school, and traveled to other parts of the world for work, I bring a broad perspective.

Thank you for your consideration.