

Local litigation firms

Highly recommended

Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing

Cades Schutte

Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel

Recommended

Carlsmith Ball

Case Lombardi & Pettit

Kobayashi Sugita & Goda

McCorryston Miller Mukai MacKinnon

Paul Johnson Park & Niles

Watanabe Ing & Komeiji

Hawaii

With booms in employment and health care law, litigation growth remains in Hawaii. The state continues to attract business from Asia, but maintains a strong insularity in keeping local firms busy and fairly “recession-proof.” Other areas of business-heavy litigation like real estate, bankruptcy and construction law also fuel the legal market.

Highly recommended firms

Respect for others, collegiality and nurturing a professional environment drive the lawyers at law firm **Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing**. These key factors contribute to the general “open door” policy at the firm that helps maintain the quality of work. Health care litigation remains strong at the firm with representation of most major hospitals within the state. Employment, government contracting and medical malpractice are strong areas for the firm. One client says, “Their fees are also reasonable.” He continues being “really impressed with their qualities and responsiveness.” Another client says, “They’re very hard working people,” and appreciates the accessibility of the lawyers at all times. Recent clients include Chevron, Steve Case, Alps Investment and Vestin Mortgage.

Clients are often impressed with the work of **Paul Alston**. One client says, “He’s an expert; very thorough,” who always “delivers what he says he’s going to do.” His litigation and appellate work are often praised by peers as among the best in the state. **Ellen Carson** also receives high accolades from clients and peers for her trial work, specifically in health care litigation. “She’s quick to respond, quick thinking and practical,” one client says. “She’s a well recognized lawyer in Hawaii, locally and by the American Bar Association.” Clients describe **William Hunt** as “very deliberate and measured” and “extremely analytical” in his approach to law. Major areas of practice include health care, personal injury and construction litigation. Equally talented in the courtroom, **Louise Ing** specializes in several areas of business litigation including torts, class actions, partnership disputes and professional liability. Peers also recognize Ing for her work in commercial litigation matters. **Kurt Fritz** specializes in several types of litigation issues including torts, unfair competition, antitrust, banking and securities.

Cades Schutte has strong practices within construction, tourism, including medical malpractice and bankruptcy litigation. Real

estate litigation continues to grow, especially with work from Japan. Since **Cades Schutte** has a relatively small office environment, the lawyers develop and maintain strong relationships with their clients as well. One client calls the firm “responsive, time wise [in] getting to the point of what we need.” The client also recommends the strength of the intellectual property department.

Michael Heihre leads the commercial and real estate litigation practice group. He has significant first chair trial experience and recently represented “the world’s largest publicly traded retailer.” Aiding in the case, **Kelly LaPorte** focuses his work on litigation and appellate issues. He handles cases in insurance law and trials involving the defense of educational institutions. One client describes **Colin Miwa** as a “very thorough” litigator who always keeps clients informed and “advised as to next steps.” Miwa specializes in lender liability claims, intellectual property disputes and arbitration. Peers and clients recognize leading litigator **Jeffrey Portnoy** as a force in Hawaii. Chair of the litigation department, Portnoy tries cases in employment, health care, insurance, media and intellectual property law. A recent case involved defending a physician in a medical malpractice suit involving the alleged failure in properly diagnosing breast cancer. The verdict returned in a unanimous victory for the client. Associate **Calvert Chipchase** specializes in commercial and real estate litigation. He frequently publishes his work, and recently wrote a “Survival Guide” for Federal District Court clerking. **Kristin Shigemura** focuses her expertise in areas of both litigation and alternative dispute resolution. Practice areas include real estate, bankruptcy, health care, insurance and intellectual property.

One of Hawaii’s largest firms, **Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel** maintains its reputation with a strong litigation office. The practice group regularly takes cases in class actions, contracts, insurance coverage claims, environmental, first amendment, labor and employment, real estate, securities, taxation, trademark infringement and several tort

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- Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing

Local litigation stars

Paul Alston
Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing

Ellen Carson
Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing

Corlis Chang
Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel

Gary Grimmer
Carlsmith Ball

Michael Heihre
Cades Schutte

William Hunt
Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing

Louise Ing
Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing

Bert Kobayashi
Kobayashi Sugita & Goda

John Komeiji
Watanabe Ing & Komeiji

John Lacy
Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel

Bruce Lamon
Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel

Kelly LaPorte
Cades Schutte

Michael Marsh
Case Lombardi & Pettit

William McCorrison
McCorrison Miller Mukai MacKinnon

David Minkin
McCorrison Miller Mukai MacKinnon

Colin Miwa
Cades Schutte

Lisa Munger
Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel

Dennis Niles
Paul Johnson Park & Niles

Corey Park
Paul Johnson Park & Niles

Ted Pettit
Case Lombardi & Pettit

Jeffrey Portnoy
Cades Schutte

John Zalewski
Case Lombardi & Pettit

claims. Past clients include Anheuser-Busch, Hawaiian Electric Industries, Pfizer and the University of Hawaii.

Corlis Chang focuses her litigation practice on personal injury, products liability, municipal law, construction and insurance. Peers mention her strong work in professional malpractice matters. **John Lacy** practices within several practice areas of business litigation including aviation, insurance and intellectual property. He also represents cases of product liability involving aircraft, construction equipment, oil refinery equipment and sporting gear. Peers acknowledge **Bruce Lamon** for his commercial litigation practice. Areas include real estate, contracts, products liability, professional liability, securities and corporate law. **Lisa Munger** specializes in environmental and land use litigation. She

reorganization and collections law. Peers also noted his acumen with creditor-debtor rights. Recent cases involve representation of GMAC Commercial Finance, Big Island Country Club and the Bank of Bozeman. **John Zalewski** works extensively within commercial and civil litigation. He regularly defends his clients in fraud and damages, contracts, warranties, torts and employment matters. His trial work has led to millions of dollars in claimed damages for his clients. Once the Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawaii, **Michael Marsh** focuses his work on dispute resolution and litigation that involves construction, real estate, employment and intellectual property infringement. Recent clients include Le Jardin Academy on the island of Oahu and the Marriott's Kauai Resort and Beach Club. Associate **Margaret Parks** works in both commercial and civil

“One client calls the firm ‘responsive, time wise [in] getting to the point of what we need.’”

-Cades Schutte

has literally written the book on it, and acts as an editor for the Hawaii Environmental Law Handbook. **Claire Goldberg** serves in civil litigation matters relating to international issues, personal injury and real estate law. **Thomas Benedict** emphasizes drug and medical device law, products liability, professional malpractice and complex commercial issues litigation.

Recommended firms

Carlsmith Ball has offices throughout the state of Hawaii, and the mainland as well, including Los Angeles. As one of the oldest and largest firms in the state, Carlsmith Ball practices litigation in the areas of maritime, antitrust, construction, employment, environmental, insurance, real estate and securities law. The firm recently expanded to include several new attorneys.

Gary Grimmer focuses his work in civil litigation in business disputes, products liability defense, insurance litigation, antitrust litigation and appellate matters. One case concerns “defective and improperly tested prescription drugs against national pharmaceutical firms.” **Melissa Lambert** focuses on labor and employment litigation and dispute resolution. She successfully represented a company in prosecution of claims for fraud and breach of contract.

Business, bankruptcy, real estate and dispute resolution are the main civil litigation practice areas for law firm **Case Lombardi & Pettit**. The small team has extensive experience working with clients in several practice areas. Of the several successful client representations, a few include Central Pacific Bank, Grove Farm, Honolulu Academy of Arts and Niu Pia Land Company.

Ted Pettit specializes in bankruptcy, business

litigation for the firm.

Kobayashi Sugita & Goda prides itself as an excellent, multicultural firm in Hawaii. Areas of practice within complex litigation include commercial, construction, environmental and torts. Clients range from Hawaii and the “mainland” to the Far East and Pacific Rim.

Founding partner **Bert Kobayashi Jr** concentrates in the areas of commercial and construction litigation, as well as contracts and public utilities representation. He is frequently recognized by peers for his work in insurance litigation. **Bruce Nakamura** focuses his practice on commercial litigation and public utilities representation. He also works on the appellate level for several of his clients.

Based in Honolulu, **McCorrison Miller Mukai MacKinnon** represents several clients in litigation and business transactions. The firm also proudly takes on an international scope representing companies in Japan and Hong Kong and represents US companies with an international interest in China, Vietnam and Australia. The firm handles complex commercial, product, environmental, white-collar and insurance litigation matters, among others. Clients of the firm include City and County of Honolulu, Del Monte Foods, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative, Oaktree Capital Management and Kona Village Associates.

As the firm’s litigation chairman, **William McCorrison** specializes in several areas of litigation including professional malpractice, civil rights, antitrust, construction and product liability matters. One recent client includes developer QRM in a land dispute to build vacation cabins. **David Minkin** works in commercial, product liability, health care

Future stars

Thomas Benedict
Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel

Calvert Chipchase
Cades Schutte

Claire Goldberg
Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel

Kurt Fritz
Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing

Melissa Lambert
Carlsmith Ball

Bruce Nakamura
Kobayashi Sugita & Goda

Margaret Parks
Case Lombardi & Pettit

Jan Sam
McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon

Shannon Sheldon
Paul Johnson Park & Niles

Kristin Shigemura
Cades Schutte

Brandon Davidson
Watanabe Ing & Komeiji

and legal malpractice litigation. Recent representation includes Hart Intercivic. Jan Sam is an associate at the firm specializing in real estate matters.

Located in both Honolulu and Maui, **Paul Johnson Park & Niles** is a small firm committed to providing clients with “cost-effective strategies” to reach their “goals and needs.” Practice areas include commercial, real estate and construction litigation. The firm gains a reputation for work in contractor agreements and disputes arising from prime contracts and subcontracts for major construction projects.

Civil trial lawyer **Dennis Niles** represents several diverse parties in Hawaii state and federal courts. His work focuses on product liability and personal injury matters. Niles also works extensively in the community through efforts with the Hale Makua Extended Care Facilities. Attorney **Corey**

Park focuses his practice on commercial litigation and other dispute resolution. He has litigated claims regarding hazardous waste disposal and contamination in the past. **Shannon Sheldon** works on intellectual property law. She litigates in matters of patent, trademark, copyright and unfair competition.

Watanabe Ing & Komeiji practices law throughout Hawaii and the Pacific Basin. They specialize in several aspects of complex commercial, intellectual property and personal injury litigation matters. Although the firm recently lost one of its star attorneys, it continues to sustain itself within the Hawaii market.

Brandon Davidson heads the intellectual property and technology group at the firm. He is often in and out of court, whether prosecuting or defending a case, or teaching seminars on internet law.



Information Technology in Hawai'i's Courts

Ted Pettit and John Zalewski, Case Lombardi & Pettit, A Law Corporation

Information technology is a topic of ever-increasing importance to practitioners in the United States District Court of the District of Hawai'i, our United States Bankruptcy Court and Hawai'i's four state circuit courts.

This article provides an update of IT matters in Hawai'i's federal and state courts. We thank the Hawai'i Judiciary for providing up-to-date information and answering our questions.

Electronic Filing

For the past several years, the United States District Court and the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Hawai'i have employed a paperless, electronic filing system through CM/ECF (Case Management/Electronic Case Files) and PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Files).

Electronic filing and calendaring innovations promote efficient and timely means to litigate in our federal courts. In every case, all filed documents and information relevant to cases are available online for nominal charges. The CM/ECF and PACER systems have proven to be user friendly and reliable. Electronic filing and service of documents and pleadings have resulted in the simultaneous spread of "case knowledge" among all counsel receiving electronic service by email.

This rapid transmission of filings has enhanced Hawai'i's ability to enter the national arena, participate in multi-district litigation, and lessen the inconvenience of time differences with the US Mainland of up to six hours.

National law firms now appear in every significant bankruptcy case filed in Hawai'i and, more Hawai'i firms are beginning to appear in mainland bankruptcy cases.

Our Hawai'i state court system is not presently on par with its federal counterparts. The Hawai'i Judiciary is diligently working on a Judiciary Information Management System (JIMS). Electronic filing is an important part of the vision for JIMS. Email notifications are likely to become part of an e-filing system. Hopefully, Hawai'i's litigators will soon enjoy the benefits of electronic court filings equivalent to the federal CM/ECF and PACER systems.

Detailed technical requirements for the e-filing system will be developed in the next few months in conjunction with implementation of a JIMS criminal module. The Hawai'i Judiciary envisions a system that will allow an attorney to electronically provide necessary information via the Internet, attach documents, schedule hearings, pay filing fees, and serve notices on parties to the action. The objective is for counsel to electronically complete and submit the transaction without intervention by court personnel. Initial development will include test e-filing from external sources for state district court criminal cases.

The Hawai'i Judiciary has not yet determined whether to make e-filing optional or mandatory. Rule amendments for filing procedures will be proposed to the Hawai'i Supreme Court as needed. In accordance with the court's standard practice, comments about proposed rules will be sought from the public and the Bar. Once e-filing is developed with the criminal module, it will be implemented with each new module of the JIMS system (civil, family, appellate, land court, tax appeal court, and other parts of the system). Time schedules are projected but, as with any complex project, are subject to adjustment. Currently, the criminal module with e-filing is planned for development and implementation by mid-2010; civil and appellate implementations are projected for mid-2012, and implementation for all courts and case types by mid-2014.

Electronic Access To Case Information

Access to federal civil cases and federal bankruptcy cases can be obtained through CM/ECF and PACER. Extensive information can be obtained, such as docket sheets, copies of pleadings filed, and hearing and trial dates. The federal court Web sites contain information on how to utilize these systems.

The Hawai'i Judiciary maintains a Web site for public access to court information termed Ho'ohiki. Ho'ohiki is the Internet interface to Hawai'i Judicial Information System (HAJIS), the case management system for Hawai'i's state circuit and district court cases. HAJIS was originally developed for internal court use in the 1970s using a programming language and networking technology that preceded the Internet. Major upgrades to Ho'ohiki will not be possible until the Judiciary replaces HAJIS with JIMS.

Unfortunately, the system is not nearly as versatile, comprehensive or helpful as the federal court Web sites. Ho'ohiki can be slow, it presently displays only partial information on case filings, does not allow direct access to filed documents and does not allow for direct communication with court personnel.

In May 2008, new computer hardware was installed to improve system reliability and the number of concurrent users allowed on Ho'ohiki was increased to 70. An enhanced version of Ho'ohiki that will display the full titles of documents appearing on the docket listing will be launched within the next few months.

Although these upgrades have improved the usability of Ho'ohiki, the system's capacity and speed has not significantly increased. JIMS will have the ability to allow electronic access to documents.

E-mail Communications

Hawai'i practitioners have had an increasing ability to electronically transmit communications, documents, and pleadings to Hawai'i judges and court personnel. For example, federal magistrates and some state circuit judges have directly or through their law clerks, transmitted communications via e-mail concerning settlement matters, inclinations of court rulings, and allowed file-stamped pleadings to be submitted via e-mail attachment prior to a scheduled hearing (with hard copy by mail). This trend is likely to become increasingly prevalent.

The Hawai'i Supreme Court has authorized the Appellate Clerk to transmit e-mail notices concerning the appellate mediation program and judgments on appeal. The Hawai'i Supreme Court also authorized a pilot project that allows prosecutors in some circuits to submit written criminal complaints to the district courts by e-mail attachment.

Web sites and Links

The following Web sites are excellent sources for court information, calendars, judge's requirements, court guidelines, contact information, electronic case filing, docket sheets, court cases, preliminary inclinations of rulings, forms, local rules of practice, legal opinions, self-help, services, news and reports, legal references, and various helpful links —

US District Court

www.hid.uscourts.gov

US Bankruptcy Court

www.hib.uscourts.gov

Hawai'i Judiciary

www.courts.state.hi.us/index.jsp

Ho'ohiki

www.courts.state.hi.us/page_server/LegalReferences/Records/7841898718F269961075C91E183.html

CASE LOMBARDI & PETTIT

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Managing director: Michael R. Marsh
President of the firm: Dennis M. Lombardi
Number of directors: 13
Number of other attorneys: 8

Firm Profile

Tracing its roots back to 1888, Case Lombardi & Pettit is committed to providing outstanding and cost effective client and legal services. Case Lombardi & Pettit is a full service law firm offering litigation and dispute resolution, bankruptcy, real estate, business, employee benefits, tax, estate planning, and probate services. The firm's clients include international, national and local corporations, commercial, professional, and non-profit organizations, financial institutions, real estate developers, land owners, directors and officers, and individuals. Case Lombardi & Pettit provides its clients with international legal resources and expertise through its membership in Lex Mundi, the world's leading association of independent law firms with more than 160 member firms worldwide.

Areas of practice**Litigation and Dispute Resolution**

The Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Group is comprised of a team of skillful, experienced, successful, and zealous litigators and trial lawyers. Attorneys from the firm who practice litigation and dispute resolution are creative and conscientious in their representation of clients involved in commercial and civil disputes, complex litigation, financial, business, real estate, and construction matters, and employment and civil rights cases. Lawyers in this Group are committed to achievement by mediation or negotiated settlement, arbitration award, and if necessary, verdict at trial.

Bankruptcy

Our Bankruptcy practice covers all aspects of creditor-debtor relationships ranging from foreclosure, receivership, collection and enforcement of judgments in state and federal court to reorganization and liquidation in bankruptcy court. The firm also represents secured creditors, unsecured creditor committees and landlords in all aspects of bankruptcy proceedings. The firm has a team of creditor counsel experienced in negotiating workouts and restructurings outside of bankruptcy court.

Real Estate

Our areas of expertise include the structuring of real estate acquisitions and sales; commercial financing, including complex construction loans; real estate sales and administration; office and retail leasing; condominium and resort development; community association formation and administration; residential financing; and land use, zoning and entitlement matters. We represent landowners, purchasers, investors and lenders in the acquisition, sale and financing of all types of real estate, including undeveloped land, hotels, shopping centers, office buildings and residential developments.

Business, Estate Planning, Probate & Taxation

Our Business attorneys assist clients in the formation and operation of business entities; prepare profit-sharing, pension and other employee benefit plans; assist clients in addressing the opportunities and challenges faced by an ongoing business; and provide advice regarding transactions governed by the Uniform Commercial Code, asset purchases, stock transfers and financings. The goal of the estate planning, probate and taxation practice group is to design and implement comprehensive business and estate plans and analyze and structure a variety of sophisticated transactions that are designed to fit the client's particular circumstances and concerns.

MICHAEL R MARSH**CASE LOMBARDI & PETTIT**

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Michael R Marsh concentrates his dispute resolution and litigation practice on construction, development and real estate matters and on claims involving employment law and infringement of trademarks and copyrights.

With regard to construction, development and real estate matters, he has represented numerous owners, developers, design professionals, contractors and suppliers in connection with virtually every type of dispute that can arise in construction and in the formation of contracts for design and construction, in connection with a variety of disputes relating to development and in connection with disputes arising under contracts for sale, acquisition and lease of property. With regard to employment law matters, Mr. Marsh has advised management in connection with employment law compliance and defended employers on claims for wrongful discharge, discrimination, interference with contract, breach of restrictive covenants and violation of trade secrets. In connection with trademark and copyright infringement matters, his clients include international designers, manufacturers and distributors.

In addition to participating in mediation and arbitration as an advocate, Mr Marsh is an arbitrator for the Court Annexed Arbitration Program and is a neutral on the panel of Dispute Prevention and Resolution, Inc, Hawaii's leading mediation/arbitration service. Prior to joining the firm in 1978, Mr. Marsh was a Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawaii where he was the attorney for the State Land Use Commission and represented state agencies in federal court litigation.

Michael R Marsh holds an AV rating, possessing the highest level of legal skill, ability and integrity according to the preeminent law directory service of Martindale Hubbell. He has been recognized for his work in arbitration and mediation having been named by his peers to *Best Lawyers In America*. In 2008, Chambers & Partners recognized Mr Marsh for his litigation work in their highly regarded lawyer referral directory, *Chambers USA 2008: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, the Client's Guide.

He is the co-author of the "Doing Business in Hawaii" section of the *Doing Business in...Cross-border Handbook for 2008 and 2009* published by the Practical Law Company (PLC) in association with Lex Mundi. He has also authored handbooks and presented as a panelist in numerous seminars relating to construction, construction litigation and employment law and authored "Mechanic's & Materialman's Liens: A Review of Selected Issues" for the *Hawaii Bar Journal*, April 1997.

Mr. Marsh is a graduate of The National Law Center at George Washington University (J.D., 1973) and Blackburn University (B.A., 1969).

Michael R. Marsh is the firm's Managing Director and a member of its Executive Committee.

TED N. PETTIT**CASE LOMBARDI & PETTIT**

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Ted N. Pettit is a shareholder and director of Case Lombardi & Pettit. He practices in the areas of business reorganization, bankruptcy, and business and commercial litigation. Mr. Pettit advises and represents debtors, landlords and lessors, secured creditors, creditors committees and liquidating trusts in a variety of industries. Mr. Pettit has extensive experience in large bankruptcy cases and cross border insolvency matters. In 2008, he served as counsel for GMAC Commercial Finance and its \$45 million secured claim in the bankruptcy proceedings for Aloha Airlines. He obtained confirmation of the first Chapter 12 plan in Hawaii for a family farmer. He was counsel for Amfac, Liberty House, Crazy Shirts and Oahu Construction Company in their respective Chapter 11 proceedings. He served as counsel for the creditors' committee in the Aquasearch, Thrifty Rent-A-Car, and H&W Foods cases.

Mr. Pettit frequently represents lenders, real estate developers, construction firms and land owners in out of court workouts and restructurings, foreclosures, and receiverships. He represents judgment creditors in collection proceedings. In addition to litigation, Mr. Pettit has experience in complex transactional matters related to refinancing, settlement or restructuring of insolvency matters.

Mr. Pettit received his B.A. degree, with honors, and his M.S. degree from the University of Missouri. He received his Ph.D. degree in medical physiology from the University of Hawaii, Burns School of Medicine and his J.D. degree from the University of Hawaii, William S. Richardson School of Law. He is a frequent lecturer and author on topics pertaining to his areas of practice. Mr. Pettit was co-editor of the Hawaii Collection Law Manual (2006).

JOHN D ZALEWSKI**CASE LOMBARDI & PETTIT**

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John D Zalewski is a director and shareholder of the Case Lombardi & Pettit law firm in Honolulu. Mr Zalewski is a member of the firm's Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice. His practice is devoted to commercial and civil litigation in Hawaii, with an emphasis in matters involving business, contract, warranty and tort claims, employment and civil rights disputes, complex disputes involving accounting, commercial and real estate lending and transactions, fraudulent transfers and damages, insurance matters and the zealous defense of professionals, businesses, nonprofits, and directors and officers.

Mr Zalewski has practiced litigation and advocacy in Hawaii for 20 years. He has served as lead counsel in successful jury and bench trials in the United States District Court for the District of Honolulu and in all of Hawaii's four state circuit courts, and in numerous arbitration and mediation forums. His background includes having practiced as a licensed CPA for a prominent international accounting firm in Honolulu and Los Angeles, and having served as Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawaii, where he prosecuted cases involving the commission of complex white-collar crime.

Mr Zalewski received his doctor of law degree from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 1986, and his bachelor of science degree, accounting major, from the University of Minnesota in 1980. He is admitted to practice before all courts in Hawaii and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and is a member of the Hawaii State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and the Defense Research Institute. He has achieved the rank of *Godan* in the Japanese martial art of Kendo.

KOBAYASHI SUGITA & GODA

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Kobayashi, Sugita & Goda specializes in complex litigation and corporate business relations with an emphasis in commercial and construction issues, representation in finance, transactions, banking, general corporate, regulatory, land use, labor management, wrongful termination, immigration and associated fields.

The firm is committed to excellence and efficiency in legal services, and provides critical expertise necessary to ensure present and future clientele with the continuity and quality of representation needed to address legal problems in Hawaii, the Far East and the Pacific Rim, and the continental US.

The firm is ranked among the best of Hawaii's Law firms and has been selected by *Corporate Board Member* magazine's July/August 2002 special issue as one of the best law firms in Honolulu in its second annual survey of *America's Best Corporate Lawyers*. The survey asked more than 24,000 corporate board members to identify the firms they most admire, nationally and in 50 metropolitan areas.

Bert T. Kobayashi, Jr., Alan M. Goda, Wendell H. Fuji, Lex R. Smith, Ruth K. Oh, and Gregory M. Sato have been listed in the 2008 publication of "Hawaii's Super Lawyers".

Kobayashi, Sugita & Goda, LLP is one of Hawaii's most respected law firms offering a breadth of legal services and industry experience with specialized knowledge of Hawaii's legal and business landscape.

BERT T KOBAYASHI



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Bert T. Kobayashi, Jr. is one of the founding partners of the law firm, Kobayashi, Sugita & Goda, LLP. His practice concentration is commercial and construction litigation, administrative law, governmental procurement and contracts and public utilities; inclusive of evaluation, consultant, litigation and drafting.

He is a respected member of the business community, as a director of Hawaii's largest bank, the First Hawaiian Bank since 1974; director and member of the audit committee of BankWest Corporation, the bank holding company that owns the First Hawaiian Bank and Bank of the West since 2000; director of Western Air Lines from 1975 to its sale to Delta in 1986; director of Schuler Homes until it merged with Western Pacific in 2001; director of the Waialae Country Club from 1994 to 1997, 2001 to 2007, and its president in 1997; director and vice chair of Friends of Hawaiian Charities which operates the PGA's Sony Open; director and audit committee of Hawaiian Holdings, which owns and operates Hawaiian Air Lines; member of the board of visitors for the Lewis and Clarke College's Northwestern School of Law in Portland, Oregon and Honorary Alumnus in 2003.

He has been listed for over twenty years in Best Lawyers in American in commercial litigation and insurance defense and has also been listed each year in Honolulu Magazine's "Best Lawyers in the State of Hawaii" in the areas of commercial litigation, insurance, construction and anti-trust, the 2008 Hawaii Super Lawyer listing included Mr. Kobayashi as one of the State's twenty-five top attorneys. He has tried over 200 cases to a jury verdict and handled bench trials, arbitrations and mediations in the thousands.

He is a member of the Hawaii Asia Pacific Association, American Bar Association, Hawaii Bar Association, American Trial Lawyers Association, American Board of Trial Advocates, American College of Trial Lawyers, American Board of Trial Advocates, American Law Institute, American Arbitration Association. Further, he was a member of the State of Hawaii's Judicial Selection Commission from 1985 through 1991 and its chairperson from 1987 through 1989.

He was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, raised in Cambridge Massachusetts and Honolulu, where he graduated from Roosevelt High School. He attended the University of Hawaii and graduated from Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He received his Juris Doctor degree in 1965 from the University of California's Hastings College of the Law.

Mr. Kobayashi attended the Combat Platoon Leaders School at Fort Benning, Georgia and the military intelligence school at Fort Holabird in Dundak, Maryland. He served with MACV in Gia Dinh, Vietnam and on temporary assignment to the First Cavalry as head of the strategic interrogation team for Operation Hastings (1966 - 1967). He was honorably discharged in 1967 as a captain.