MEMORANDUM

TO: Successful Bar Examinees
FROM: Patricia Mau-Shimizu
Executive Director
RE: New Member Information

On behalf of the members of the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) governing Board of Directors, I write to congratulate you on your momentous achievement in your legal career.

The HSBA was founded on June 24, 1899. It was formally incorporated in 1988 as a non-profit trade organization under Section 501(c) (6) of the Internal Revenue Code. On November 1, 1989, the Hawaii Supreme Court, which regulates the practice of law and admission to the Bar created an integrated bar, (RSCH Rule 17). All persons admitted to practice law in Hawaii were then required to be members of the HSBA, and the Court designated the HSBA as the administrative entity of the integrated bar.

The mission statement of the HSBA is "... to unite and inspire Hawaii’s lawyers to promote justice, serve the public, and improve the legal profession."

In meeting its regulatory and administrative responsibilities and its mission, the HSBA serves as the “umbrella entity” for the legal profession. Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to: licensing and registration, administrative oversight over the provision of quality continuing legal education opportunities to meet mandatory annual requirements, commenting on judicial appointment and practice rules, and working cooperatively with other Court entities (the Disciplinary Board, the Lawyers Fund for Client Protection, and the Attorneys & Judges Assistance Program). The HSBA also provides printed and electronic communications for the dissemination of information related to the practice of law, pro bono opportunities, judicial vacancies, CLE seminar offerings, and services and discounts available to members (e.g. office product discounts, malpractice and other lines of insurance, financial services, including student loan refinancing, and entertainment services such as movie tickets).

License Registration

HSBA license registration materials will be emailed to the email address provided on the pre-registration form. Complete and return your 2022 forms to the HSBA as directed as soon as possible. Please note that this initial registration is for 2022 only. Renewal materials for the 2023 license year will be available online on the HSBA website at www.hsba.org by December 1, 2022. Completed forms for the 2023 license year will be due by 12:00 midnight on December 31, 2022.

Required Professionalism Course

The Hawaii Professionalism Course is required by Rule 1.14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Hawaii (RSCH), you must register, attend and complete the three (3) part course by December after the year in which you become an ACTIVE member of the HSBA, i.e., if you elect an active status in 2022, you must take this course by December 31, 2023.

The June 2022 Professionalism Course will be 3 on-demand online CLE seminars. We encourage you to complete all seminars in a timely manner. License registration must be completed and processed to gain access to the HSBA portal. Please check www.hsba.org or call 808 537-1868 or e-mail CLE@hsba.org for details. There is no substitute for the Professionalism CLE seminar.
HSBA Website

Important regulatory information and other materials of interest for new members of the Hawaii Bar are available on the HSBA website at www.hsba.org.

- HSBA Registration Information
- HSBA Dues and Supreme Court Entity fees (ODC/AAP/LFCP) for new attorneys
- RSCH Rule 22 [Mandatory Continuing Legal Education]
- RSCH Rule 1.14 [Mandatory Professionalism Course] required of all new ACTIVE attorneys
- Young Lawyers Division (YLD) and Senior Counsel Division (SCD)
- Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS)
- Information regarding Bar card, directory photos, and other member benefits and discounts
- Fastcase (the free on-line research service)
- HSBA Online Account
- HSBA Sections and Committees
- Neighbor Island Bar Associations

For information specific to you as a new admittee, look for “New Admittees Information” under the “Membership” menu tab.

HSBA Sections and Committees and Neighbor Island Bar Associations

HSBA Sections and Committees and Neighbor Island Bar associations offer a multitude of opportunities for professional development and networking. There may be nominal dues required for membership by certain entities.

HSBA Committees:
- Attorney Client Relations (Fee dispute resolution)
- Awards
- Civic Education
- Consumer Protection
- Continuing Legal Education
- Delivery of Legal Services to the Public (Pro bono opportunities)
- Diversity, Equality and the Law
- Judicial Administration (Bench Bar conference & forum)
- Legislation and Public Policy
- Nominating
- Professional Responsibility
- Publications (Hawaii Bar Journal & Bar Directory)
- Technology
- Transitioning Lawyers
- Well Being

HSBA Divisions (automatic memberships)
- Young Lawyers Division (YLD)
- Senior Counsel Division (SCD)
HSBA Sections:
- Admiralty
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate
- Business Law
- Child Law
- Collection
- Corporate Counsel
- Criminal Justice & Corrections
- Elder Law
- Energy, Environment & Resources
- Family Law
- Government Lawyers
- Insurance Coverage Litigation
- Intellectual Property
- International Law
- Labor Employment
- Litigation
- Probate & Estate Planning
- Real Property & Financial Services
- Solo and Small Firm
- Tax

Neighbor Island Bar Associations and Specialty Bar Associations
- Kauai County Bar Association
- Maui County Bar Association
- Hawaii County Bar Association
- West Hawaii Bar Association
- African American Bar Association
- Christian Legal Society of Hawaii
- Hawaii Bankruptcy Association
- Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association
- Hawaii LGBT Legal Association
- Hawaii Women Lawyers
- National Asian Pacific American Bar Association
- Native Hawaiian Bar Association
- Pacific Islander Legal Association

Something to meet everyone’s needs and interests! More information about these committees, divisions, sections, Neighbor Island and Specialty Bar Associations can be found on our home page under “Membership”.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions, patms@hsba.org or (808) 792-7342. HSBA is here to support you.

Welcome to the HSBA!

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