

2024 Annual Child Welfare Law Update

Ko`olau Ballrooms and Conference Center
45-550 Kionaole Road, Kane`ohe, Honolulu, Hawai`i
Friday, August 9, 2024

7:45 a.m. REGISTRATION

8:30 a.m. WELCOME

Honorable Brian Costa, Family Court of the First Circuit
Trista Speer, Deputy Director, Department of Human Services
Kevin Adaniya, J.D., Program Emcee

**8:40 a.m. CHILD WELFARE STATUTORY CHANGES AND
APPELLATE DECISIONS**

Presenters: Derek Peterson, J.D., Deputy Attorney General, Family Law
Division; Emily Hills, J.D., Senior Attorney, Legal Aid Society of Hawaii

(Q&A to follow)

**9:00 a.m. JUDICIARY AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH: CHILD
WELFARE INITIATIVES, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND
PLANS FOR 2024-2025**

Family Court: Honorable Brian Costa, Family Court of the First Circuit
Department of Education: Yvonne Humble, Ph.D., Director of Student
Support Services

Department of Human Services: Elladine Olevao, Branch Administrator,
Child Welfare Services

Department of Health: Kurt Humphrey, M.D., Medical Director, Child and
Adolescent Mental Health Division

(Q&A to follow)

9:45 a.m. BREAK

10:00 a.m. CASE PLANNING FOR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

HI H.O.P.E.S. Board Members, Melissa Mayo and Tianna Celis-Webster
Moderator: Delia Ulma, J.D., Executive Director, EPIC Ohana, Inc.

10:30 a.m. REASONABLE EFFORTS ACROSS THE LIFESPAN OF A CHILD WELFARE CASE

Honorable Natasha Shaw, Family Court of the First Circuit; Crystal Asano, Esq.; Nicole Cummings, Esq.; Lisa Rapozo, DHS Section Administrator, Fifth Circuit; Kellie Kersten, J.D., Deputy Attorney General

Moderator: Emily Hills, J.D., Senior Attorney, Legal Aid Society of Hawaii

12:00 p.m. WORKING LUNCH: REASONABLE EFFORTS TABLE/ZOOM BREAKOUTS DISCUSSION

Facilitator: Emily Hills, J.D., Senior Attorney, Legal Aid Society of Hawaii

1:00 p.m. CULTURAL FEATURES OF CHUUK RELEVANT TO CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE; WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH CHUUK FAMILIES IN CHILD WELFARE CASES

Presenter: Jocelyn “Josie” Howard, Executive Officer, We Are Oceania

2:00 p.m. BREAK

2:10 p.m. CULTURAL FEATURES OF MARSHALL ISLANDS RELEVANT TO CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE; WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH MARSHALLESE FAMILIES IN CHILD WELFARE CASES

Presenter: Emma Kurashige, Ohana Conference Manager, EPIC Ohana, Inc.

3:15 p.m. LEGAL ETHICS IN CHILD WELFARE CASES; REPRESENTATION AND ADVOCACY FOR AN INCAPACITATED PARENT IN CHILD WELFARE CASES: THE ETHICS AND ROLES OF THE GAL AND ATTORNEY FOR THE INCAPACITATED PARENT

Honorable Rebecca Copeland, Family Court of the First Circuit; Barbara Higa-Rogers, Ph.D.; Rebecca Lester, Esq.; Caroline Cobangbang, Esq.

Moderator: Kevin Adaniya, J.D.

4:30 p.m. CLOSING REMARKS

Kevin Adaniya, J.D.

Handouts from the conference will be posted at www.ittakesanohana.org → [_Handouts](#) → [Factsheets/Conference Handouts](#) → [2024 Annual Child Welfare Law Update](#)

This event is funded by the the Judiciary, State of Hawaii Court Improvement Program, and supported by the Hawaii Family Courts, Department of Human Services, William S. Richardson School of Law, the CIP Conference Planning Committee, and Children’s Justice Center.