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 - 10:55 Expanding 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 will frankly discuss how all of us have some unconscious bias that affects our viewpoint of those from differing backgrounds. The session will help us recognize common sources of this implicit bias, so that we can be more effective in helping others. Facilitator: Calvin Pang; Panelists: Justin Levinson-

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, Bill 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: Justice Simeon Acoba, Representative Della Au Belatti, and Derek Kobayashi

(Draft: 4/10/12: schedule subject to change)
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 and others to be announced

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 status of Act 48, the legislation enacted to provide mediation in foreclosure cases; developments in nonjudicial foreclosure cases; and how to get involved. Facilitators: Steve Levins, James Paige, Jo Ann Uchida, and Tracey Wiltgen

8. **Issues Immigrants Face**
   This session will discuss the various forms of exploitation confronting the vulnerable immigrants. Facilitators: Gary Singh and others to be announced

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 Minow and Justice Acoba

   “Hawai`i Pono`i”