

SENATE COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY AND LABOR
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 831
(WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY)

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Conference Room 016

Dear Chairperson Gil Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Judiciary & Labor Committee.

My name is Bert Tomasu and I am employed as an Adjudicator at the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office (ADLRO) which is currently headed by Marie Laderta as the Chief Adjudicator. I am submitting this testimony in my private capacity and not as an employee of the Judiciary.

I respectfully urge this committee to confirm Marie Laderta as a member of the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board.

I have known Marie since January 2011 when she was hired as the Chief Adjudicator and as my direct supervisor I have had daily work week contact with her since that time.

Marie became the Chief Adjudicator during a particularly challenging time for the ADLRO as a result of amendments to the license revocation law which required, for the first time, that individuals' whose driver's license was revoked install ignition interlock devices on their vehicles in order to drive during the revocation period. The amendments to the law required wholesale changes to the procedures and forms utilized by the ADLRO and required the office to coordinate with various

stakeholders such as the county police departments and motor vehicle licensing divisions in order to implement the law.

During the transition period Marie displayed a strong work ethic and an ability to work cooperatively with others to solve problems. Her efforts were largely responsible for the successful implementation the law and her accomplishments are even more impressive considering that she had no experience in this area before becoming the Chief Adjudicator. Since that time Marie has settled into the job and insists on hearing cases in addition to fulfilling her administrative duties in order to better understand the issues faced by the staff on a daily basis.

Anyone who knows Marie will tell you that she brings boundless energy and enthusiasm to any undertaking. She is a personable and giving person and is a pleasure to be around. These traits, combined with her intelligence and strong commitment to public service will make her a valuable asset at the LIRAB. I am pleased to highly recommend her as an excellent choice to become a member of the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board. Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony.

April 13, 2015

TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
For Hearing on Wednesday, April 15, 2015
10:00 a.m., Conference Room 016

Governor's Message 831

Relating to the Consideration and Confirmation of

MARIE C. LADERTA

To the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board

(Written Testimony Only)

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Marie C. Laderta's confirmation as a member of the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board.

I have known Marie for approximately 18 ½ years. We first met when we were both deputies at the Attorney General's Office. Marie was a very hard worker who was well-liked by her co-workers. She quickly rose to the position of Supervisor of the Tort Litigation Division, where she proved herself to be an energetic, highly effective manager. She was never reluctant to tackle difficult issues, and always did her research/"due diligence" in order to facilitate resolutions that were well-reasoned and fair. As a reflection of her skill as a manager, Marie was named the Department of the Attorney General's Manager of the Year in 2002.

I subsequently worked with Marie again in her capacity as Director of the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD), when I served as DHRD Deputy Director from 2006 – 2010. As DHRD Director, Marie was tireless. She oversaw four divisions, including the Employee Claims Division (ECD), which handles

workers' compensation claims for State employees. Marie thus gained familiarity with the workers' compensation area, in addition to other areas such as labor relations, recruitment, benefits and classification. Marie was a quick study and approached all issues with her trademark high-energy style, which proved a valuable asset because in addition to DHRD Director, she concurrently served as Chief Negotiator for the State. Wearing "two hats" was definitely a challenge, but Marie was able to successfully manage it.

Having known Marie for nearly 20 years, I have no hesitation in stating that she would be an excellent choice for the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board (LAB). She is intelligent, articulate and an excellent writer. She has a strong sense of fairness, as well as great people skills. Because of her legal background and varied work experience, Marie is more than qualified to interpret and apply laws, rules and other legal authority that would be relevant to cases considered by the LAB. She is also very familiar with the conduct of hearings and the administrative hearing process. In sum, Marie is the perfect choice for the LAB, and I respectfully urge this Committee to support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy S. Inouye

From: [James Leavitt](#)
To: [Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran](#)
Cc:
Subject: Marie C. Laderta
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 4:02:07 PM

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARIE C. LADERTA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Aloha Senator Agaran:

I have known Marie Laderta since 1994, when she applied for a position as a paralegal with our firm. I believe she had just completed law school and was intending to study for the bar examination here in Hawaii when she came aboard.

Marie showed herself to be a quick learner, with impressive energy. At some point in the process, she transitioned from paralegal to associate attorney. I saw that she was able to grasp complex problems quickly; her ethics were impeccable.

Sadly, Marie decided to leave our firm when Margery Bronster hired her to work in the Attorney General's office. I was not at all surprised when Marie was promoted there to head the entire torts division of that office.

Marie's work there was sufficiently impressive that she was nominated—and confirmed by the Senate—to be the State Human Resource Director. In that capacity, she became familiar with many of the issues and situations she will face if confirmed.

I can state without hesitation that if Marie is confirmed for this post, she will always act in the best interest for the people of Hawai'i and for the cause of justice.

Thank you for considering these comments.

James T. Leavitt, Jr.

Leavitt, Yamane & Soldner
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KRISTIN E. IZUMI-NITAO
235 S. Beretania Street, Suite 300
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

April 10, 2015

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 016
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: G.M. 831 - Consideration and Confirmation to the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board, State of Hawaii, Gubernatorial Nominee Marie C. Laderta

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am respectfully writing in strong support of gubernatorial nominee Marie C. Laderta for consideration and confirmation to the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board, State of Hawaii.

As a prior Deputy Attorney General, I have had the privilege and pleasure of working with and getting to know Marie. She is an honorable, intelligent, resourceful, respectful, and fair individual who has excelled in her positions. I believe that she has the proper demeanor and integrity to do well on this board and serve our community. I am therefore honored to submit this letter in support of her nomination.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,



Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY AND LABOR
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 831
(WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY)**

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

10:00 am

Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Gil Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro & Senate Judiciary & Labor Committee members:

I strongly and respectfully urge this committee to confirm Marie Laderta to the position of Member of the Labor & Industrial Relations Appeal Board. While I am the current Chair of the State of Council of Revenues, I write this recommendation in my personal capacity.

I have known Marie since 1999 or for 16 years we first served as division supervisors at the State of Hawaii Department of Attorney General under Governor Cayetano and then Attorney General Earl Anzai.

I was also Marie's supervisor at the Hawaii Tax Department from 2003-2005, and worked with Marie professionally through 2010.

I believe Marie, an attorney and adjudicator, possesses the experience, judgment, integrity, and skill set to perform the duties required of her as a member of the Labor Appeals Board. More importantly, she has a strong sense of fairness and impartiality in decision making, and is unequivocally a person of high integrity. Her track record of government service demonstrates her dedication to public service, her resilience, and her ability to adapt and add value where needed.

In my 16 years of knowing and working closely with Marie, I have witnessed Marie to manage some of most challenging staff and situations and turn them around in a positive fashion. Marie is always upbeat, displays a positive attitude and perseveres in accomplishing tasks assigned to her. Marie is very personable and

an exceptional people person. She is also extremely smart, a quick study, and adaptable to new situations. While Marie had virtually no tax background, she developed a quick solid foundation and excelled at the Tax Department. While she is articulate and straight forward, she is also an extremely good listener, open minded, and diplomatic. Marie is also compassionate and has a big heart but will always "do the right thing."

Marie was my Deputy when I was Tax Director, and she was a self-starter and motivator who aptly ran the operations of the State tax office. Her multi-tasking skills made her an important asset to the successful management of the tax department. When we colleagues and fellow supervisors at the Attorney General's, Marie lead the Tort Litigation Supervisor & I supervised the Tax Division. Marie had her own caseload of litigation cases plus, as Supervisor, was responsible for ensuring the effective running of the AG's tort litigation cases. She wrote her first Appellate brief after 1 year of being at the AG's office in a death case and prevailed. Marie is a fast learner and she has the uncanny ability to identify and maximize resources to their potential.

When she was the State's Chief Negotiator, she became acquainted with labor issues that challenged the State, and established mutually respected relationships with the public unions.

In the last 4+ years, as a working Chief of her program (the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office, she sharpened and honed in her adjudication skills by actively hearing DUI cases. She believed the hands-on experience helped her understand the process and better able to lead her program.

I have known Marie for 16 years and have had the pleasure of working with her at various stages of her State career. While I am have been fortunate to have recruited a number of talented professionals and very good people, Marie is the one of best, if not the best, professional and person that I was blessed to have had the opportunity to recruit and work with.

The Labor Appeals Board will be very fortunate to have Marie. I believe she will be a tremendous asset to the Labor Appeals Board. I strongly and unequivocally urge this committee to confirm her. Thank you.

**THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2015
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR**

Testimony on GM 831

April 15, 2015

Conference Room 016, 10:00 a.m.

Chair Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Gubernatorial Nominee, MARIE LADERTA, for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

I have known Ms. Laderta for over ten years. Ms. Laderta is a family friend. She has a big heart, and she will not hesitate to lend a hand if you ever needed one. Ms. Laderta treats people with respect and care. She is exceptionally smart and solution-oriented. I have no doubt that she will preside over all cases presented to her with high integrity and fairness.

I have worked as a Food and Beverage manager at Hyatt and Hilton Hotels, Chicago, Illinois and Honolulu, Hawaii, an opening team for Hyatt Hotel, Beijing, China, an entrepreneur pioneering, promoting and selling U.S. products to China, and a realtor specialized in bringing foreign investment to Hawaii. I am confident that with Ms. Laderta will be a tremendous asset to Hawaii Labor Relations Board, bringing her wealth of knowledge, managerial and adjudicating skills acquired during her 18 years of government service at the Department of the Attorney General, Department of Taxation, Department of Human Resources Development, and Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Ms. Laderta to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

Respectfully submitted,


Perry Cheng

720 Ocean View Dr. Honolulu, HI 96815
Phone: (808) 351-5385 Email: perry808@aol.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 831

Wednesday, April 15, 2015
10:00 am
Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

I respectfully request your favorable consideration and confirmation of gubernatorial nominee Marie C. Laderta to the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board.

I have known Marie since 2011, when she was appointed Chief Adjudicator of the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office. At the time, I served as a hearing officer, and Marie was my supervisor. It was a pleasure and a privilege to work with her.

Marie is an honest, intelligent, competent, forward-looking, supportive, transparent and inspiring leader. She is direct, fair, energetic, and generous to a fault. Her record of government service reflects her dedication and commitment as an outstanding public servant.

Marie possesses sound judgment, is objective, impartial and open-minded, and has common sense. She is a quick study and readily adapts to new situations. With her background and experience as an attorney, administrator, and adjudicator, I am confident that Marie will be a valuable addition to the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Marie C. Laderta, gubernatorial nominee to the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan A. Weber

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
From: Ted Sakai
Subject: Governor's Message 831 (Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARIE C. LADERTA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016)

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the nomination of Marie Laderta to the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board, and urge your favorable consideration. As the former Director of the Department of Public Safety, I had the opportunity to learn of the significance of the work of this Board and gained an appreciation of the complexity of its work. I believe that Ms. Laderta's professional training, work experience, and personal qualities makes her eminently qualified for this position.

I have known Ms. Laderta for more than fifteen years. I worked with her when she was a Deputy Attorney General, and briefly when she was the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development. I found her to be a very capable attorney and an effective and compassionate executive. She is an eager learner, and seeks to fully understand all side of issues that are presented to her. Her background in understanding and applying the law and in administering the largest human resources system in the State will give her a unique perspective from which to perform her duties as a member of this Board.

**THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2015
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR**

**Testimony on GM 831
April 15, 2015
Conference Room 016, 10:00 a.m.**

Chair Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Gubernatorial Nominee, MARIE LADERTA, for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

I have known Ms. Laderta for almost twelve years. Ms. Laderta is a compassionate, fair and excellent leader and collaborator. Ms. Laderta has a special skill of bringing people together by actively listening to both sides of stories, and making two opposing sides acknowledge and understand the differing point of views and reaching consensus decision. Ms. Laderta is impartial in decision making, and she is a person of high integrity.

As the Deputy Director of Taxation, Ms. Laderta was in charge of tax operations and personnel management of over 300 employees. As the Special Assistant to the Director of Taxation, I had a tremendous opportunity to work closely, observed and learned from Ms. Laderta. She is exceptionally smart and solution-oriented. Ms. Laderta is remarkable in her ability to identify and maximize resources to their potential.

Ms. Laderta's wealth of government experience will make her an incredible asset to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board. As the State's Chief Negotiator, Ms. Laderta dealt with labor issues that plagued the State, and was able to forge mutually respected relationships with the public unions. As Chief Adjudicator of the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office, Mr. Laderta gains hands-on experience of the adjudication process by actively hearing DUI cases.

On a personal level, Ms. Laderta is a person with a big heart. Ms. Laderta treats people with respect and care. She makes me feel like a part of her family, and I am very grateful for her generosity, kindness, and thoughtfulness.

With Ms. Laderta as a member, the Hawaii Labor Relations Board will unquestionably carry out its mission to provide timely and responsive service to the people of Hawaii and decide appeals from decisions and orders of the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations issued under the workers' compensation law and any other law for which an appeal to the board is provide by law in a fair manner. I respectfully urge you to confirm Ms. Laderta to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

Sincerely,
Titin L. Sakata

ZALE T. OKAZAKI
190 Kilea Place
Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786

senkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senator Agaran:

I am writing on behalf of Marie Laderta, who is a candidate for the position of Labor Appeals Board.

I have known Marie since 1990, when she was a paralegal in the firm I worked for, Turk and Agena. Although she had not yet taken the Hawaii bar, she was already licensed and had practiced in immigration in Chicago. As my paralegal, she was very competent in researching, preparing documents, meeting with personal injury clients, and negotiating with insurance adjusters. I depended on her for a trial that took place in 1993 for three weeks in Hilo.

From Turk and Agena, Marie moved to Leavitt Yamane and Soldner, again as a paralegal. During this time, she passed the Hawaii bar. Marie honed her mediation skills in that firm and was mentored by Jim Leavitt.

From Leavitt Yamane, Marie went to the attorney general's office as a deputy attorney general because she felt a need to "give back" to her community. She began in the litigation department and caught the attention of Margery Bronster who was the State's attorney general at that time. Margery promoted her to litigation supervisor for the State of Hawaii.

During her tenure as litigation supervisor, next caught the attention of Mark Bennett, who had succeeded Margery as attorney general during the Lingle administration. While Bennett was AG, Marie remained as litigation supervisor, however, Marie then moved to the Tax department as a Deputy Director under Kurt Kawafuchi. She was responsible, among other things,

Senator Keith Agaran

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April 13, 2015

for oversight of the department's human resource office and staffing of the tax departments and also the Council on Revenues.

Again, under the auspices of Mark Bennett, Marie now came to the attention of Linda Lingle, who appointed her as Department Head of DHRD (department of human resources development). With an operating budget of \$22.4 million, Marie administered the state and federal laws pertaining to civil service. This included HR programs, internal workers compensation, return to work programs, workplace safety, and underemployment insurance funds. While at DHRD, Marie also served as Chief Negotiator for the Governor's Office of Collective Bargaining.

As a friend, Marie is loyal, constant, encouraging, hard working, and always smiling. When I used to visit her office at the AG and DHRD, I found that she had these same attributes and that her staff looked up to her and were willing to follow her that extra mile.

Thank you for allowing your time and consideration.

Cordially,

Zale T. Okazaki

cc: s.wong@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: Joseph Zuiker
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 1:40 PM
To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran
Cc: Sen. Maile Shimabukuro
Subject: GM 831 Labor Appeals' Board - Marie C. Laderta - Why approve someone who has no recent experience protecting this magnificent statute?

Marie C. Laderta - Why approve someone who has no recent experience protecting this magnificent statute?

Your committee should make decisions regarding the appointment of Labor Board members with serious attention to finding people who really love and respect this important "Remedial" statute. Just appointing long time political friends and supporters falls far short of fulfilling your duties.

Ms. Laderta's resume fails to show any real respect for the statute recently and any day to day experience with the many issues faced by members of the LIRAB. You should reject this candidate and ask the governor to do better with his next proposed Board member submission.

Thank you.

Joseph Zuiker
23 years experience with work accidents in Hawaii.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM831 on Apr 15, 2015 10:00AM
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 6:43:31 PM

GM831

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for JDL on Apr 15, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Moore	Hawaii Injured Workers Assn (HIWA)	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha: the Hawaii Injured Workers Assn. (HIWA) respectfully opposes this nomination to the LIRAB based upon this nominee's past performance which has not been supportive of our injured workers. mahalo

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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