

CITY COUNCIL

NOMINATION AND/OR APPOINTMENT TRANSMITTAL

DATE: January 18, 2023

TO: OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, COMMITTEE AIDE TO
Budget Committee
STANDING COMMITTEE

FROM: Council Chair Tommy Waters
COUNCILMEMBER

SUBJECT: Rebecca Soon TO THE
NOMINEE OR APPOINTEE NAME
Salary Commission
COMMISSION/AGENCY

2023 JAN 18 11:00 AM CITY CLERK

The above-referenced individual is my proposed nomination and/or appointment for the subject Commission/Agency for consideration by your assigned Committee.

Nomination form attached

Resume attached



Councilmember signature

cc: Councilmembers

***One form per nominee or appointee**
(Rev. 1/7/15)

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
NOMINEE/APPOINTEE FORM

1. Position Nominated to: Salary Commission Member
2. Name: Rebecca Justine Iolani Soon
(First) (Middle) (Last)
3. Are you a citizen of the United States? Yes No
Are you a resident of the City and County of Honolulu? Yes No
If yes, how long 38 yrs
Are you a registered voter in the City and County of Honolulu? Yes No
4. Occupation: Consultant/Manager
5. Name and address of employer or firm:
Solutions Pacific, 1136 Union Mall, Suite 705, Honolulu, HI 96813
6. Does your employer do any business with the City and County of Honolulu?
Yes No If yes, state the nature of business and approximate dollar amount in the last five years:
Planning, Training, Community Engagement - \$75,000
7. Do you or does any member of your immediate family hold office or own stock in any firm?
Yes No
8. Does the firm do business with the City and County of Honolulu? Yes No
If yes, provide details including the name(s) of the firm:
Ward Research - market research, surveys, customer research
9. Do you have any part-time employment, professional activity, or financial interests other than those indicated in the previous question? Yes No
If yes, provide details:
10. Do you foresee any possible conflict between your present work, financial investments, business transactions or any other activity which would be incompatible with the proper discharge of your official duties or hinder you from effectively carrying out the duties for which you have been appointed? Yes No
11. Are any members of your family employed by the City and County of Honolulu or any attached agency? Yes No If yes, please specify the department and division:
12. Are there any incidents in your past that may jeopardize your nomination
Yes No

13. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? If yes, provide details:
No
14. Education:
JD from William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Bachelor in Business Administration, Babson College, Massachusetts
Secondary School, Kamehameha Schools, Kapalama
15. Provide a summary of major work experience for the last ten (10) years. Begin with your present job including military (attach additional sheets if necessary or resume):
See attached resume
16. Community activities, etc. (also list any service on any other board or commission Federal, State or County):
See attached resume
17. Have you ever been a member of a board or commission with the City and County of Honolulu?
 Yes No If yes, provide name(s) of board/commission:

18. Will you be able to commit to the full term of this appointment? Yes No
19. Will you be able to commit to meeting dates and times? Yes No
20. Are you regularly away from Honolulu? Yes No If yes, please explain:

21. Are you willing to make a confidential financial disclosure to the city Ethics Commission upon appointment and yearly thereafter? Yes No
22. What do you understand to be the prime duties of your county appointment?
If confirmed as a volunteer member, I understand duties to include: review of current salaries and compensation for elected officials and key City positions, contemplate levels and structures that would be in the best interests of the people of Honolulu, listen to public input, and make recommendations to the City Council for consideration.

The above statements made by me are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and are made in good faith.

Rebecca J. Gao

(Signature)

01/18/2023

(Date)

The completed form and any attachment(s) will be posted by the City Clerk and available on the City's DocuShare Website.

Rebecca Justine 'Iolani Soon

Education

William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, Hawai'i *May 2016*

- Juris Doctorate, Native Hawaiian Law Certificate
- 2016 Graduation Speaker
- Editor, Asian Pacific Law & Policy Journal
- Captain, Native American Moot Court
- Red Sox Award, annually given to the student body "everyday hero"

Babson College, Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts *December 2006*

- Bachelor of Science in Business Management
- Concentrations: Business Law and Social Entrepreneurship
- Babson Excellence in Justice Award, given annually to one student for exhibiting fairness and justice
- Women Who Make a Difference Award, given annually to one female student excellence in leadership

Kamehameha Secondary School, Kapālama, Hawai'i *May 2003*

- Student Body President (served three years in ASKS leadership)
- Graduate with Honors, Song Contest Speaker (four years), and Hō'ike dancer (one year)
- Orchestra Lead Bassist, member of Economics Club, and Puka Mai Ka Lā anchor

Leadership and Community

Chair, Patsy T. Mink PAC *2012 - Current*
Board Member, The Legal Clinic *2017 - 2018*
Board Member, KEY Project *2014 - 2018*
Delegate/Participant, Legislative Committee Liaison and Drafter, 2015 'Aha Constitutional Convention *2016*
Co-Chair, Election Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i *2010 - 2014*
Various Campaign and Spokesperson Responsibilities *2008 - Current*
Trainer & Speaker, Various Small Business and Micro-Enterprise Programs *2007-Current*
Developed curriculum for both end-use and train-the-trainer programs
Supported Small Business development program for non-profit agency
Helped to develop supplementary programs and access to credit
Chair, Three Outstanding Young Persons, Hawai'i State Junior Chamber of Commerce *2008-2012*
17-03 Precinct President, Democratic Party of Hawai'i *2008 - 2012*
Board of Directors, VP of Individual Development, RPJ Junior Chamber of Commerce *2007 - 2010*
Editor, Babson College Newspaper, Babson College *2003 - 2006*
Member, Sodexo National Student Board of Directors, Nationwide *2004 - 2006*
President of Coalition for Women's Rights & Sexuality, Babson College *2005 - 2007*
Resident Hall Assistant, Babson College *2004-2005*
Student Planning Committee Chairman, Black Affinity Conference, Babson College *2005-2006*

Awards and Recognition

Giraffe Awardee, Patsy T. Mink PAC, Hawai'i *October 2022*
Graduation Speaker, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i *Spring 2016*
Red Sox Award, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i *Spring 2016*
11 in 2011, 'Ōiwi TV - Native Hawaiian Leaders *2011*
JCI Americas' Speaking Champion, Junior Chamber International *Spring 2009*
Representative to the 2009 World Congress as a World Speaking Champion
Won speaking competition in local, national, and North & South America Conference
Brownfield Award for New Member of the Year, US Junior Chamber of Commerce *Spring 2009*
Babson Excellence in Justice Award, Babson College *Spring 2007*
Women Who Make a Difference Award, Babson College *Spring 2006*

Rebecca Justine 'Iolani Soon

Professional Experience

Chief Operations Officer, Solutions Pacific LLC, Honolulu, HI *Nov 2006-Current*

- Partner in Planning and Research consulting firm
- Provide Executive Director, Strategic Planning, and Project Management Services to Non-Profits, government partners, political organizations, and community-based groups
- Oversee business management and operations

President, Ward Research Inc., Honolulu, HI *March 2022 - Current*

- Oversee business management and operations of one of Hawai'i's only research firms
- Provide executive support and research assistance to full-time staff and fielding team

Chief of Staff, Honolulu City Council Office of the Chair, Honolulu, HI *Jan – Dec 2021*

- Provide administrative, management, and policy guidance for the legislative branch of the City & County of Honolulu, including the Honolulu City Council, Office of the City Clerk, Office of Council Services, and the City Auditor
- Provide transitional leadership for the new City Council Chair, including building and managing an administrative, policy, and communications support team of 16 key staff

Deputy Director, Department of Community Services for the City & County of Honolulu *2018-2021*

- Manage operational requirements, budget planning, and execution for department including 6 divisions, 315 employees, and \$115MM annual budget including management of City, State, and Federal funds
- Co-lead senior management in the areas of kūpuna care, employment training and industry development, subsidized affordable housing programs, development and management of affordable housing, grants in aid programs, and services for persons experiencing homelessness
- Serve as advocacy and administrative representative to City Council and State Legislature and work with community-based partners towards community-based solutions
- Responsible for deployment and execution of \$125M in CARES funding to support vulnerable communities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Represent the Mayor and City in various community initiatives and events as a member of the Cabinet

Executive Director, Native Hawaiian Organizations Association, Honolulu, HI *2008-2012*

- Manage start up and incorporation of new trade association
- Develop and implement legislative strategy for NHO program
- Coordinate with federal and state agencies around key issues
- Implement annual conference, summits, and roundtable on key issues
- Oversee development of budget, programs, and staff

Director of Economic Development, Pacific Gateway Center, Honolulu, HI *2006- 2008*

- Manage and develop three for-profit enterprises for non-profit parent
- Oversee department with \$1.2M annual budget and 10 staff members
- Oversaw grant management program and \$9MM micro-lending fund
- Administer 10 programs to provide program and financial support for start up businesses and small growth phase companies

Other Professional Experience

- Deputy Chief of Staff, Honolulu Councilmember Stanley Chang
- Retail Manager, Sodexo International, Wellesley, MA
- Editor in Chief & Advertising Manager, Babson Free Press, Wellesley, MA
- Intern, Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, Honolulu, Hawai'i
- Free Lance Writer, Ill Magazine, Detroit, MI

Office of the City Clerk
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
STATE OF HAWAII

Voter Certificate

I, Glen I. Takahashi, City Clerk of the City & County of Honolulu, State of Hawaii do hereby certify that,

REBECCA J.I. SOON

a resident of the City and County of Honolulu, State of Hawaii is a duly registered elector (voter) of

Precinct, 03 Representative District, 27 State of Hawaii

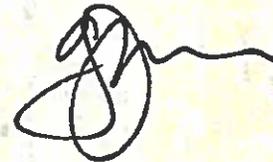
Voter ID No: 1440680 Registration Date: 07/19/2004

Date of Birth [REDACTED]

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City and County of Honolulu to be affixed on January 18, 2023.

[REDACTED]

Signature of Elector



Glen I. Takahashi, City Clerk
City and County of Honolulu
State of Hawaii