'23JUN23 PM 1:28 CITY CLERK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 300 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-4141 • FAX: (808) 768-4242 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

MICHAEL D. FORMBY
MANAGING DIRECTOR

KRISHNA F. JAYARAM
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR

June 22, 2023

The Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

Pursuant to Section 13-103(b) of the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu, I hereby appoint, subject to confirmation by your Honorable Body, Ms. Gwenette Higa as a member of the Real Property Assessment Board of Review I. Ms. Higa will replace Ms. Ruth Lin and serve for a term to expire on June 30, 2028. I would appreciate your favorable consideration of Ms. Higa's appointment and request adoption by the City Council in the most expedient manner possible.

I have enclosed a draft resolution and Ms. Higa's personal information for your review. For any general inquiries you may have regarding this appointment, please contact my executive assistant, Kevan Wong, at 768-6608.

Sincerely,

Rick Blangiardi
Mayor

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Gwenette Higa
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services
Real Property Tax Board of Review I
Ethics Commission

MAYOR'S MESSAGE 127

CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. _____

RESOLUTION

CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF GWENETTE HIGA TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF REVIEW I FOR REAL PROPERTY TAX APPEALS OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

WHEREAS, Section 8-12.6, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("ROH"), as amended, establishes boards of review for real property tax appeals under the Department of Budget and Fiscal Services; and

WHEREAS, each board consists of five members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council to five-year staggered terms; and

WHEREAS, Section 8-12.7, ROH, charges a board of review with the duty of hearing and deciding real property tax appeals; and

WHEREAS, by Mayor's letter, dated June 22, 2023, the Mayor has appointed Ms Gwenette Higa to the Board of Review I; and

WHEREAS, if confirmed by the Council, Ms. Higa will replace Ms. Ruth Lin and serve for a term to expire on June 30, 2028; and

WHEREAS, to qualify for service on the Board of Review, a member must comply with two requirements:

(1) Section 8-12.6, ROH, requires a member to have resided in the State of Hawaii for at least three years at the time of the appointment; and

(2) Section 13-103 of the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973, as amended, requires a member to be a registered voter; and

WHEREAS, the Council has reviewed the qualifications and character of Ms. Higa and finds that she meets the requirements to serve on the Board of Review I and deserves confirmation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it confirms the appointment of Ms. Gwenette Higa to the Board of Review I for real property tax appeals for a term expiring on June 30, 2028; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council expresses its gratitude and appreciation to Ms. Gwenette Higa for her willingness to serve the City and County of Honolulu; and

CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. _____

RESOLUTION

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, Chair of Board of Review I, and Ms. Gwenette Higa.

INTRODUCED BY:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

DATE OF INTRODUCTION: _____

_____

_____ _____

Honolulu, Hawaii Councilmembers

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,

GWENETTE A. HIGA

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

Precinct, 03 Representative District, 25 State of Hawaii

Voter ID No: 1107182 Registration Date: 08/28/2000

Date of Birth

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City and County of Honolulu to be affixed on June 21, 2023.

Signature Block

Signature of Elector

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

This certificate expires at the earlier of either the date the named elector relinquishes the voter residence associated with this certificate or after the next scheduled Hawaii General election after the affixed issuance date.

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
NOMINEE/APPOINTEE FORM

1. Position Nominated to: Real Property Tax Assessment Board of Review

2. Name: Gwenette Ann Higa
(First) (Middle) (Last)

3. Are you a citizen of the United States? Yes
Are you a resident of the City and County of Honolulu? Yes If yes, how long >20 years
Are you a registered voter in the City and County of Honolulu? Yes

4. Occupation: Insurance Agent - self employed (State Farm Insurance)

5. Name and address of employer or firm:
841 Bishop St. #120
Honolulu, HI 96813

6. Does your employer do any business with the City and County of Honolulu? No
If yes, state the nature of business and approximate dollar amount in the last five years:

7. Do you or does any member of your immediate family hold office or own stock in any firm?
No

8. Does the firm do business with the City and County of Honolulu? No
If yes, provide details including the name(s) of the firm:
No major stock holdings in any companies

9. Do you have any part-time employment, professional activity, or financial interests other than those indicated in the previous question? 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? No

11. Are any members of your family employed by the City and County of Honolulu or any attached agency? Yes
If yes, please specify the department and division:
My son is employed by Waste Water Department - C&C of Honolulu

12. Are there any incidents in your past that may jeopardize your nomination? No

13. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? No If yes, provide details:

14. Education:

High School - St. Francis High Scholl (Manoa)
University of Hawaii - BA
Master of Financial Services - The American College of Financial Services

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):

Insurance Agency with State Farm Insurance since 1988 to present (35 years)

16. Community activities, etc. (also list any service on any other board or commission Federal, State or County):

Rotary Club of Ala Moana member since 1990
Past Board member of Windward YMCA

17. Have you ever been a member of a board or commission with the City and County of Honolulu?

No

If yes, provide name(s) of board/commission:

18. Will you be able to commit to the full term of this appointment? Yes

19. Will you be able to commit to meeting dates and times? Yes

20. Are you regularly away from Honolulu? 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

22. What do you understand to be the prime duties of your county appointment?

Review information presented by C&C appraisal division and property owners contesting their current real estate property tax values. Evaluate all evidence presented and determine if the values are accurate.

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.

(Signature) 3-4-2023 (Date)

The above statements made by me are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and ***The completed form and any attachment(s) will be posted by the City Clerk and available on the City's DocuShare Website.***

RESUME

GWENETTE A. HIGA
841 Bishop St. #120
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
BS Phone 808 531-9918

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
State Farm Insurance Company – Honolulu
April 1988 - present
Independent Agent - serving personal and commercial insurance customers for more than 35 years.

EDUCATION
University of Hawaii – Bachelor of Arts – Communication
American College of Financial Services – Masters of Science in Financial Services

ADDITIONAL SKILLS
Customer service and relation skills understanding
Product knowledge of auto, home, life, health and business insurance coverage/policies
Property management, personal real estate

CERTIFICATION- LICENSES
Insurance License – State of Hawaii NPN 4670940
Realtor License – State of Hawaii (Inactive) RS 74389
Mediation Training – Mediation Center of the Pacific