Resolution 23-143
Testimony

MISC. COM. 379

EAST-WEST CENTER

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OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT

July 9, 2023

Aloha Mr. Sam Moku,

I am honored to write this letter of support for Tadia Rice's nomination to serve on the Ethics Commission for the City and County of Honolulu. As seen by Tadia's resume she is clearly a servant leader who has dedicated much of her life to the service of others.

It has been my distinct privilege of knowing Tadia since 2017 when we both received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor in New York City. This medal "recognizes individuals who have made it their mission to share their wealth of knowledge, indomitable courage, boundless compassion, unique talents, and selfless generosity with those less fortunate; all while maintaining the traditions of their ethnic heritage as they uphold the ideals and spirit of America."

Tadia is a woman of great character with impeccable integrity. She is willing to speak truth to power and guide people with truth in a kind and compassionate manner. She lives the values of honesty and integrity, equality, and fairness in her personal life, which is reflected in the work she has done over the years to serve marginalized communities and giving a voice to those who do not have a platform.

It is with great honor that I submit this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me as I look forward to sharing more about Tadia.

Very Respectfully,

President
(Major General Vares-Lum, USA Retired)

The EAST-WEST CENTER is an education and research organization established by the U.S. Congress in 1960 to strengthen relations and understanding among the peoples and nations of Asia, the Pacific, and the United States. The Center contributes to a peaceful, prosperous, and just Asia Pacific community by serving as a vigorous hub for cooperative research, education, and dialogue on critical issues of common concern to the Asia Pacific region and the United States. Funding for the Center comes from the U.S. government, with additional support provided by private agencies, individuals, foundations, corporations, and the governments of the region.

WEDNESDAYS IN MISSISSIPPI

A Documentary Project

July 8, 2023

Sam Moku
Chief of Staff
Office of the Mayor
City & County of Honolulu
(samuel.moku@honolulu.gov)

Hello Sam Moku,

It is my pleasure to enthusiastically recommend Dame Tadia Rice to serve on the Ethics Commission for the City and County of Honolulu.

I have known Tadia since 1985 when I was an Associate Producer of Woman to Woman, a nationally syndicated television talk show filmed in Los Angeles. I was so impressed with Tadia's talent and capability that she became a repeat guest. Shortly after we became production partners in film projects and developed several television programs.

We have remained friends and associates since then. Over the course of our decades-long personal and professional relationship I have known Tadia to possess unwavering self-discipline and competence, as well as high ideals and consistent values. Her achievements speak for themselves. Her upright character reflects the highest of integrity and trust. I know she will be an asset to the Ethics Commission, so without reservation I highly recommend Tadia Rice.

Sincerely,

Marlene McCurtis

Marlene McCurtis
Producer/Director

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July 8, 2023

City Council
City and County of Honolulu
Letter of Recommendation
Resolution 23-143 – Confirming the appointment of Muhtadia Rice to serve on the Ethics Commission of the City and County of Honolulu

Aloha mai,

I submit this letter of recommendation in support of the appointment of Tadia Rice to serve on the Ethics Commission of the City and County of Honolulu. I've personally known Tadia for almost 10 years, our paths intersecting in the Hawaiian Civic Club and Native Hawaiian organization networks and the community as a whole. If confirmed, I know she will advance the standards of ethical conduct toward improving and maintaining public confidence in government officials and employees.

Her local community experiences, including in the Native Hawaiian community, national, and international experiences, particularly in South Africa, provide her with perspectives, practices and experiences which valuably contribute to the intents and purposes of the Ethics Commission. We all are a part of, live and work in multiple and intersectional geographic, ethnic, cultural, socio-economic, age, affinity and marginalized communities---the very communities of our beloved island home, and I'm confident she will bring such to the role as a Commissioner along with her colleagues.

Again, I submit this letter of recommendation and supportive testimony for Resolution 23-143 for the appointment of Tadia Rice to the City and County of Honolulu Ethics Commission.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Me ka oi`a i`o (Sincerely),

Sylvia M. Hussey
Owner