

RES25-008
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 38

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Jan 29, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 6

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Larry Tong	Email: larrytong808@gmail.com	Zip: 96821
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 27, 2025 @ 05:03 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>It is a privilege to support the nomination of Dana Viola for a second term as corporation counsel.</p> <p>I worked closely with Ms. Viola from 2019-2021 while she was First Deputy Attorney General. At the time, she had primary responsibility for directing the operations of an office comprised of 700 people. She gave legal advice to all three branches of state government, oversaw the 17 legal divisions of the office, and was responsible for handling personnel matters, many of which were sensitive. Based on my dealings with Ms. Viola, I was delighted when she was confirmed as corporation counsel in 2021. She had a diverse legal background, and an engaging demeanor that allowed her to relate well to others, even in challenging situations.</p> <p>I am confident that the council has appreciated the skills Ms. Viola brought to the job during her first term. It appears the city faces many legal, fiscal and ethical challenges. Those issues require a weighing of competing views, many of which are expressed with great emotion. Ms. Viola has the experience and temperament to understand the legal and human aspects of any situation, and to give sound, well-reasoned advice. She also is able to address issues without getting mired in personality conflicts, and in fact, can use a disarming laugh to defuse situations when needed. With all of the challenges facing our city, I'm delighted that we have a person of Ms. Viola's skill and character to guide us forward. I urged her confirmation for a second term.</p>		
Name: Russell Suzuki	Email: russ1106ras@msn.com	Zip: 96797
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 27, 2025 @ 06:00 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I support the confirmation of Dana Viola for a second term as Corporation Counsel for the City and County of Honolulu. She has been a colleague and a friend of mine for many years. When I was the Attorney General of Hawaii, I appointed Dana to Viola be the First Deputy Attorney General, the second highest position in the office, because of her legal and managerial skills and her positive personality. I have observed Dana Viola in one-on-one as well as in small and large group situations where she displayed great leadership and focus. I know Dana Viola to be of the highest moral character and know that she will apply the law with fairness and competence. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to support Dana Viola's nomination and confirmation.</p>		
Name: Ardis Arakaki	Email: ardis.arakaki@gmail.com	Zip: 96809
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Support	Jan 28, 2025 @ 07:23 AM
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Testimony:

I strongly support the nomination of Dana O. Viola as Corporation Counsel for the City and County of Honolulu. I have known Ms. Viola for 15 years while working with her at the Corporation Counsel and at the State Attorney General's Office. I respect and appreciate Dana's dedication and commitment to public service. She is open-minded, a good listener, and an excellent leader.

I urge the Council to support and recommend her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Clare Connors	cconnors@post.harvard.edu	96734

Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 28, 2025 @ 08:20 AM

Testimony:

I am writing in strong support of Dana Viola for the position of Corporation Counsel. Ms. Viola and I worked together in the executive office of the Hawaii Attorney General, where we handled civil, administrative, criminal, employment and other matters affecting state agencies and Hawaii broadly. She brings a wealth of experience to her current position and the City & County would benefit from her continued leadership and deep commitment to serving the public. It was a honor to work with her, and it is a comfort to know both she and the team she has assembled are handling the important legal matters of Honolulu.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Valri Kunimoto	valrikunimoto@gmail.com	96825

Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 28, 2025 @ 09:45 AM

Testimony:

Aloha Honorable Members of the Honolulu City Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of Dana Viola's confirmation as Corporation Counsel, I worked with Ms. Viola in another life at the Attorney General's Office. She is smart and able to quickly assess difficult issues and resolve potential problems. She has diligently and ably served one term as Corporation Counsel and deserves your favorable consideration for another term.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on her nomination.

Valri Lei Kunimoto

Name:	Email:	Zip:
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Aaron Joyce	Crusaderboi97@yahoo.com	96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 03:32 PM
Testimony: I am happy to submit testimony, in support of Dana M.O. Viola. In her previous roles, she has always remained level headed and tackled the challenges she is faced with. Her first term for the Blangiardi administration has been good, so let's keep it going and finish strong! She works hard to ensure that her department can do its job to support the city, even amid any challenges that may arise.		