



Nā Hoa Kānāwai



The Quarterly Newsletter of the Hawai'i Supreme Court Law Library (SCLL)

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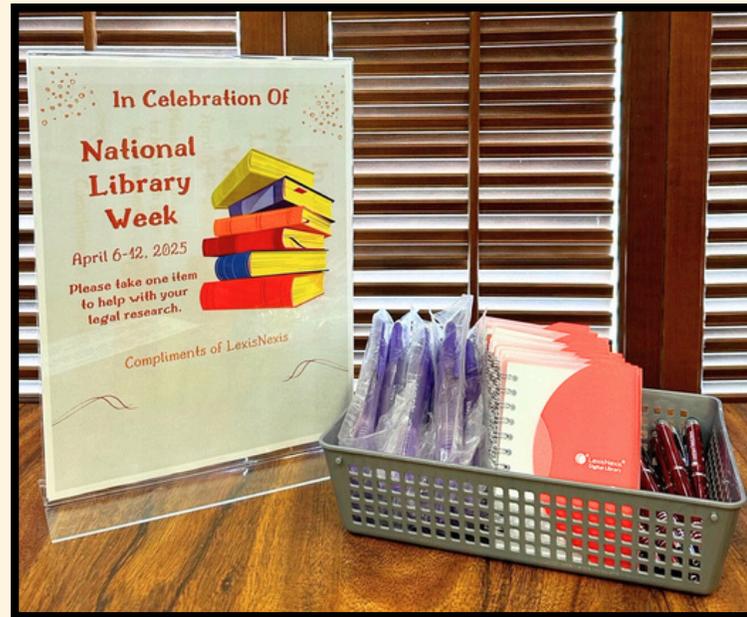


NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK 2025

The library celebrated **National Library Week** during the week of April 6-12, 2025.

First celebrated in 1958, every April the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and promote library use and support.

A big mahalo to LexisNexis for donating pens, highlighters, and mini notebooks that were offered to library patrons during the week.



Our newsletter title incorporates 'ōlelo Hawai'i with the phrase "Nā Hoa Kānāwai" which translates to "Friends of the Law." Mahalo to our King Kamehameha V Judiciary History Center friends and colleagues who diligently helped us with this translation. We want to be intentional about including and encouraging our colleagues and the public to learn more about 'ōlelo Hawai'i, the native language of where we live, learn, and conduct legal research. If you're interested in learning Hawaiian language, check out [this KSBE article](#) with suggested resources.



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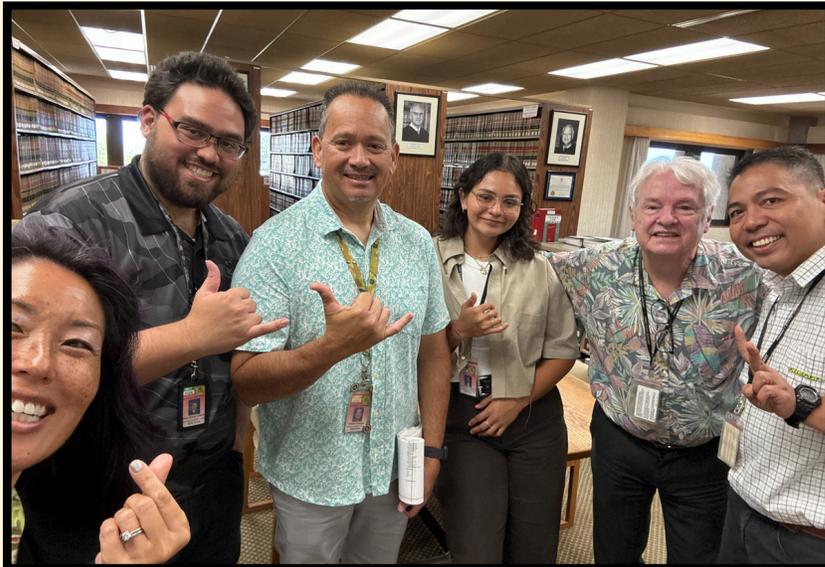


ON-SITE TRAINING FOR THE SECOND AND FIFTH CIRCUIT

In January 2025 staff members of the Hawai'i State Law Library System (HSLLS) --- Supreme Court Law Library, 2nd Circuit Maui Library, 3rd Circuit Hilo Law Library, 3rd Circuit Kona Law Library, and 5th Circuit Kaua'i Library --- gathered via Zoom for an inaugural statewide training that included an overview of the history of the the HSLLS and an introduction to library services, the [library website](#), electronic resources, and legal research databases.



Left to Right: Marlene Cuenco, 5th Circuit Chief Judge Valenciano, and Jenny Silbiger



Left to Right: Jenny Silbiger, Mason-Mahoe Pellazar, Ernest Delima, Brenda Franco Rodriguez, Mark Skirmstad, and Mario Corrales

To follow-up with the virtual training, Supreme Court Law Library librarians made site visits to Maui and Kaua'i to provide in-person support and in-depth training. Librarians were able to help with bringing collections up-to-date, assisting with organizing materials, and in-depth training on how to utilize various legal databases in daily library staff activities. The site visits also provided an opportunity for Supreme Court Law Library librarians to provide insight and recommendations to circuit library staff during informal Q&A sessions.



Left to Right: Jenny Silbiger, Kelli Barsness, Kari Yamashiro, Renette Garma, Marlene Cuenco, Roselani Kaluahine, and Amber (Maile) Telles

For anyone interested in visiting the Circuit Court Law Libraries, contact and address information is linked [here](#).

A huge MAHALO to the circuit library staff for welcoming and hosting the librarians with so much ALOHA!



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GET TO KNOW YOUR LIBRARY STAFF: DEBBIE KWON

Debbie Kwon is the Public Services Division Library Technician. Known as Deb to her fiancé and his family, she was born and raised in Honolulu, in specifically the Waikiki and McCully area. She graduated from Kaimuki High School and went on to study at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa where she received her Bachelor's in Creative Media. Debbie joined the Law Library team in January and has been a valued part of the staff. She will be leaving the library mid-July and moving to the Big Island and starting an exciting new chapter!

What's your super power?

My super power is that I can cook! My mom made her career in making Korean food and I'm really grateful to know that part of my culture and when I see something that looks good online I can just get up and make it so that's pretty nice.

What's your favorite book?

This shoujo manga called *Fruits Basket*, I think it was one of the first books that had me glued to the floor in Borders as a kid. I still read it to remember what peak fiction is.

What are your hobbies?

I love fishing with my partner, playing Overwatch 2 with my friends and fiancé. I have a bet with him that I can rank up to diamond by the end of this year.

Where is your dream destination vacation?

I actually really like ice skating, I'd really like to go to this hotel that's in the deep mountains in Canada that overlooks a huge lake that becomes frozen in the winter.



What was the most rewarding part of working at the Supreme Court Law Library these past few months?

The team I get to work with and the people in the building. When you have to work 5 days a week, you see these people more than your own family sometimes! I couldn't have asked for better coworkers, supervisors, and building neighbors like the security team and the team that keeps Ali'iolani Hale looking beautiful and clean.

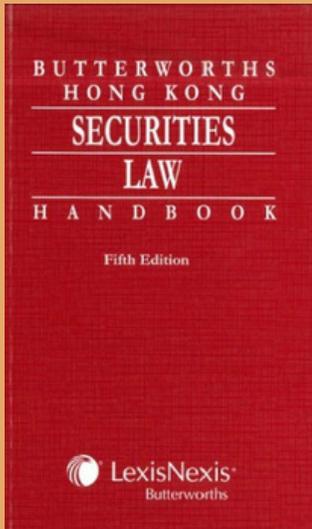


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New Acquisitions



Butterworths Hong Kong Securities Law Handbook. LexisNexis Butterworths. [KNQ 9323.6 B87 2017]

A detailed work of reference containing up to date materials on the Securities and Future Ordinances (Cap 571) in Hong Kong.

NO LONGER A ONE WOMAN JOB

Although the library had to look in unconventional places for additional staffing, that didn't last for long.

Starting in 1952, two additional positions were added to the staff, the assistant law librarian cataloguer and the library assistant. It's reported that the library assistant position was actually divided into two part-time positions. That meant that by the 1950's there were four people on the library staff.

Although there were the additional staff members, they were all handling all the responsibilities of the library. In 1956, there was an effort to clearly define the roles of the different staff positions. This would allow each position to be responsible for certain tasks within the library and help with the overall workflow and efficiency day to day.

The additional staff couldn't have come at a better time because now not only were Mary Helen and her coworkers responsible for the Supreme Court Law Library, but they then started to help our neighbor islands with their organization and collections.

In 1957, a part-time student trainee program was started at the library as well.

To this day, the Law Library still has a student trainee program. The library will hire a Student Assistant to help out at the library.



Did You Know...

that the Library of Congress - Law Library launched its first interactive map? Click [here](#) to learn more!

Dates to Watch:

- The Library will be closed in observance of the following Hawai'i State holidays:
- Kamehameha Day - June 11**
- Independence Day - July 4**
- Admissions Day - August 15**

We Would Love to Hear From You!

Do you have something you'd like to share? Your thoughts and suggestions would be greatly appreciated! Send us recommended ideas for articles or content to be included in future issues. We also welcome any tips on how we can improve our newsletter and your reading experience. Tell us [here](#)!