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Hawaii State Bar Association President Looks to Greater Member Involvement and Improved Communication

The Hawaii State Bar Association will be led this year by one of its longest serving volunteers and active members of the bar, Carol K. Muranaka. As the long standing editor-in-chief of the Hawaii Bar Journal (the official publication of the HSBA) and a strong advocate for access to justice and bar projects, Muranaka is no stranger to team geared projects or the essential role of communication to all members.

Muranaka will be serving alongside another new leader of the bar, Patricia Mau-Shimizu, the Association's new Executive Director. Together, the new leaders will take the helm for 2012 and lead the 7,000 plus membership.

Vision and Goals

"I am aware that a year is a short time for any bar president to accomplish a lot, but perhaps 2012 will be different," said Muranaka. "I am encouraging those attorneys who have not participated in bar projects previously because of shyness or apathy, to become involved to try it, they may like it."

The HSBA currently has 15 committees, 19 sections, a Young Lawyers Division and Senior Counsel Division, as well as the governing board—all opportunities for any member to have greater involvement and participation with its Association.

"The finance and governance of the organization should be more transparent to the membership," said Muranaka. "I would like to see the governance of the bar association to become inclusive..."

There is much to be done in the legal community, according to Muranaka. "This is about teamwork. This is about collaboration and partnerships."

Photos for Use

A photo of Carol Muranaka is available at <http://bit.ly/yNUbo0> and her swearing-in photo with Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald from the Association's Annual Meeting in September 2011 at <http://bit.ly/ww1jDD>.

About The Hawaii State Bar Association

The HSBA is a nonprofit organization that serves over 7,000 attorneys licensed in the state of Hawaii. The organization's mission is to unite and inspire Hawaii's lawyers to promote justice for all. To learn more about the HSBA visit www.hsba.org.

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