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SCMF-20-0000152

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Judiciary's Response
to the COVID-19 Outbreak

ORDER REGARDING THE COMMITTEE ON OPERATIONAL SOLUTIONS
(By: Recktenwald, C.J.)

In consideration of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the operations of the Judiciary, the Committee on Operational Solutions (Committee) was established on April 17, 2020. The Committee was created in light of the urgent need to increase the amount of court business that can appropriately be done remotely, with the goal of formulating a plan of action to return the court operations to full capacity when feasible. As a result of the Committee's work, remote proceedings are widely used in Hawai'i courts, and courts are operating in a manner that ensures the health and safety of all courts users and addresses all case types.

The Committee has been a critical resource during the pandemic, but a shift in its goals is appropriate in light of current operations and public health conditions. In particular, moving forward, the Committee will work on developing recommendations for the sustainable and appropriate long-term integration of remote proceedings into Judiciary business, considering issues including but not limited to remote proceeding logistics, public access, and ensuring equitable access to remote proceedings for all court users. NOW, THEREFORE,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Committee on Operational Solutions will continue its work with a new mandate. The Committee will develop recommendations for a statewide plan for the appropriate, long-term adoption of remote proceedings in Hawai‘i courts.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the committee shall be co-chaired by Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald and Judge James Ashford. The Hawai‘i State Bar Association President and Executive Director shall serve on the Committee. The Chief Judges of the Intermediate Court of Appeals and of each of the four circuits shall serve as ex officio members. Other members

of the Committee are to be determined and appointed by the co-chairs at their discretion.

Dated: Honolulu, Hawai‘i, April 26, 2021.

/s/ Mark E. Recktenwald

Chief Justice

