

March 11, 2019

Council Chair Kelly King
County of Maui, Kalana O'Maui Building
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

Re: Confirmation of Attorney Don Guzman
as Chief Prosecuting Attorney

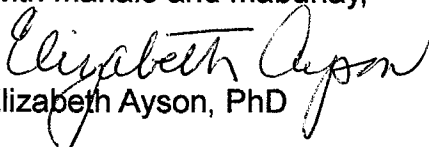
Dear Council Chair King:

Congratulations for being elected to the Maui County Council and for being selected as its Chair. Hours shared with supporters in your campaign activities highlighted some most enjoyable times during the year leading to election day. My deep gratitude to you for your service and leadership to make our island still the Number One Island Destination in the World, according to Conde Nast travelers, as well as countless others who have shared with me their wish to relocate to make Maui No Ka Oi their home. This letter is my request for your support in tomorrow's confirmation hearing. As you know, my association with Don Guzman spans over thirty years, which for me has been an increasing source of profound admiration, appreciation, and pride. Professionally, he is a respected and competent attorney with a long history of success in private practice, as well as in government with previous experience as a prosecuting attorney. Perhaps, he is better known for the years he served as Councilmember for the County of Maui, where his abilities to communicate were evident, his passion for the safety, well-being and protection of the people of the County were clearly expressed, and his love for family and care for our community were the highest motivation for his voting record.

We also worked together in the community as two Filipinos who are proud to share the same ethnic and cultural background. Some of the activities we enjoyed together include being leaders in the opening of our Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center, which today fulfills its purpose as a venue, scheduled months in advance for events and gatherings for many families and organizations, reflecting the wide diversity of our people. Also, In the years leading to the 2006 Filipino Centennial Celebration we were on the leadership committee that planned and implemented monthly activities to celebrate our rich and significant history, giving tribute to past leaders and honoring the legacy that still provides incentive and pride for the ongoing success of our youth. We look back with gratitude for the work of thirteen Filipino writers, who created the coffee table book *Anak*, a chronicle of 100 years of Maui County's Filipino people, that describes events and significant history through all those years of overcoming prejudice, trials, and tribulation, to progress towards many positive contributions and today's numerous "from immigrant to citizen" success stories. One thousand copies of this book were distributed internationally, and can be found today in homes and offices, as well as school and state libraries from the Philippines to Hawai'i to the Library of Congress.

The recently announced Mayor's appointment of Attorney Don Guzman to head the Office of Prosecuting Attorney makes me happy, proud and hopeful. Past performance of excellence in previous positions of service confirms confidence that Don's leadership will again serve us well. Please vote "yes" to confirm his appointment. Many people of Maui County will be grateful for your support. Please feel welcome to contact me for clarification or comments.

With mahalo and mabuhay,


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An Abbreviated Resume Narrative

My family arrived on Maui in 1946 when my father was recruited to be a heavy equipment mechanic at the Puunene Mill. Early on the children were taught to receive cash and give change as cashiers for the little front porch store in Spanish B Village, then also the traveling vendor truck that took bread, eggs, and other essentials to folks with no vehicles. Our mom sewed for us and the villagers and tended a garden to keep us fed healthfully with barter for vegetables, fruits and other items. Focus for all their earnings was college education for the children, including the luxuries of piano lessons, musical instruments and sports equipment. In the BHS band, Gloria played french horn and viola, Elizabeth played trombone. Edmund was drum major for the marching band and also lead trombonist.

Education: Puunene School, H.P. Baldwin High School (BHS), graduating as salutatorian for the Class of 1960; Knox College in Galesburg, IL for a bachelors degree with double majors in education and music education; MEd from the University of Hawaii-Manoa with a speciality in Early Childhood Education; and PhD in Psychology from Union Graduate School, Cincinnati, OH, one of the first schools offering graduate programs off-campus, through learning teams, including a professor from Union, a local professor chosen by the learner and two peers. My committee was terrific, including among others, Dr. Stephanie Feeney, Dr. Harold Kozuma, and Dr. Peter Adler, with close ties to Dr. Lyla Berg and Dr. Jackie Young. That doctoral process is unquestionably the way we should pursue scholarship in preparation for service to community. From my first day in kindergarten I knew I wanted to be a teacher. Presently I am a consultant for personal development, conflict resolution, business and writing. My brother, Edmund Dante, is a happy family man with 3 sons, 5 grandchildren, and an active, retired physical therapist wife; as an ongoing consultant for aeronautical and civil engineering projects across the Pacific, he travels to Tahiti and other locales per contract. My sister, Gloria, is retired from teaching music, dance and drama to an entire elementary school in Mililani, as well as teaching and performing belly dance in a traveling troupe in Europe and the Middle East.

Employment: teacher at Frank V. Thompson Middle and Gilbert Stuart Elementary Schools in Boston, MA, Blanche Pope Elementary School in Waimanalo, Lihikai and Maui High Schools in Kahului; vice-principal at Lihikai and Maui High Schools; principal at Iao Middle School for 18 years and Adjunct Professor for Union Graduate School. As a youngster I worked summers at Puunene School in the vice-principal's office and library and BHS in the office. Part time work included pianist/organist at Puunene and Paia Evangelical Church and Wailuku Union Church, and Educational Therapist after school for Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center in Honolulu, testing, tutoring and providing corrective learning for their clients. Today I am co-publisher and writer for Fil-Am Voice, a monthly publication.

Business began in childhood with my parents, carrying over into college as florists' campus representative, food server, receptionist in the Music Department Office, eventually a franchise contract with Taco Hut, where I interviewed 150 people for 75 jobs---5 managers, fulltime adults and part time students, providing drive through lessons for clarity of speech, tutoring for GPA improvement and support for college. We operated the restaurant with a separate, first-on-Maui non-smoking room and expanded to the Queen Ka'ahumanu Center, where we launched the first pizza-by-the-slice business as Pisa Pizza across from our taco space, bringing welcomed variety to the mall's eateries.

Politics became a part of my life as a five-year old, riding with dad on his bicycle to the camps in Puunene for Democratic Party and union activities. This laid the foundation for my lifelong investment in the democratic process. As immigrants, my parents, brother and I attended classes to prepare for American citizenship when I was 13. We were told that the one thing we could NOT do as naturalized citizens is to become President of the United States. We are very proud to be Americans. With 4 sons, 5 granddaughters, 2 siblings and children still coming, family is the focus of my life. Early established passions drive my commitment to work for world peace, kindness, service, hope, optimism, children, creativity, the arts, community building, developing inspiring leaders, and gender/ racial equality. Perspective: Stress is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Choose happiness every time.