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CHRISTIE M. TRENHOLME

Wailuku HI 96813

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cmtrenholme@gmail.com
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL

January 21, 2019

Committee Chair Mike Molina
Governance, Ethics, and Transparency Committee
Maui County Council

Re: GET-1(2) (Confirmation of Patrick Wong as Corporation Counsel)

Dear Chair Molina:

I am submitting this letter in support of the confirmation of Patrick Wong as Corporation Counsel for the County of Maui. I have served as a Deputy Corporation Counsel in the Litigation Section since July 2015 and I believe that Pat is highly qualified to continue serving as the head of our department. The Department of the Corporation Counsel advises and litigates in numerous legal areas and requires a leader with not only a wide array of legal knowledge, but also effective communication and leadership skills. After working for him for over three years, I can confidently say that Pat has the skills and expertise for the position of Corporation Counsel.

Prior to working at the Department of the Corporation Counsel, I worked at a large law firm in New York City, served as a law clerk for a federal judge, and worked at a law firm in Honolulu. That said, Pat is one of the best bosses I have had in my entire legal career. In addition to always providing me with helpful insight and guidance in my cases, he has fostered an environment of congeniality and respect. Pat is not a micro-manger and that is greatly appreciated. Instead, Pat motivates his employees by setting high expectations and then allowing us to take charge of our cases, while keeping an open-door policy for any time we need his advice. In sum, there are many good attorneys out there, but it takes a special skill set to effectively lead the entire civil legal department for the County of Maui. Pat Wong is the best person to continue to serve as Corporation Counsel.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christie Trenholme