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OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY COUNCIL

Maui County Council  
Governance, Ethics and Transparency Committee

Re: Agenda Item GET-1(2)

To Whom It May Concern:

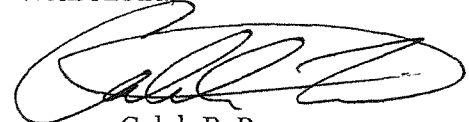
I am a Deputy Corporation Counsel who has had the pleasure of working with Patrick Wong for the last six years. I am writing this letter in my personal capacity and during my personal time with the aim of supporting the appointment of Mr. Wong to the position of Corporation Counsel for the County of Maui.

I am a relatively new attorney, having graduated from law school in 2010. When Mr. Wong hired me in 2012, I needed a great deal of guidance and patience in developing my skills as a litigator. Mr. Wong provided me with an abundant supply of both. Under his mentorship, I have advanced my skill set and been able to grow in the esteem of my peers in the legal community. Mr. Wong has an open door policy when it comes to speaking with his staff. Under his leadership, this policy has become more or less pervasive in our office, with coworkers regularly being able to discuss their cases with one another in a cooperative environment. I think it is a great credit to Mr. Wong's leadership that our office is able to work together in a manner that is completely collaborative and noncompetitive, which is rare in the practice of law.

I am also constantly amazed by the breadth of knowledge Mr. Wong possesses regarding the County structure, the laws the County must operate under, and the cases that are handled by our Department. I have often had discussions with Mr. Wong regarding cases which I am assigned to where he knows the facts as well as, if not better, than do. He is always able to provide insight that can get lost while working directly in the heat of litigation. One more than one occasion, Mr. Wong and I have gotten into relatively heated discussions regarding my cases and the right course of action. Without fail, these almost always are a result of my being too personally involved in a case and too entrenched in the arguments I am advancing with the court to be able to see the bigger picture. Mr. Wong, on the other hand, never seems to lose sight of the bigger picture.

In summary, I believe that Mr. Wong's leadership, knowledge, and perspective, are a tremendous asset to the County. I hope to continue to practice law and grow under his leadership.

With Aloha,



Caleb P. Rowe