

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII

IN RE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LESS  
EXPERIENCED ATTORNEYS TO  
ARGUE MOTIONS IN UNITED  
STATES DISTRICT COURT

FILED IN THE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF HAWAII

APR 18 2019

at 11 o'clock and 0 min. AM  
SUE BEITIA, CLERK 

**ORDER REGARDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LESS EXPERIENCED  
ATTORNEYS TO ARGUE MOTIONS IN UNITED STATES  
DISTRICT COURT**

Understanding the importance of the development of future generations of lawyers through courtroom experience, the undersigned judges of the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii believe it important that less experienced lawyers (lawyers practicing for less than seven years) be provided an opportunity to argue motions in federal court, particularly where the less experienced lawyer drafted or contributed significantly to the underlying motion or response. While the court recognizes that the decision as to who should argue a motion is ultimately that of a particular party and counsel, the court encourages the parties and their counsel to allow less experienced attorneys to argue motions in court. No judge will draw any inference about the importance of a particular motion, or the merits of a party's argument regarding the motion, from the party's decision to have (or not to have) a less experienced attorney argue the motion. In addition, the undersigned judges will permit counsel to bifurcate oral argument on a motion if so

doing provides an opportunity for a less experienced attorney to present a portion of the argument.

Counsel wishing to bifurcate oral argument must notify the presiding judge's courtroom manager no later than one work day prior to the hearing date. Counsel may also inform the courtroom manager, at any time after a hearing is scheduled, that a less experienced attorney will argue a motion in whole or in part. Once the court is notified that counsel will bifurcate oral argument, or that a less experienced attorney will argue an entire motion, the court will not thereafter cancel oral argument. To avoid having a judge opt to handle a matter without a hearing before being notified that a less experienced attorney will be arguing, counsel may want to provide notification as soon as possible.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, April 18, 2019.

/s/ J. Michael Seabright  
J. Michael Seabright  
Chief United States District Judge

/s/ Derrick K. Watson  
Derrick K. Watson  
United States District Judge

/s/ Jill A. Otake  
Jill A. Otake  
United States District Judge

/s/ Alan C. Kay  
Alan C. Kay  
Senior United States District Judge

/s/ Susan Oki Mollway  
Susan Oki Mollway  
Senior United States District Judge

/s/ Kenneth J. Mansfield  
Kenneth J. Mansfield  
Chief United States Magistrate Judge

/s/ Rom Trader  
Rom Trader  
United States Magistrate Judge