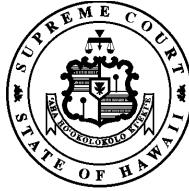


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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: Friday, December 6, 2019**

**CONTACT: Bradley R. Tamm**

**Direct: (808) 469-4026**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**HONOLULU, HAWAI'I** - On December 5, 2019, the Hawai'i Supreme Court suspended attorney Leslie S. Fukumoto from the practice of law in the State of Hawai'i "until the completion of the trusteeship over his law practice." Previously, in an Order dated September 23, 2019, the Hawai'i Supreme Court appointed a trustee to protect the interests of Mr. Fukumoto's clients finding that Mr. Fukumoto had "abandoned his law practice to the detriment of his clients, in breach of the duties imposed upon him by the Hawai'i Rules of Professional Conduct ... that his conduct represents a substantial threat of harm to his clients, that good cause exists to conclude he is currently unable to protect their interests, and, therefore, that a trusteeship over his practice is necessary to avoid the possibility of further harm to client interests and the irreparable loss of documents, materials, and possibly client funds."

Upon entry of this December 5, 2019 suspension order, Mr. Fukumoto shall not accept any new retainer or engage as attorney for another in any new case or legal matter of any nature. Clients or other persons in interest seeking the return or turnover of client property, should contact the court appointed trustee: Walter Hebblethwaite, Attorney at Law, 2051 Young St., #31, Honolulu HI 96826 (email: [walter@hebblex.com](mailto:walter@hebblex.com)).

Mr. Leslie S. Fukumoto (HI bar no. 2708), age 64, was admitted to the Hawai'i bar in 1980, and is a graduate of the University of Hawai'i, William S. Richardson School of Law. If there are any questions, please contact me at (808) 469-4026.

Case information: *In re Leslie S. Fukuomto*, SCAD-19-0000586.

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