

Hon. Sabrina McKenna Biography

Sabrina McKenna has been an Associate Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court since 2011 and also serves as a justice pro tem on the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. She graduated from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa and its William S. Richardson School of Law (WSRSL) and is currently a member of Duke Law Bolch Judicial Institute's LLM in Judicial Studies Class of 2025. She was a civil litigator, general counsel to a Japan-based group of companies, and a WSRSL faculty member before serving as a Hawai'i state trial court judge from 1993 to 2011, presiding over civil, criminal, and family matters. Justice McKenna co-teaches State Constitutional Law at WSRSL and also serves on the Judicial Advisory Board of the George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School Law & Economics Center's Judicial Education Program. Her honors include the American Bar Association's Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement and Stonewall awards, National Asian Pacific Bar Association's Daniel K. Inouye Trailblazer Award, University of Hawaii's Distinguished Alumnus Award, and Hawaii Women Lawyers' Outstanding Judicial Achievement Award. She has also been recognized with an Honorary Doctorate from Ryukyu University in Okinawa, as an Eminent Jurist by the Jindal Global Law School (Delhi), and by the Association of Corporate Counsel Foundation (D.C.) as a Global Women in Law & Leadership Honoree.