

The Honorable Melvin H. Fujino

Born and raised in Kona, Judge Melvin H. Fujino (Ret.) was assigned in 2019 by Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald to four interim positions in the Third Circuit (Hawai'i Island): Chief Judge, Administrative Judge, Senior Judge of Family Court, and Senior Environmental Court Judge. In addition to his criminal and civil court caseload, he also oversaw drug court, veterans court, and juvenile drug court.

His career as a judge began in 2008, when he was appointed by Chief Justice Ronald Moon to serve as a District Family Judge of the Third Circuit in Waimea. In 2015, Governor David Ige appointed Judge Fujino to serve as a Circuit Court Judge of the Third Circuit in Kona.

Previously, he worked as a deputy attorney general for the State of Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General and was a team leader responsible for the Statewide Wiretap Review Unit and Asset Forfeiture program. He was also a deputy prosecuting attorney and supervisor, as well as a community-oriented prosecutor, for the County of Hawai'i Office of the Prosecuting Attorney in West Hawai'i.

Judge Fujino received his B.A. from the University of Washington and his J.D. from Gonzaga School of Law.