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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

KEITH MITSUYOSHI KANESHIRO (1),
DENNIS KUNIYUKI MITSUNAGA (2),
TERRI ANN OTANI (3),
AARON SHUNICHI FUJII (4),
CHAD MICHAEL MCDONALD (5),
SHERI JEAN TANAKA (6),
Defendants.

Case No. CR-22-00048-JMS-WRP

**DEFENDANT'S MOTION IN
LIMINE NO. 11 TO EXCLUDE
EVIDENCE REGARDING
KATHERINE KEALOHA;
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Judge: Hon. J. Michael Seabright
Trial Date: February 27, 2024

**DEFENDANT’S MOTION IN LIMINE NO. 11 TO
EXCLUDE EVIDENCE REGARDING KATHERINE KEALOHA**

The bribery allegations in this case allege that in exchange for campaign contributions from Mitsunaga & Associates, Inc. (“MAI”), to elected prosecutor Keith Kaneshiro, that Kaneshiro agreed to investigate and prosecute L.J.M., a former MAI employee. Felony theft charges were filed against L.J.M. on December 1, 2014 by Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Jacob Delaplane. At the time, Delaplane was an attorney in the Career Criminal Division and his direct supervisor was Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Katherine Kealoha. While she was Delaplane’s supervisor, Kealoha had little, if anything, to do with the L.J.M prosecution.

This court is well aware of the extensive publicity surrounding the 2019 trial and later sentencing of Katherine Kealoha, and the other co-defendants in USA v. Kealoha, Cr. No. 17-582 JMS. With Kealoha’s notoriety, any mention of her name as associated with the defendants in this case risks drawing unfair prejudice.

Defendants request a court order preventing the government from introducing evidence naming or referring to Katherine Kealoha without first presenting an offer of proof as to the relevance of the evidence and allowing the court to make a determination as to whether any relevance is substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice. Fed. R. Evid 403.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, January 22, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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(1), DENNIS KUNIYUKI
MITSUNAGA (2), TERRI ANN
OTANI (3), AARON SHUNICHI
FUJII (4), CHAD MICHAEL
MCDONALD (5), SHERI JEAN
TANAKA (6),

Defendants.

CR. NO.: 22-00048 JMS

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY CERTIFIES that a true correct copy of the
foregoing document was duly served electronically upon the following via the CM/ECF System:

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