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AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY LAW PRACTICE

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MGKF's Brenda H. Gotanda Moderator and Course Planner for *Environment, Energy & Resources Seminar*

**2018 Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) Convention & Annual Meeting
November 2, 2018**



Honolulu, HI (December 10, 2018) – Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox Partner Brenda H. Gotanda was a course planner for the [Environment, Energy & Resources Seminar](#) at the 2018 Hawaii State Bar Association Convention & Annual Meeting in Honolulu on November 2. Gotanda also moderated a panel on sustainable, green building called “*At the Crossroads of Real Estate and the Environment – How Green Building is Charting a Course for Hawaii’s Future*,” which featured leading professionals in the field discussing sustainable design and construction, the U.S. Green Building Council’s (USGBC) LEED® Green Building Rating System certification programs, and several high-profile projects in Hawaii.

Hawaii has set ambitious goals for energy, water, and resource conservation, including a commitment to achieving 100 percent renewable energy use in the electricity sector by year 2045. Sustainable design and construction of the built environment is critical to achieving these goals. In 2018, Hawaii was named one of the top 10 States for LEED-certified green building by USGBC. The *Crossroads* panel at the Bar Convention included an orientation on green building and certification programs from USGBC and discussion of two leading green building projects in Hawaii. It explored Ward Village, a vibrant 60-acre master-planned community developed by The Howard Hughes Corporation, which earned Platinum certification under the LEED for Neighborhood Development® rating system. It also explored the award-winning NOAA Daniel K. Inouye Regional Center on Ford Island in Pearl Harbor, a modern research and office facility created through the adaptive reuse and linking of two World War II-era airplane hangars with a design influenced by the biological influences of the region, which earned LEED® Gold certification.

Gotanda leads MGKF's sustainability practice group and has over 20 years of experience representing and counseling clients on environmental, health and safety regulatory compliance, transactions, permitting and enforcement matters. Her practice addresses a broad range of complex issues involving environmental regulation; business and real estate transactions; green building, renewable energy, and sustainability; site remediation and brownfield redevelopment; and spill prevention and emergency response. She played a key role in overseeing the build-out of the new MGKF headquarters office in 2014, which achieved Gold certification under the LEED for Interior Design and Construction: Commercial Interiors® rating system. She practices law in Hawaii, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Brenda serves on the Board of Directors of Think Tech Hawaii and is Vice Chair for the Environmental, Energy & Resources Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association. She has also served on the Board of Directors for the Delaware Valley Green Building Council and on the Board of Directors for the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary. She is a LEED Accredited Professional® (BD+C). Brenda founded the Sustainability Directors' Roundtable and is a co-founder and Director Emeritus of the Society of Women Environmental Professionals of Greater Philadelphia. Gotanda has served as Co-Chair of the Environmental Law Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

MGKF concentrates its practice in environmental, energy, litigation, safety, and land use law. It represents clients ranging from Fortune 100 corporations to small, privately held enterprises. Offices are located at:

Seven Waterfront Plaza, Suite 400, 500 Ala Moana Blvd., Honolulu, Hawaii; 401 City Avenue, Suite 901, Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania; 535 Route 38, Suite 145A, Cherry Hill, New Jersey; and 5 Penn Plaza, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10001. For additional information, visit www.mankogold.com or call 808-892-4334 (HI), 484-430-5700 (PA), 856-317-1299 (NJ), or 212-835-1558 (NY).

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