

INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Roxanne Edayan and Justin Goree v. Associa Hawaii, Gwenn Bresslauer, and Daniel Kawai

Edayan · No. CAAP-23-0000529 · Decided December 19, 2025

SUMMARY

The Hawai‘i Intermediate Court of Appeals affirmed the district court’s order enforcing a mediated settlement agreement and dismissing the case with prejudice. The court rejected arguments that defendants were subject to default judgment and that the appellant’s due process rights were violated by counsel’s appearance or by a hearing-date change. The court also denied a motion for retention of oral argument.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Intermediate Court of Appeals of the State of Hawai‘i
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Katherine G. Leonard; Keith K. Hiraoka; Sonja M.P. McCullen
JURISDICTION	Intermediate Court of Appeals of the State of Hawai‘i
DECIDED	December 19, 2025
DOCKET	CAAP-23-0000529
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Roxanne Edayan appealed from the district court's order enforcing a mediated settlement agreement and dismissing the case with prejudice.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The opinion does not expressly identify a standard of review.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential
PARTIES	Roxanne Edayan, Justin Goree v. Associa Hawaii, Gwenn Bresslauer, Daniel Kawai

TOPICS

- default judgment
- due process
- mediation
- appellate procedure
- contracts

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- appellate procedure
- contracts
- constitutional law

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the district court erred by failing to enter a default judgment against Associa and the other defendants.
2. Whether Edayan's due process rights were violated because she was not separately notified that counsel would appear for Associa at a hearing or that a later hearing had been scheduled for February 21, 2023.

HOLDINGS

1. Default judgment was not warranted because the record showed that attorney Melanie Oyama appeared by Zoom on behalf of the defendants on the date specified in the summons.
2. Edayan's due process rights were not violated because the record showed that the defendants appeared as required and that Edayan was present when the court ordered the February 21, 2023 pretrial conference.

KEY QUOTATIONS

"[D]ue process is not a fixed concept requiring a specific procedural course in every situation. Rather, due process calls for such procedural protections as the particular situation demands, but its basic elements are notice and an opportunity to be heard at a meaningful time and in a meaningful manner." (at 5)

"Notwithstanding, we address the issues raised to the extent we can discern in an effort to provide access to justice." (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Edayan alleged that she had worked for Associa and was terminated, and she filed a complaint seeking the return of personal property. The parties participated in mediation and reached a settlement agreement identifying property Edayan was entitled to receive, subject to stated exceptions. After Edayan refused to sign a stipulation of dismissal, Associa moved to enforce the signed settlement agreement and dismiss the case with prejudice.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Edayan filed a complaint for return of personal property in November 2022. After the parties reached a mediated settlement, Associa moved to enforce the signed agreement and dismiss the action with prejudice; the District Court of the First Circuit granted the motion on August 28, 2023, and entered its order on September 28, 2023. Edayan timely appealed, and the Intermediate Court of Appeals affirmed.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- Morgan v. Planning Department, County of Kaua'i, 104 Hawai'i 173, 180-81, 86 P.3d 982, 989-90 (2004)
- Davis v. Bissen, 154 Hawai'i 68, 82, 545 P.3d 557, 571 (2024)

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