

1 CHOI & ITO  
Attorneys at Law

2 CHUCK C. CHOI  
3 ALLISON A. ITO  
4 700 Bishop Street, Suite 1107  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
5 Telephone: (808) 533-1877  
6 Fax: (808) 566-6900  
Email: [cchoi@hibklaw.com](mailto:cchoi@hibklaw.com); [aito@hibklaw.com](mailto:aito@hibklaw.com)

7 MCDONALD LAW OFFICE

8 Charles H. McDonald II (F0494)  
9 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor ICC, Room 203  
Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950  
10 Telephone: (866) 967-7567  
11 E-Mail: [charles@mcdonald.law](mailto:charles@mcdonald.law)

12 Proposed Attorneys for Debtor  
and Debtor-in-Possession

13  
14 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
15 BANKRUPTCY DIVISION

16 In re  
17 IMPERIAL PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL  
18 (CNMI), LLC,  
19 Debtor and  
20 Debtor-in-Possession.

Case No. 24-00002  
(Chapter 11)

HEARING  
DATE: [To Be Set]  
TIME: [To Be Set]  
JUDGE: Hon. Ramona Manglona

21  
22 **APPLICATION TO EMPLOY**  
23 **CHOI & ITO, ATTORNEYS AT LAW AND MCDONALD LAW OFFICE AS**  
24 **CO-COUNSEL FOR THE DEBTOR**

25 Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC, debtor and debtor-in-possession (the  
26 "Debtor"), hereby applies for an order, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 327(a) and 1103, Rule  
27 2014 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and LBR



1 2014-1, authorizing it to retain Choi & Ito, Attorneys at Law (“C&I”) and McDonald  
2 Law Office (“McDonald Law”) as co-counsel to the Debtor effective as of April 19,  
3 2024, respectively.

4 In support of this application (the “Application”), the Debtor submits the  
5 Declarations of Chuck C. Choi (the “Choi Declaration”) and Charles McDonald (the  
6 “McDonald Declaration”), and respectfully represents as follows:

7  
8 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

9 1. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157  
10 and 1334. This is a core proceeding, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).

11 2. Venue is proper before the Court, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

12 3. This Motion is made pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 327, and Rule 2004 of the  
13 Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.  
14

15 **BACKGROUND**

16 4. On April 19, 2024 (the “Petition Date”), the Debtor filed a voluntary  
17 petition for relief under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the United  
18 States District Court for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands, bankruptcy division  
19 (the “Court”).  
20

21 5. The Debtor continues to operate its businesses and manage their property  
22 as debtor in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.

23 6. The Debtor owns the now-shuttered Imperial Resort located in Saipan,  
24 Northern Marianas Islands.  
25  
26  
27  
28



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

- a. Advise the Debtor with respect to the requirements and provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, Local Bankruptcy Rules, United States Trustee Guidelines and any other bankruptcy-related laws, rules or regulations which may affect the Debtor;
- b. Assist the Debtor in an analysis of bankruptcy-related options and formulation of a Chapter 11 plan of reorganization;
- c. Advise the Debtor concerning the rights and remedies of the estate and of the Debtor in regard to adversary proceedings which may be removed to, or initiated in, the Bankruptcy Court;
- d. Represent the Debtor in any proceeding or hearing in the Bankruptcy Court in any action where the rights of the estate or the Debtor may be litigated, or affected; and
- e. providing such other services to the Debtor as may be necessary in the case.

12. To the best of the Debtor’s knowledge and based on the attached declarations, the Debtor believes that C&I and McDonald Law each separately qualifies as a “disinterested person” as that term is used in 11 U.S.C. § 327(a) and as defined at 11 U.S.C. § 101(14), and that each represents no interest adverse to the Debtor’s estate which would preclude them from acting as counsel to the Debtor.

13. Under Bankruptcy Rule 6003, the Court may not issue an order granting an application to employ a professional until 21 days after the Petition Date. However, because the first few weeks of any corporate Chapter 11 proceeding requires intensive involvement of counsel, the Debtor requests entry of an interim order pending a final hearing on the matter.



1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
2 FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
3 BANKRUPTCY DIVISION

4 In re	Case No. 24-00002
5 IMPERIAL PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL	(Chapter 11)
6 (CNMI), LLC,	
7 Debtor and	
Debtor-in-Possession.	

8 **DECLARATION OF CHUCK C. CHOI**

9 I, CHUCK C CHOI, hereby declare of my own personal knowledge as follows:

10 1. I am a partner at the law firm of Choi and Ito, Attorneys at Law (the  
11 “Firm”), proposed co-counsel for IMPERIAL PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL (CNMI),  
12 LLC debtor and debtor-in-possession (the “Debtor”).

13 2. I make this Declaration in support of the Application to Employ Choi &  
14 Ito, Attorneys at Law and McDonald Law Office as Co-counsel for the Debtor (the  
15 “Application”). Terms used herein and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings  
16 given them in the Application. The statements therein with respect to the Firm are true to  
17 the best of my knowledge and belief.

18 3. During the one year prior to the petition date, the Firm received  
19 \$61,407.30 for work prior to the Debtor's Chapter 11, including work in anticipation of  
20 the bankruptcy filing. The Firm is currently holding a retainer balance of \$38,592.70 in  
21 its client trust account. The outstanding prepetition balance owed to the Firm is \$0.00.

22 4. I have reviewed the list of 20 largest creditors and the names of the  
23 Debtor’s creditors and checked these names against the Firm’s client data base. The Firm  
24 does not represent any of these parties.



1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
2 FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
3 BANKRUPTCY DIVISION

4 In re	Case No. 24-00002
5 IMPERIAL PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL	(Chapter 11)
6 (CNMI), LLC,	
7 Debtor and	
Debtor-in-Possession.	

8 **DECLARATION OF CHARLES MCDONALD**

9 I, CHARLES H. MCDONALD II, hereby declare of my own personal knowledge  
10 as follows:

11 1. I am Partner at McDonald Law Office (the “Firm”), proposed co-counsel  
12 for IMPERIAL PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL (CNMI), LLC, debtor and debtor-in-  
13 possession (the “Debtor”).  
14

15 2. I make this Declaration in support of the Application to Employ Choi &  
16 Ito, Attorneys at Law and McDonald Law Office as Co-counsel for the Debtor (the  
17 “Application”). Terms used herein and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings  
18 given them in the Application. The statements therein with respect to the Firm are true to  
19 the best of my knowledge and belief.  
20

21 3. During the one year prior to the petition date, the Firm received  
22 \$55,000.00 from the Debtor. The outstanding prepetition balance owed to the Firm is \$0.  
23

24 4. I have reviewed the list of 20 largest creditors and the names of the  
25 Debtor’s creditors and checked these names against the Firm’s client data base. The Firm  
26 does not represent any of these parties.

27 5. In addition, except as disclosed herein and to the best of my knowledge:  
28



1 (a) Neither I, nor anyone at the Firm, have any connection with the  
2 UST or any person employed in the Office of the UST.

3 (b) Neither I, nor anyone at the Firm, is a creditor, equity security  
4 holder, or an insider of the Debtor.

5 (c) Neither I, nor anyone at the Firm, was within 2 years before the  
6 date of the filing of the petition, a director, officer, or employee of the Debtor.

7 (d) Neither I, nor anyone at the Firm, has an interest materially  
8 adverse to the interest of the estates or any class of creditors or equity security holders by  
9 reason of any direct or indirect relationship in connection with or interest in the Debtor or  
10 for any other reason.  
11

12 6. Neither I, nor any member of the Firm has agreed to share compensation  
13 for representation of the Debtor with any other person or entity, except among members  
14 and attorneys at the Firm.  
15

16 7. Based on the foregoing, I believe the Firm is “disinterested” within the  
17 meaning of section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code.

18 DATED: Hagatna, Guam, April 23, 2024.  
19

20  
21 /s/ Charles H. McDonald II  
22 Charles H. McDonald II  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28