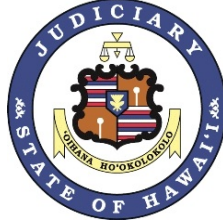


Supreme Court of the State of Hawai‘i



Proclamation

WHEREAS, in 1967, Act 263 of the Fourth Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i was passed, establishing the very first State Ethics Commission in the United States, responsible for administering standards of conduct for state legislators and state employees. The Act took effect on January 1, 1968, and the first five members of the Commission, who were named by Governor John A. Burns, were sworn into office several days later; and

WHEREAS, Act 263 also established standards of conduct under Hawai‘i Revised Statutes Chapter 84, to promote high standards of ethical conduct in state government; and

WHEREAS, at the 1968 Constitutional Convention, Article XIV of the Hawai‘i State Constitution was amended to make it a constitutional requirement that the legislature and each political subdivision adopt a code of ethics applicable to appointed and elected officers and employees. The Constitutional Convention of 1978 further amended Article XIV to establish the State Ethics Commission within the constitution, and to strengthen, broaden, and protect the system of government ethics regulation in Hawai‘i; and

WHEREAS, in the ensuing years, the Hawai‘i State Ethics Commission has diligently carried out its mission of preserving the public’s confidence in our government by providing informal and formal guidance on all aspects of the State Ethics Code and laws relating to lobbyists; educating state officials and employees on ethics in government; ensuring that state officials and lobbyists comply with applicable disclosure laws; and enforcing the State Ethics Code and lobbyist laws through their investigation of possible violations; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai‘i State Judiciary recognizes each and every commissioner, executive director, and staff member of the Hawai‘i State Ethics Commission, both past and present, for their outstanding dedication and commitment to promoting high ethical standards and integrity among public servants, and enhancing transparency and accountability in our state government. Their efforts to uphold and continually build on the foundation established in 1968 have greatly benefitted the people of Hawai‘i; and

NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of the Hawai‘i State Judiciary, I extend my congratulations and aloha to the Hawai‘i State Ethics Commission, on the landmark occasion of its 50th ANNIVERSARY of service to the people of Hawai‘i.

DONE, at the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai‘i, this 29th day of March, 2018.

Mark E. Recktenwald

MARK E. RECKTENWALD
Chief Justice, Hawai‘i State Supreme Court