



**WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS**  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

NEWS RELEASE

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Date: September 17, 2014

REVISED

**HPD CHIEF CANCELS MEETING WITH HAWAII WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS AND WOMEN  
HONOLULU CITY COUNCILMEMBERS**

HONOLULU – The Hawaii Women's Legislative Caucus today announced that they received a call from the Honolulu Police Department's (HPD) Chief of Police's office canceling Thursday's meeting with the Women's State Legislative Caucus and three women members of the Honolulu City Council.

A representative of the Women's Caucus spoke with the office of Chief of Police Louis M. Kealoha to ask that the commitment to meet with the women on Thursday be honored.

"The purpose of Thursday's meeting was for the Women's Legislative Caucus and the three women city councilmembers to have the opportunity to speak with Chief Kealoha directly," said Senate President Donna Mercado Kim, a member of the Women's Caucus. "We hoped to work cooperatively with the police to strengthen efforts to end domestic violence and keep victims safe. We wanted to discuss concerns and questions about HPD's internal policies and procedures regarding domestic violence cases, especially when one of their own officers is a suspect that has been brought to us by victims' service providers."

"The Women's Legislative Caucus and women Honolulu City Councilmembers asked for the opportunity to discuss these issues with Chief Kealoha prior to the public informational briefing so that he could be prepared to respond fully in public, and to, hopefully, open the door to improved partnerships and outcomes in domestic violence cases," said Senate President Kim.

A representative of the Women's Caucus was told the meeting was cancelled because the internal investigation was not yet completed. "We made it clear that the Women's Caucus understands that personnel investigations are confidential and that we have no intention of interfering in that matter," stated Senator Laura Thielen, a member of the Women's Caucus. "We told Chief Kealoha's office that our concern and our meeting is to be focused on the broader HPD policies and response to domestic violence incidents."

(MORE)



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The cancellation was completely unexpected. "Many of us rearranged our schedules to suit the Police Chief's requested meeting date and time. We are disappointed at his unexpected cancellation," stated Senate President Kim. "We sincerely hope this is not a sign of the lack of importance the department places on the issue of domestic violence. But it's perplexing to us why he would cancel such an important meeting with so many women leaders."

Members of the Hawaii Women's State Legislative Caucus are:

REP. KAREN LEINANI AWANA  
REP. DELLA AU BELATTI  
REP. RIDA CABANILLA  
REP. MELE CARROLL  
REP. LAUREN MATSUMOTO  
REP. CINDY EVANS  
REP. BETH FUKUMOTO  
REP. FAYE HANOHANO  
REP. SHARON HAR  
REP. LINDA ICHIYAMA  
REP. GEORGETTE "JO" JORDAN  
REP. NICOLE LOWEN  
REP. SYLVIA LUKE  
REP. DAYNETTE "DEE" MORIKAWA  
REP. CYNTHIA THIELEN  
SEN. ROZ BAKER  
SEN. SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND  
SEN. MICHELLE KIDANI  
SEN. DONNA MERCADO KIM  
SEN. MAILE SHIMABUKURO  
SEN. MALAMA SOLOMON  
SEN. LAURA THIELEN  
SEN. JILL TOKUDA

Women members of the Honolulu City Council are:

COUNCILMEMBER ANN H. KOBAYASHI  
COUNCILMEMBER CAROL FUKUNAGA  
COUNCILMEMBER KYMBERLY MARCOS PINE



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