

GM 364

CREIGHTON W. GOLDSMITH

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to
the Civil Defense Advisory Council,
Gubernatorial Nominee, Creighton W. Goldsmith,
for a term to expire 6-30-2013.**

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON GM 364
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE CIVIL DEFENSE
ADVISORY COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
CREIGHTON W. GOLDSMITH, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2013

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

EDWARD T. TEIXEIRA
ACTING DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE

March 17, 2009

Chair Espero and Committee Members:

I am Ed Teixeira, Acting Director of Civil Defense, State Department of Defense. I am providing testimony in support of GM 364, which considers and confirms Mr. Creighton W. Goldsmith to the Civil Defense Advisory Council.

Mr. Goldsmith has been a Civil Defense Advisor to State Civil Defense since July 2005. He has provided support for civil defense programs and has rendered community feedback on civil defense activities. Mr. Goldsmith's experience and knowledge of maritime security operations have contributed in no small way to the improvement of State homeland security projects.

We strongly urge your committee to recommend Senate confirmation on the appointment of Mr. Goldsmith to another term as a member of the Civil Defense Advisory Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this consideration.

Are there any questions?

Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

Creighton W. Goldsmith
Confirmation Hearing - nomination to the Civil Defense Advisory Council
808 864-5250 – cwgoldsmith@usa.net

Tuesday, March 17, 2009 - GM 364

Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself to you and your committee. My name is Creighton Goldsmith and I have been privileged to live in this great state for over 38 years. In my professional life I am a Chief Inspector for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the largest federal armed law enforcement agency in the Department of Homeland Security. I have served as chief of operations for both the Honolulu seaport and airport. In my capacity I have earned a rare opportunity to understand the integrated nature of air and intermodal transportation, tourism and its critical importance to the economy of this state.

I am currently in my third year of serving with the Civil Defense Advisory Council and General Robert Lee, Director Ed Teixeira and Chairman Gerald Coffee. I must tell you that this state is indeed fortunate to have these outstanding men in this critically important agency. I view my role on the council as a representative of Oahu to provide background and advice on the needs of the community to the Governor, General Lee and the outstanding employees of State Civil Defense and to carry the message for preparedness back to my network of friends and community colleagues.

With nearly 40 years of experience I have served on the mainland, in the Middle East, Asia and South America. I recently returned from 6 months in Sri Lanka (Ceylon) where I saw first hand how a civil war, a tsunami and poverty have torn the fabric of society. I saw that island government's frail responses to the critical needs of its people and its economy. I would not let that happen in Hawai'i.

Over the past years I have built working relationships and cooperative efforts with State and City agencies, federal agencies, airlines and shipping companies along with the military and U.S. Coast Guard to ensure that Hawai'i remains safe from both external threats and natural disasters. I am critically aware of Hawai'i's remote location and the time it would take to recover from a serious natural disaster due to the nature of air and sea shipping. I have lived through two major hurricanes, significant power outages and external threats to our state's safety and security.

I seek your confirmation. May I answer any questions you might have of me?