

**LATE**



March 23, 2009

To: Chairman Clarence Nishihara and Members  
Senate Tourism Committee

Fr: Terryl Vencl, Executive Director  
Maui Visitors Bureau

Re: Nomination for Ronald Williams to HTA Board  
Hearing Tuesday, March 24

Aloha Mr. Chairman and Members:

I would like to support the nomination of Ronald Williams to the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board of Directors.

Through the years I have sat on many committees and task forces with Mr. Williams. He has always shown a good understanding of tourism in Hawaii. He has the ability to look at the "big picture." He has always been able to provide a balanced and fair approach to problem solving in each committee that we have shared.

Please give Ron your favorable nod to his nomination on the HTA Board.

Mahalo for your consideration

Terryl Vencl

# Pleasant Holidays.

HAWAII • MAINLAND USA • MEXICO • TAHITI • FIJI • AUSTRALIA • NEW ZEALAND • ASIA • EUROPE

GM477: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, Ronald K. Williams for a term to expire 6/30/2010

Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2009  
Time: 2:45pm

**LATE**

To: COMMITTEE ON TOURISM  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

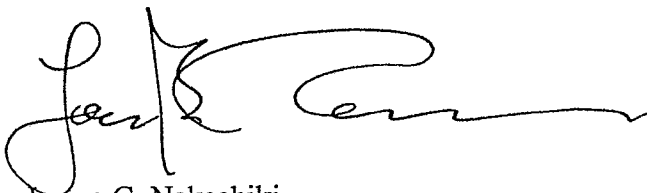
Re: Letter of Recommendation for Mr. Ron Williams  
Board Member, Hawaii Tourism Authority

Pleasant Holidays is honored to support the nomination of Ronald Williams to Board Member of the Hawaii Tourism Authority. As the largest wholesale travel company to Hawaii for 50 years, we can attest to Mr. William's outstanding leadership skills and integrity. Throughout our many years in working with Atlantis Submarines we have found his marketing contributions an asset not only to our company but to the industry. Whether it be saving and extending the eco-life of our Waikiki reef or providing mentorship to the many activity companies statewide, Ronald's commitment to the Hawaii community is clear. This is also demonstrated in his coaching of young and old in the Hawaii state sport of canoe paddling, as well as, his participation on the board for the Maui Youth and Family Services.

Ronald William's 30 years of experience and dedication to the various Hawaii hospitality and travel industry markets is unmatched. These skills and work ethics are needed to promote and attain the goals of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

We truly feel that your favorable consideration for Ronald Williams appointment to the board will be a positive and proactive step for the Hawaii Tourisms Authority. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to present this letter of support.

Sincerely yours,



Leona G. Nakaahiki  
Vice President of Sales - Hawaii

**LATE**

**C. Michael Helhre**  
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Direct Fax: (808) 540-5009  
E-mail: mhelhre@ca des.com

March 23, 2009

**Via E-mail**

State Capitol  
Senate Tourism Committee  
415 South Beretania Street  
Conference Room 229  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Attention: Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui  
Senator Sam Slom

Re: Nomination of Ronald Williams  
For Board Member, Hawai'i Tourism Authority  
HEARING TSM 03-24-09

Dear Chairperson Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

The purpose of this communication is to support the nomination of Ronald Williams to the position of Board Member of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority ("HTA").

I have known Mr. Williams for more than ten years in a professional capacity. In this capacity, I know that he is one of the most knowledgeable individuals in the field of tourism in Hawai'i with extensive experience in creating, developing, and maintaining creative world-class attractions for visitors that are environmentally friendly and sustainable and preserve or enhance the natural resources and cultural values of our community.

Senate Tourism Committee

Attention: Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui  
Senator Sam Slom

March 23, 2009

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As a successful manager of viable businesses embracing responsible practices consistent with the best values of our community that attract visitors from many points of origin, Mr. Williams is keenly aware of the challenges and opportunities that tourism in Hawai'i faces in these difficult economic times and of the competition posed by other destinations for visitors. From this perspective, it is respectfully submitted that Mr. Williams will bring unique and valuable thinking and competency to the board as the board seeks to fulfill its mission while being true to its statement of values.

As a "Hilo product," who has elected to live on Maui while working in Honolulu, Mr. Williams has much more sense, sensitivity, and respectfulness derived from his life experiences on a daily basis than most of us for the values of our host and multi-ethnic cultures and the responsibility that we all have for our community. These virtues will be assets for service on the board.

Of great importance for this position, Mr. Williams is forthright and honest. In the very old and classic sense, his word is his bond and his good reputation is his currency. He is a good man with good values.

For the reasons stated in this letter, I respectfully submit that Mr. Williams is an excellent nominee to the board of the HTA and a nomination that deserves your most favorable consideration.

Thank you for your service and for this opportunity to add my voice to those supporting this nomination.

Very truly yours,



C. Michael Heihre  
for

CADES SCHUTTE

A Limited Liability Law Partnership

March 23, 2009

**LATE**

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

**It is my distinct pleasure to recommend that Ron Williams, CEO and President of Atlantis Adventures in Honolulu, be elected to the Board Member for the Hawaii Tourism Authority.**

**He has the great advantages of being a local person and one who also has a broad outlook with a keen interest in progress on the mainland U.S.A. and in global issues.**

**Ron William is a unique individual who can analyze problems from different points of view and work with others to come up with a composite solution. It is the theme of the day that different points of view be considered in order to come up with the best solution, but Ron has been doing that long before it became a political theme for the United States.**

**Ron is an ethical person who works well with his colleagues, and is well liked by them. As you know, there are many challenges that occur in the running and maintaining of a complicated tourism industry. He is without a doubt a successful business person and a desirable team worker.**

**I believe he will make a significant contribution to the HTA and that he is an excellent choice for the position.**

**Sincerely,**

*Mkuroda*

**Maki Kuroda  
President  
E Noa Corporation**