

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



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No. _____

TESTIMONY ON H.C.R. NO.92 H.D. 1
A RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT A FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT AUDIT
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, SHERIFF DIVISION
Clayton A. Frank, Director
Department of Public Safety

Committee on Legislative Management
Representative James Kunane Tokioka, Chair
Representative Blake K. Oshiro, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 25, 2009, 2:00pm
State Capitol, Room 423

Chair Tokioka, Vice Chair Oshiro, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) understands House Concurrent Resolution No.92 HD1 which is a concurrent resolution asking for a financial audit of the Department of Public Safety. In addition to the routine financial audit, the audit is to examine the issues relating to PSD's strategic and financial plan, as well as the feasibility of separating the Law Enforcement Division from PSD and either creating a new department, or placing the Sheriffs in a different executive department.

PSD will fully cooperate with any audit ordered by the Legislature. However, it should be noted that feasibility studies examining similar issues were ordered approximately six years ago. The prior studies all led to conclusions that the separation of the Sheriffs from PSD, regardless of how it was conducted, would be expensive and create another department that may not be necessary. Currently, both the Corrections and Law Enforcement divisions have their own

budget, and each benefits the other as both divisions work hand in glove due to the very nature of their duties.

Given the current economic situation in our state, PSD believes that the auditor's limited resources would be better served elsewhere, however, the Department will cooperate fully in an audit ordered by the Legislature, and we stand ready to assist in any way we can.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.