

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR
465 S. King Street, Room 500
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2917



MARION M. HIGA
State Auditor

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May 19, 2010

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President:

I transmit to you a copy of our *2009 Annual Report*.

Our work in 2009 reinforces the importance of a strong organizational culture that values accountability and personal responsibility. For instance, we found numerous instances in which department officials willfully disregarded laws, rules, and regulations in the name of expediency, disinterest, or worse. Even though these officials may have had the State's best interest in mind as they cut regulatory corners or executed "workarounds," they were laying the foundation for an organization in which fraud, waste, and abuse are not only tolerated, but in some cases, encouraged. As we make clear in our report, we will continue to do our best to ensure an accountable and responsible government which effectively serves the people of Hawaii.

We hope that the report will assist you in reviewing the issues examined. We will place the report on our website, www.state.hi.us/auditor, and release it to the public and press, on Thursday, May 20, 2010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Marion M. Higa'.

Marion M. Higa
State Auditor

Enclosure

c:✓Carol Taniguchi, Senate Clerk