

GM 772

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the
Crime Victim Compensation Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee, ABELINA SHAW, for a term to
expire 6-30-2017.**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

TED SAKAI
DIRECTOR

Martha Torney
Deputy Director
Administration

Max Otani
Deputy Director
Corrections

Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE No. 772
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
ABELINA MADRID SHAW

By
Ted Sakai, Director
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Thursday, April 11, 2013; 2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 224

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety **supports** Governor's Message 772 nominating Abelina Madrid Shaw, Esq., as a member of the Crime Victim Compensation Commission. Ms. Shaw is an outstanding member of our community, contributing countless hours to multiple social service and educational causes in addition to serving in many appointed public sector positions.

An attorney by trade, Ms. Shaw began her career as legislative staff to first Representative Richard Kawakami and then Speaker of the House Tadao Beppu. Upon graduation from law school, she clerked for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Benjamin Menor before being appointed in 1981 as Deputy Director of Health by Governor George Ariyoshi. After two terms as deputy, Ms. Shaw was selected as the Hawaii Supreme Court Staff Attorney before being appointed as First Deputy of the Corporation Council for the City and County of Honolulu. Her career at Honolulu City Hall continued as Director of the

Department of Community Services followed by an appointment as Mayor Jeremy Harris' Chief of Staff. Today, she is in private practice. A distinguished career, indeed.

She is perhaps best recognized for her significant contributions to community organizations as both a volunteer and member of many private non-profit boards. Organizations that have benefited from her devotion to our community include those serving the poor, elderly, disenfranchised, and at-risk youth. The Filipino community is of special importance to Ms. Shaw and she is a founding member of the Filipino Community Center.

We respectfully request you recommend Ms. Shaw for this position.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
**CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION
COMMISSION**

1136 Union Plaza, Suite 600
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Telephone: 808 587-1143
FAX 808 587-1146

MARI MCCAIG
Chair

L. DEW KANESHIRO
Commissioner

TOM WATTS
Commissioner

PAMELA FERGUSON-BREY
Executive Director

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 772

Consideration and Confirmation of Abelina Shaw
to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission

By

Pamela Ferguson-Brey, Executive Director
Crime Victim Compensation Commission

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Thursday, April 11, 2013, 2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

Thank you for providing the Crime Victim Compensation Commission (the "Commission") with the opportunity to testify before you today. The Commission strongly supports the appointment of Abelina Shaw to serve as a Commissioner for a term to expire on June 30, 2017. Ms. Shaw is an experienced legal advocate and has served our community in various capacities for many years, including in the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government. Ms. Shaw's contributions to the community have also been recognized by the Filipino Association of University Women, the United Filipino Council of Hawai'i, and the Filipino Women's Civic Club among others.

The Commission is a quasi-judicial body that assists victims of violent crime by providing compensation for crime-related expenses. The Commission also administers a Restitution Recovery Project to collect restitution from inmates and parolees and disburse the funds to crime victims. Commissioners hear appeals from administrative decisions ordering or denying compensation, and set policy for the determination of claims submitted to the Commission. A special area of concern for Commissioners has been the treatment of sexual assault and domestic abuse victims, and the fiscal self-sufficiency of the Commission.

Commission appeals are heard de novo. Commissioners determine eligibility, and evaluate and analyze criminal justice data to verify that an eligible crime has occurred. Commissioners also analyze and evaluate financial, medical and criminal justice documents. The most difficult decisions issued by the Commissioners are those that limit or deny compensation awards. These decisions are difficult because they involve an assessment of the extent to which the claimant may have contributed to the incident that cause their injuries or death.

It is important that these decisions are fair, clear, and consistent. Each claim that is limited or denied must be distinguished on its facts from other cases where compensation awards are granted in full. Relevant statutes, rules, and guidelines must be applied to the facts and analysis conducted to determine whether the claim should be granted, limited or denied. In this regard, Ms. Shaw's experience as an attorney, demonstrating a keen knowledge and understanding of applicable federal and state laws, rules and guidelines, as well as her ability to interpret complex material and resolve problems logically and consistently, will be an asset to the Commission.

Victims of violent crime who apply for compensation are often traumatized and angry about what happened to them and frustrated about the way the criminal justice system treats victims. Commissioners must be sensitive and compassionate in dealing with these individuals. Ms. Shaw's service with community organizations such as Aloha United Way, Hale Kipa, Safe Haven, the Family Treatment Services Advisory Council, and the Kapiolani Hospital Health Foundation indicate that she has the requisite breadth of knowledge, compassion, and skill to assist victims of crime who come before the Commission.

Another area of commitment for the Commission is improving the delivery of compensation services to underserved victim populations. The Commission was part of a strategic planning project to develop a strategic plan to address the needs of underserved populations. The project identified the elderly, individuals with limited English language proficiency, the disabled, and visitors/tourists as underserved victim populations here in the state. Throughout Ms. Shaw's collective experiences in governance, she has advocated for human service initiatives that seek to address the needs of the socially disenfranchised and underserved in our community, and provide greater access to government services for all of Hawai'i's citizens.

Ms. Shaw's background and experience will be invaluable to the Commission in its efforts to serve Hawai'i's victims of violent crime. The Commission therefore urges you to confirm Ms. Shaw's appointment to the Commission.



**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF
GM 772: ABBY SHAW to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission,**

Senate Committee on
On Public Safety Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
April 11, 2013,

To: Honorable Sen. Will Espero, Chair
Honorable Sen.. Roz Baker, Vice Chair
Honorable Members Sen Brickwood Galuteria, Josh Green
and Sam Slom

From: Amy Agbayani, Vice Chair, NaFFAA Region 12
3432 B-1 Kalihi St., Honolulu 96819

The National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) strongly endorses Ms Abby Shaw's nomination to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission. NaFFAA is a national organization and Hawaii is one of the 12 regional chapters. NaFFAA promotes civic participation of Filipino Americans and seeks to increase awareness of Filipino American contributions to social, economic, cultural and political life in the United States. NaFFAA actively support policies that promote equal access, non-discrimination and social justice.

I have known Ms Shaw for over three decades. We have worked collaboratively on many community projects relating to education, women's rights, civil rights and non-discrimination. I am very impressed with her integrity, knowledge, broad professional and community service. Her extensive experience addressing legal issues, governmental policies and working with non-profit and business groups would benefit the Commission. Ms. Shaw understands the law and our multi-ethnic families. I am confident she will continue to be objective and fair to all parties involved. Ms. Shaw is thoughtful and capable of making difficult but fair decisions.

I respectfully ask you to support Ms. Abby Shaw's nomination to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission. I am taking this opportunity to thank her for her many years of leadership and her commitment to justice, equal access, diversity and community service.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 2:59 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: quezonj001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 11, 2013 14:45PM
Attachments: GM772-PSIMA-Shaw-UFCH.pdf

GM772

Submitted on: 4/10/2013

Testimony for PSM on Apr 11, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jenny Quezon	United Filipino Council of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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United Filipino Council of Hawaii

P.O. Box 2878 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96802

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 772

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

April 11, 2013, 2:45 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 224

To: Honorable Sen. Will Espero, Chair
Honorable Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:
Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Sen. Josh Green, Sen. Sam Slom

From: Jenny Quezon, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii

Dear Sen. Espero, Sen. Baker, Sen. Galuteria, Sen. Green, and Sen. Slom:

My name is Jenny Quezon, president of United Filipino Council of Hawaii, an umbrella organization with member organizations from six islands. UFCH membership is comprised of nearly 5,000 individual members.

UFCH strongly supports Governor Neil Abercrombie's nominee, Abelina Shaw, to serve on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission. I have known attorney Shaw for over 30 years. She is a respected community leader, known for her social justice work and advocacy for the most vulnerable members of our society, including elderly veterans, immigrants, and victims of domestic violence.

The Filipino community is proud to have attorney Shaw serve upon the Governor's request to bring justice to and reclaim the dignity of victims of violent crime in our state.

Thank you for considering her contributions and for the opportunity to provide support of her nomination.

Sincerely,

Jenny Quezon
UFCH President

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 2:54 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: ccuaresma@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 11, 2013 14:45PM
Attachments: GM772-PSIMA-Shaw-FCS.pdf

GM772

Submitted on: 4/10/2013

Testimony for PSM on Apr 11, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlene Cuaresma	Filipino Coalition For Solidarity	Support	No

Comments:

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TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 772

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

April 11, 2013, 2:45 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 224

To: Honorable Sen. Will Espero, Chair
Honorable Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:
Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Sen. Josh Green, Sen. Sam Slom

From: Charlene Cuaresma, Past President, Filipino Coaliton for Solidarity

Dear Sen. Espero, Sen. Baker, Sen. Galuteria, Sen. Green, and Sen. Slom:

My name is Charlene Cuaresma, past president of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity. The Coalition supports Governor Neil Abercrombie's nominee, Abelina Shaw, to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders, whose aim is to work for social justice issues to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, and social action.

Attorney Abelina Shaw is highly respected in the Filipino community for her decades-long pro bono advocacy work on Filipino veterans equity, immigration, language access, domestic violence, and more. She is tenacious. She will apply the law to its fullest extent to seek justice for victims of violent crime. Her roots growing up on the island of Kaua'i during Hawai'i's territorial days in the shadows of a blatantly colonial, political landscape of Hawaii's sugar plantation camp conditions for workers and their families influenced her fierce sense of social justice and upholding of human dignity. Given the opportunity, she will serve as an avid and conscientious commissioner.

Thank you for hearing this measure, and for your consideration of Abelina Shaw's nomination to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

Respectfully,

Charlene Cuaresma, MPH
Past President
Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 2:57 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: ccuaresma@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 11, 2013 14:45PM
Attachments: GM772-PSIMA-Shaw-FACL.pdf

GM772

Submitted on: 4/10/2013

Testimony for PSM on Apr 11, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jake Manegdeg	Filipino American Citizens League	Support	No

Comments: Kindly accept this testimony, as Jake Manegdeg has no email. Mahalo, Charlene Cuaresma

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Filipino American Citizens League

Jake Manegdeg, President
P. O. Box 270126 * Honolulu, Hawai'i 96827

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 772 Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

April 11, 2013, 2:45 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 224

To: Honorable Sen. Will Espero, Chair
Honorable Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:
Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Sen. Josh Green, Sen. Sam Slom

From: Jake Manegdeg, President, Filipino American Citizens League

Dear Sen. Espero, Sen. Baker, Sen. Galuteria, Sen. Green, and Sen. Slom:

My name is Jake Manegdeg. As president of the Filipino American Citizens League, I am very proud to strongly support the confirmation of gubernatorial nominee Abelina Shaw's confirmation to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission for a term to expire 6-30-2017. The League was formed over ten years ago to contribute to the advancement of civil rights and social justice for minority groups, underserved populations, and vulnerable communities through education, advocacy, and social action.

I myself served as a 6-year appointee to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission. I can attest to her competence and resolve for public service through my longtime acquaintance, which spans more than 45 years of volunteer work in social justice, civic, and cultural events in the Filipino and broader community related to local, national and international affairs. Attorney Shaw has provided pro bono legal counsel on immigration, veterans, domestic violence, and many other issues. She has served as deputy director of health under former director of health Jack Lewin. She is tough, brusque, but fair. Above all, her sugar plantation upbringing as a daughter of sakadas on the island of Kaua'i has instilled in her compassion and a deep sense of equality and advocacy for the disenfranchised.

Thank you for hearing this measure. Your positive consideration of attorney Abelina Shaw's confirmation is greatly appreciated.

Very Sincerely,

Jake Manegdeg
President, Filipino American Citizens League

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 2:58 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: jeanjeremiah2d5g@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 11, 2013 14:45PM
Attachments: GM772-PSIMA-CVCC-JJeremiah.pdf

GM772

Submitted on: 4/10/2013

Testimony for PSM on Apr 11, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jean Jeremiah	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 772
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

April 11, 2013, 2:45 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 224

To: Honorable Sen. Will Espero, Chair
Honorable Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:
Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Sen. Josh Green, Sen. Sam Slom

From: Jean Jeremiah, Private Citizen
c/o 860 Halekauwila Street #2506
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Sen. Espero, Sen. Baker, Sen. Galuteria, Sen. Green, and Sen. Slom:

My name is Jean Jeremiah. As a private citizen, I am proud to provide strong support for attorney Abelina Shaw's confirmation as a gubernatorial nominee to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

I know attorney Shaw through her support of civic and cultural endeavors of myriad Filipino organizations for over ten years, including my current term as president of the Oahu Filipino Community Council. She is a valued community leader, whose resourcefulness and fairness has helped many struggling families and individuals overcome adversities to bring justice and safeguard our communities. Because of this, I am confident that people who have suffered at the hands of violent crime will be treated with dignity and respect to the best of her ability.

Thank you for the opportunity to support Governor Abercrombie's nomination of Abelina Shaw to this very important Commission.

Sincerely,

Jean Jeremiah
Private Citizen

LAW OFFICE OF M. CORA AVINANTE
550 HALEKAUWILA STREET. #304
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Ph: 808-550-8867 Fax: 808-550-8869

TRANSMITTAL

March 4, 2013

TO: Senator Will Espero
Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capital, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Vice-Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Senatorial District 6
Hawaii State Capital, Room 230
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

FROM: M. CORA AVINANTE ESQ

RE: **MS. ABELINA SHAW - NOMINATION AS MEMBER OF THE
CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION COMMISSION**

Dear Senators,

I am writing to you as a personal friend and associate in the practice of law of Ms. Abelina Shaw. I understand that she is subject to confirmation based on her nomination by Governor Neil Abercrombie. I have known Ms. Shaw for over 30 years and support her nomination for the position. Over the years she has shown me to be a person of high integrity and moral character. She has worked for both the State and City governments as a public employee and as a private attorney. Her work with the Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association, Hawaii Filipino Veterans, and other non profit organizations demonstrates that she also gives back to the community. I am honored to know her as a friend and associate, and I can sincerely say that her character is above reproach.

I feel that the Crime Victim Compensation Commission would truly benefit from an appointment of Ms. Shaw to this Commission.

Very truly yours,


M. CORA AVINANTE ESQ.

April 4, 2013

Senator, Will Espero
Chairman: Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and
Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, HI 96813

Committee Members:
Senator, Roselyn Baker
Senator, Josh Green
Senator, Brickwood Galuteria
Senator, Sam Sloam

Re: GM772: Confirmation Hearing, Thursday, April 11, 2013
Abelina Madrid Shaw, Nominee for the Crime Victim Compensation Commission

Dear Chairman Espero and Committee Members:

I am writing to you in strong support of Abelina Madrid Shaw to serve on the above named commission.

As a personal friend and fellow community volunteer, I have seen firsthand the caring passion and leadership abilities exhibited by Ms. Shaw when it comes to helping our communities. She possesses broad and varied experience acquired from her engagements with both the public and private sectors, and non-profit entities, would offer her the opportunity to provide deep insights and strategies on moving this commission forward. Your support for Ms. Shaw would be a benefit to our entire State.

Sincerely,

Elias T. Beniga

Community Service:

- Member, Fiftieth Anniversary of Statehood Commission, 2007-2009
- Chairman, Filipino Centennial Celebration Commission, 2002-2006
- Member, Economic Momentum Commission, 2005-2006
- Chairman, Oahu Workforce Investment Board, 1999-2002
- President, Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, 1998-1999

Leonor Tamoria
Attorney at Law
1617 Keeaumoku Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

April 5, 2013

The Honorable Senator Will Espero
Chair, Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental
And Military Affairs
Hawaii State Senate, the Twenty-Seventh Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Abelina Shaw
Gubernatorial Nominee to Crime Victim Compensation Commission

To Senator Espero and Committee Members:

The Hawaii State Legislature created the Crime Victim Compensation Commission in 1967 to compensate victims of violent crimes. Since then, the Commission has awarded millions of dollars to crime victims to assist them with medical costs, counseling costs, lost wages, and funeral expenses. Since 2003, the Commission has become self-sufficient, and does not rely on State general funds to make awards.

Abelina Shaw has been nominated as a Commission member. I have known Abelina for over thirty years as her friend and colleague. She is highly qualified for the Commission through her experiences in the private practice of law, as Chief of Staff to Mayor Jeremy Harris, and as Hawaii Supreme Court Staff Attorney, among other positions in the private and public sectors. Abelina will fulfill the requirements of the position with fairness and impartiality.

I strongly endorse her nomination to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.



**OAHU REGION
HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION**

April 10, 2013

Dear Senator Espero and members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs committee,

I am Vincent Lee, Oahu Regional Chief Executive Officer of Hawaii Health System Corporation. I am testifying in support of Abelina Shaw who is being considered for the Victim Compensation Commission.

I have been fortunate to have known Abelina Shaw since she was the state Deputy Director of Health and have had the opportunity of working with her on specific projects such as the Honolulu City Emergency Services personnel performance review task force.

Abby has been in public service for over two decades at the executive level. She has a good perspective of the community and the law. She has the ability to assess issues. Abby is passionate about equality and a compassionate person whom I've observed asserting for doing the right thing.

I strongly believe Abby will be a dedicated and positive contributor as a member of the Victim Compensation Commission. I hope your committee will support Abelina Shaw's nomination to the Victims Compensation Commission.

Thank you,

Vincent Lee
Regional Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health System Corporation
Leahi Hospital

April 10, 2013

TO: The Honorable Will Espero, Chair, Senate Committee on Public Safety

Thursday, April 11, 2013, 2:45 pm

Conference Room 224, State Capitol

FROM: Mila Kaahanui, MSW

President, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

Re: GM 772: Nomination of Abelina Shaw to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission

Dear Chair Espero and Committee Members:

This letter is to support the Governor's nomination of Abelina M. Shaw to a position on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

I have known Ms. Shaw for 20 years or more. We have worked together on many issues of importance to the Filipino community in Hawaii. You know by her resume that she has worked in many community service organizations and has served on the boards and advisory boards of a number of those organizations. I have always found her to be energetic and committed supporter of causes for the good of the Filipino community and Hawaii's society as a whole.

On the basis of her legal and community backgrounds and her exemplary personal traits, I hope you will agree that Ms. Shaw possesses the skills and temperament conducive to fair, impartial review of matters brought before the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

Thank you for your consideration of these remarks. I ask for your support of Ms. Shaw's nomination and appreciate your support.

**TESTIMONY
OF
ABELINA MADRID SHAW
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
ON
APRIL 11, 2013
GM 772**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission Gubernatorial Nominee, Abelina Madrid Shaw for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I would consider it a privilege and honor to be a member of this Commission. To be a member of the Commission will fulfill my desire to continue to be part of our government's efforts to improve the quality of life for all our residents. The intent and purpose of Hawaii Revised Statute 351 which created this Commission many years ago is very noble and touches me. The Commission serves to mitigate the financial impact suffered by victims of violent crime. While I understand that victims eligible to receive compensation under this law will not be made totally "whole" and many victims will continue to suffer physically, mentally, and emotionally for months and maybe years after the conviction of the perpetrator. I see this Commission as society's way, our State government's way of lending a compassionate voice to those injured; an attempt to communicate that we, as a State, want to say we care and sorry for what happened to you.

Another reason for my interest in this Commission is the benevolence of this statute. This law holds the defender accountable by requiring parolees and inmates to pay some monetary restitution. I see this as an

opportunity or a "shot" at redemption, the opportunity to right the wrong he or she has committed, that will hopefully assist the offender in developing a sense of self-respect.

For nearly 30 years, I have had the privilege of working in various capacities in the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of our State. Several administrative positions include serving as Special Assistant to the Governor in Human Resources, Deputy Director of Health, Director of the Department of Community Services in the City and County of Honolulu, Chief of Staff to Mayor Harris, State Deputy Attorney General, First Deputy Corporation Counsel, and Administrative Staff Attorney for the Judiciary. In the community, I have served on numerous community and non-profit boards, including the Filipino Community Center Board, Mediation Center of the Pacific Board, Association of Retired Citizens Board, Organ Donor Board, Salvation Army Board, Hawaii Pacific Health, Women's Funds, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Filipino Lawyers Association Board, to name several

I believe that my legal background, administrative and board experiences mentioned above will help me to be fair and just in any decision-making by the Commission. These experiences will also help to continue the Commission's self-sufficiency efforts as an administrative body of the State.

My cursory review of an Annual Report of the Commission reveal that it has successfully achieved a goal that many of our State and City departments and programs continuously struggle and hope to achieve – that is to become more self-sufficient, less dependent on legislative appropriations, while still meeting the mandates of the law. Through the efficient implementation of the Commission programs such as the Restitution Recovery Project, Compensation Fee Program and its Medical Extension Reduction Project the Commission has managed to optimize Federal monetary participation, contributing to the success of the work of the Commission. Certainly, kudos must go to the current administration and staff as well as to commission members. Not unusual, there are more and

many challenges ahead. I hope in some way to help address those challenges ahead.

As well, there are many challenges facing us as a State. The many years in government and public service have instilled in me the strong belief that government and each and all of us who work in government have done and can do much to better the lives of everyone. And, this Commission is one example of that. It reaches out to victims and the perpetrators.

If not us, then who?

Should I be confirmed, you have my commitment that I will be diligent, fair, and just.

In closing, I thank this Committee for your hard work and for giving me the opportunity to be here today. I also thank everyone who has provided testimony on my behalf.

I thank you for your consideration of my nomination.

April 8, 2013

TO: Senator Will Espero
Chairman, Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental
and Military Affairs
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231

FROM: Abelina Madrid Shaw

RE: Response to Questions to Assist in the Confirmation as Member of the
Crime Victim Compensation Commission

Thank you for soliciting my input to your questions.

(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Crime Victim Compensation?

To be a member of the Commission will fulfill my desire to continue to be part of the our government's efforts to improve the quality of life for all our residents. The intent and purpose of Hawaii Revised Statute 351 which created the Commission many years ago is very noble and extremely touches me. The Commission serves to mitigate the financial impact suffered by victims of violent crime. While I understand that victims who are eligible to receive the compensation under this law will not be made totally "whole" and many victims will continue to suffer physically, mentally, and emotionally for months and maybe years after the crime and conviction of the perpetrator. I see this Commission as society's way, our State government's way of lending a compassionate voice to those injured; an attempt to communicate that we, as a State, want to say we care and sorry for what happened to you.

Another reason for my interest in this Commission is the benevolent purpose of the statute. This law holds the offender accountable by requiring parolees and inmates to pay some monetary restitution. I see this as an opportunity or a "shot" at redemption, the opportunity to right the wrong he or she has committed, that will assist the offender hopefully, in developing a sense of self-respect.

- (2) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Crime Victim Compensation, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as member of the Crime Victim Compensation.

For nearly 30 years, I have had the privilege of working in various capacities in the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of our State. Several administrative positions include serving as Special Assistant to the Governor in Human Resources, Deputy Director of Health, Director of the Department of Community Services in the City and County of Honolulu, Chief of Staff to Mayor Harris, State Deputy Attorney General, First Deputy Corporation Counsel, and Administrative Staff Attorney for the Judiciary. In the community, I have served on numerous community and non-profit boards, including the Filipino Community Center Board, Mediation Center of the Pacific Board, Association of Retired Citizens Board, Organ Donor Board, Salvation Army Board, Hawaii Pacific Health, Women's Funds, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Filipino Lawyers Association Board, to name several

I believe that my legal background, administrative and board experiences mentioned above will help me to be fair and just in any decision-making by the Commission. These experiences will also help to continue the Commission's self-sufficiency efforts as an administrative body of the State.

(3) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

My cursory review of one Annual Report of the Commission reveal that it has successfully achieved a goal that many of our State and City departments and programs continuously struggle and hope to achieve – that is to become more self-sufficient, less dependent on legislative appropriations while still meeting the mandates of the law. Through the efficient implementation of the Commission programs such as the Restitution Recovery Project, Compensation Fee Program and its Medical Extension Reduction Project the Commission has managed to optimize Federal monetary participation, contributing to the success of the work of the Commission. Certainly, kudos must go to the current administration and staff as well as commission members. Not unusual, there are more and many challenges ahead. I hope in some way to help address those challenges ahead.

I see added value to enhancing current efforts to maintain the sustainability of the Commission which extends our Aloha to those injured or hurt by (1) identifying more efficient ways to assess and collect the fees and (2) by seeking increased funding from private sources who are stakeholders and have the shared goal of ensuring that our communities are optimally safe (i.e.) businesses, banks, tourist industry, etc.

The need to share more information about the work of this Commission. So beneficent is the program that a focus could be to raise the level of awareness to the public about who and how one might be eligible to receive an award of assistance, particularly to our non-english speaking population including the many poor and needy who, based on previous Commission compensation decisions have largely gone to the victims of assault, abuse of family member, and sexual assault.

In short, I hope to be supportive of the staff and administration of the Commission, seek more ways to maintain the sustainability of the programs so that more victim awards can be granted, involve more business stakeholders in reaching the goals of this law, and lastly, to enhance our community outreach efforts by sharing the good works of this Commission, especially to those with little or no access to government.

- (4) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Crime Victim Compensation? How would you overcome any possible conflict of interest?

I see no conflict should I be confirmed to serve on this Commission.