



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM 600, GM 601, GM 602
NOMINEES TO THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

SENATOR ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: May 12, 2020, 9:30am Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Air travel and transportation costs to attend meetings.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the following appointments to the
3 Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC).

4 Mr. Michael Jones (GM 600) is a fire captain with the Honolulu Fire Department. He is
5 a fire fighter with paramedic background and certification. His background and contributions are
6 an asset to EMSAC. He is an interim appointment by the 2019 Legislature and has attended
7 previous EMSAC meetings.

8 Ms. Dian Gruber (GM 601) is a currently retired registered nurse who worked for Maui
9 Memorial Medical Center. Her participation, contributions and input are beneficial to EMSAC.
10 She has been serving on this board for a few years .

11 Mr. Chris Honda (GM 602) is a battalion chief with the Hawaii Fire Department. He has
12 paramedic knowledge, skill, experience and certification. He is vital to the strong working
13 relationship with American Medical Response, the county of Hawaii's private ambulance
14 provider. His background, knowledge, expertise, and contributions are a valuable asset to
15 EMSAC. He attends EMSAC meetings and is an interim appointment by the 2019 Legislature.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM 600

Michael Jones, State EMS advisory Committee (EMSAC)

3/19/2020 9:00 am CPH

In SUPPORT

Dear Chair Baker and members of the Committee,

I am grateful for the opportunity to write a letter of support for the nomination of Michael Jones to serve on the state of Hawaii EMS Advisory Committee (EMSAC).

I have known Captain Jones professionally and personally since 2013 and can attest to his terrific work ethic and extensive background in the fire department and EMS. Mike is a state licensed A-EMT as well as a Honolulu Fire Department Captain with many certifications in various aspects of firefighting who holds numerous credentials and has extensive experience in teaching and training.

Captain Jones brings a unique and valuable perspective to the EMSAC and has already been contributing through his thoughtful deliberation. As a testament to his character and hard work, he was selected as the City and County of Honolulu's Employee of the year in 2009. I look forward to meaningful interaction with him and know that he will provide much in the way of contributions to EMSAC.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Char MD

Chair, Hawaii State EMS Advisory Committee

HONOLULU EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

3375 KOAPAKA STREET, SUITE H-450 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819-1869
Phone: (808) 723-7800 • Fax: (808) 723-7836



KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

JAMES D. HOWE, JR.
DIRECTOR

IAN T.T. SANTEE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

May 8, 2020

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair
Committee on Commerce Consumer Protection and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room 230
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker:

This letter is to give my full support for Michael J. Jones for his nomination to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC) as a representative for Allied Health.

I have worked with Mike in various capacities for over 15 years. Most recently he is the medical Captain at the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) Training and Research Bureau. He has proved to be a valuable resource in coordinating and collaborating with trainings and tracking outcomes for continuous improvement. Captain Jones is articulate, efficient and would make a great representative and advocate for first responders in Hawaii.

As a previous member of the EMSAC and Chair for six years, I have full confidence that Captain Jones has the skills and abilities to fulfill the responsibilities of being an active member of EMSAC.

Should you have any questions or would like further information, please contact me at isantee@honolulu.gov or 723-7811.

Thank you for the opportunity to recommend Captain Jones to the EMSAC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ian T.T. Santee", is written over a horizontal line.

Ian T.T. Santee, MICT, MPA
Deputy Director

GM-600

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 10:59:22 AM

Testimony for CPH on 5/12/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Speedy Bailey	Testifying for American medical Response	Support	No

Comments:



HAWAII FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 1463, AFL-CIO
1018 PALM DRIVE, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814-1929
TELEPHONE (808) 949-1566 FAX: (808) 952-6003
WEBSITE: www.hawaiifirefighters.org

LATE

THE SENATE
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2020
May 12, 2020

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Testimony by
Hawaii Fire Fighters Association

Governor's Message 600 Confirmation of Michael J. Jones to the
Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee

The Hawaii Fire Fighters Association (HFFA), Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO, represents more than 1,900 professional active-duty fire fighters throughout the State. The HFFA, on behalf of all of our members, **supports Governor's Message 600** nominating Michael J. Jones to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee.

Captain Michael Jones is currently assigned to the Honolulu Fire Department's Training and Research Bureau overseeing the Medical Section (EMT-EMR Response) training. He is the lead trainer and instructor for the emergency medical training curriculum for recruits and refresher courses for incumbent fire fighters.

In 2015, Mr. Jones was selected as the City and County of Honolulu's Employee of the year. He was recognized for his commitment to streamline and improve training programs for HFD first responders, which has resulted in significant cost savings for the department, improved efficiency in the delivery of the training, and increased the level of successful outcomes for participants.

HFFA supports Mr. Jones' nomination to serve on the Emergency Services Medical Committee and appreciates your Committee's favorable consideration of Governor's Message 600. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

- (1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board?

As a Firefighter and EMT in Hawaii for almost 20 years I have been fortunate to be a provider, trainer, and most recently an administrator. In a constant effort to improve myself and those around me I have sought out every opportunity for education, sharing, quality improvement and increased participation in guiding the future of EMS. I see membership on the EMSAC as an opportunity to contribute to the growth and evolution of the EMS System.

- (2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

As the needs of the public and the Healthcare system in Hawaii change and evolve, the EMSAC functions as a multidisciplinary team to provide perspective, insight and input to the State Department of Health in the administration and development of the EMS system. EMSAC members contribute their varied backgrounds and experiences to the recommendations provided.

- (3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?

Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance transportation providers are one link in the chain of patient care that begins with the bystander choosing to activate 911 and progresses all the way to definitive care in a designated healthcare facility. As an Allied Health Profession representative I am able to provide the perspective and input of the First Responders who often are the essential link between the bystander and the ALS ambulance. Without consideration for the issues and concerns effecting First Responder (non-transport) agencies patient mortality and morbidity may be negatively impacted.

- (4) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.

According to the Hawaii Revised Statutes 321-225 the committee shall monitor, review, and evaluate ongoing operations, administration and efficacy of the state system or any components thereof. They prepare and submit periodic reports, seek the input of the public, participate in planning or other policy making and perform other functions.

This description requires an open minded approach from individuals of varied experience and expertise. As a Fire fighter and EMT with almost 2 decades of

progressively increasing responsibility I am able to approach each issue from multiple perspectives. As an amateur waterman and outdoor enthusiast I have been a frequent consumer. As a former tradesman (carpenter) I have viewed the EMS system from outside as a blue-collar worker. As Firefighter I have been participated as a related profession assisting ALS providers. As an Advanced EMT I have been a provider participating in patient care at scene, during transport and in hospital. As a Fire Captain in the Honolulu Fire Department Medical Section I have been a researcher, educator and policy maker.

I believe all of the above add to my ability to approach each of the duties of the EMSAC with an open mind and broad perspective. This I hope and believe will make me a valuable contributor to the work the EMSAC performs.

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

Ensuring that the programs and policies which effect the State EMS system take into account the participation and contributions of all the participating professions and agencies. EMS is not just ambulances and hospitals, nor is it just Paramedics and Doctors.

Further, as healthcare evolves we are looking to Mobile Integrated Healthcare-Community Paramedicine (MIH-CP) as a model for the future to reduce utilization of EMS in the traditional sense by addressing consumer needs proactively. I hope to help MIH-CP become a standard component of the EMS system thereby reducing healthcare costs, ambulance transports and Emergency Department utilization.

- (6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board.

Work Ethic, Integrity and Professionalism.

The EMSAC can rely on researched and thought out contributions with an emphasis on the benefit of both the EMS community and the public we serve. My dedication to serve with honor and dignity on behalf of others is paramount in my decision making and guides my actions.

In short I will put my full effort into helping the EMSAC do what is in the best interest of the public we serve, while holding the EMS community to the highest standard of expectation in our attitudes and actions.

- (7) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

In 2018 I was asked by Dr. Michael Hayashi to be a guest speaker at the Hawaiian Islands Trauma Symposium presenting information on the Opioid Epidemic and current efforts to educate and prepare the First Responder community for its impacts. As a Fire Fighter presenting to an audience of several hundred Medical Professionals including physicians and subject matter experts in various fields of study I found myself both intimidated and far outside my personal comfort zone.

I applied my qualities listed above utilizing my work ethic, integrity and professionalism to research content, plan an educational and humorous presentation, and deliver a lecture that despite my relative inexperience entertained, enlightened and impressed my colleagues.

These qualities of work ethic, integrity and professionalism which have been key to every one of my accomplishments both personally and professionally I now seek to apply to my term as an EMSAC member.

- (8) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

I am by profession a public servant, with no endorsements or investments in any private industry interests which could suffer or benefit from my participation in or recommendations to the EMSAC board. Should such a situation arise in which I face a conflict of interest, I hold true to the same qualities which have enabled my success in all my pursuits, work harder than anyone else, be honorable in my thoughts, and hold myself to the highest standard of professionalism in my actions.