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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN  
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**Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**Before the  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Wednesday, May 13, 2020  
9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**On the following measure:  
G.M. 682, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION  
TO THE BOARD OF PRIVATE DETECTIVES AND GUARDS,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, EDWARD CHU JR.,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2024**

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department). The Department supports the confirmation of Mr. Edward Chu Jr.'s appointment to the Board of Private Detectives and Guards (Board) as a public member.

Mr. Chu has a diverse educational and professional background. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Studies from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. After working for five years as a sales manager for Pacific American Lumber, Mr. Chu joined Matson Navigation Company for approximately 10 years, where he was a stevedore superintendent and later, an account executive. Mr. Chu later joined the

ACW Group as an independent insurance agent in 2009, where he continues to work today.

Mr. Chu is greatly interested in contributing to the Board as a public member. He appreciates and understands the commitment necessary to prepare for and attend the Board's bimonthly meetings.

The Department believes that Mr. Chu's education and professional background will provide a diverse and meaningful perspective to the Board. In addition, his desire to serve on the Board and commitment to actively participate in board meetings will greatly enhance the Board's effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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# FROM THE HOME DESK OF KEVIN A. SOUZA

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May 8, 2020

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
Conference Room 230  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: LETTER IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 682 - EDWARD CHU, JR.**

Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

I write in strong support of Edward Chu, Jr. to serve on the Board of Private Detectives and Guards. I currently serve as a Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii, and I have known Ed for over forty (40) years, both as a professional and as a close personal friend. During that time, I have had the pleasure of witnessing Ed grow into a skilled businessman and a well-respected community leader. Throughout his life, Ed has demonstrated a strong intellect and a unique understanding of the people of Hawaii. More importantly, Ed has always been honest, straightforward, and committed to improving our community.

Ed is a consummate professional. He is unwavering in his commitment to public service and to providing financial security and peace-of-mind to his many clients, yet he always finds time for his family and friends. Ed has served honorably and dutifully in many different capacities, most recently as an exceptionally-talented Agent with ACW Group. Ed previously served as a Business Agent with Matson Navigation, as a long-time basketball coach at his alma mater, The Kamehameha Schools, and he remains actively involved in a number of community and non-profit organizations.

Ed will bring to the Board of Private Detectives and Guards a wealth of knowledge and experience, and a passion to serve and protect the public. He will also no doubt foster a strong working relationship between the Board of Private Detectives and Guards, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), the Legislature, and all other community stakeholders. In sum, Ed clearly possesses the professional credentials, the life experience, and a strong record of community service that, in my humble opinion, would enable him to excel on the Board of Private Detectives and Guards. Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of Edward Chu, Jr.'s nomination.

Very truly yours,



Kevin A. Souza

Aloha,

I am submitting this letter of support on behalf of Edward Chu for his nomination to the Board of Private Detectives and Guards.

My name is Kale Cockett and I am a Special Agent with the United States Secret Service. I have been employed by the Secret Service for over 17 years as both a Uniformed Division police officer and as a Special Agent. I have also had the privilege of being assigned to protect all of our former Presidents and was assigned to the Presidential Protective Division under both President Barack Obama and President Donald Trump. I am currently assigned to former President Obama and have been with him for the past six years while he was in office and out of office.

Throughout my various assignments I have met and worked with many security professionals that exemplify the values of honesty, loyalty and teamwork. It is in these values that Edward Chu can easily be associated with along with being highly organized, committed to the mission and possessing a large heart. I have known Edward for almost 38 years, since our intermediate years at the Kamehameha Schools, and we have remained close throughout those many years. Edward is someone that is very focused when given a task and that has always been something I have carried with me since we've known each other and a trait has been a strong point of mine in my current career where attention to detail is of extreme importance in which the mission is zero-fail.

Edward Chu will be an exceptional addition to the Board and will bring both fresh eyes and a willingness to serve. I strongly recommend him on this nomination.

Mahalo,  
Special Agent Kale W. Cockett, USSS

*Kale W. Cockett*

United States Secret Service  
Obama Protective Division – Shift A  
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May 11, 2020

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
Conference Room 230  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBJ: LETTER OF SUPPORT OF GM 682 – EDWARD G. CHU JR.

Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee,

It is with absolute certainty that I give my strongest personal support for Edward G. Chu Jr. to serve on the Board of Private Detectives and Guards. I am an active duty U.S. Navy SEAL with 21 years of service, and I have known Ed for over 33 years as a businessman, community leader, father figure and close friend. Ed has always been highly respected amongst the community, exemplifies solid core values and is someone whose guidance and advice is highly regarded.

Over the years, Ed has consistently demonstrated his dedication to his profession as he quickly advanced as a Sales Manager at Pacific American Lumber, a Stevedore Superintendent and Account Executive at Matson Navigation Company. In his current business, as a Licensed Insurance Agent at ACW Group, he strived to become a Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC); the most sought after and prestigious designation in the insurance industry.

Ed Chu has a lifelong dedication to community service as a coach for youth basketball. He volunteered at the Kalakaua Foundation Skills Clinic for over 10 years and assisted with coaching at the Kamehameha Schools Intermediate, Junior Varsity and Varsity Men's Basketball Teams. One summer, Ed spent countless hours at the local community basketball court training his sons and their neighborhood friends. Ed's eldest son later became Hawaii High School 2010 All-State Basketball Co-Player of the Year.

Ed has proven himself over and over again, with his commitment to professional excellence and selfless devotion to family and friends. I am most admired by Ed's trustworthiness and integrity, at which I am confident is the foundation that will excel him under any circumstance and be a valuable asset to the Board of Private Detectives and Guards.

Sincerely,



Derick A. Shima  
Lieutenant, U.S. Navy  
Joint Operations Center, Operations Officer  
Special Operations Command – Pacific  
[Derick.Shima@socom.mil](mailto:Derick.Shima@socom.mil)

1. I am at the age in my life and point in my career that I feel that the timing is good for me to give back and be part of a Board. In years past, I have noticed friends, colleagues, and contemporaries that were members of different Boards. I am now in a position that will allow me the time to serve.
2. My perception of the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Private Detectives and Guards, is that the Board is a liaison that assists the DCCA with certain issues pertaining to the industry. While the DCCA is the licensing entity for the licenses of Guards and Detectives, they are probably spread thin as they have many other industries that they oversee. I suspect that they utilize the Board to assist when decisions need to be made, as well as to get insight from the Board.
3. As an Insurance Agent, I am very familiar with the purpose of the DCCA and its importance to consumers. I understand how important it is for my various clients to maintain insurance, so they are in compliance with State requirements. As a consumer, it gives them peace of mind to know that there are institutions such as the DCCA that have their best interest at heart. I will strive to continue to maintain the attitude to protect consumers.
4. While I do not have a background in law enforcement, I feel my well-rounded upbringing as both a citizen and businessman can be helpful to the Board. I will be able to lend a fresh set of eyes to issues from the perspective of a person in our community. After completing college, I immersed myself into the workforce immediately. I have always been able to move up the ranks in the various industries I've worked in through hard work, goal setting, clear communication skills, and working collectively as a team with other coworkers and associates. In addition to working in different industries, I also find great success in reading after hours, for knowledge and personal growth about my industry.
5. During my time as a Board member, I hope to not only assist the DCCA, but to also be a proponent for the Private Detectives and Guard Industry and help to propel them forward during these challenging economic times that we are facing today.
6. I would say Passionate, Dedication, and Integrity describe a lot about me and my character. Being Passionate, has allowed me to achieve a lot in work and in my personal life. It is the motivation that I call, "Get-To-It-Tiveness." This is what gets the ball rolling for me in a lot of my endeavors. It has fostered a love of life-long learning. Dedication is the, "Stick-To-It-Tiveness" that allows me to stay on track and focused on the completion of my tasks and goals. I view Integrity as the backbone of my character. It is doing the right thing, even if no one is watching. Today, we need more people doing the right thing, on a consistent basis. I feel these qualities will help me in being a member of the Board.

7. This past year, I set a goal to run a sub 5-hour marathon. My previous best was 5:44 in 2012. I started my journey in March of 2019. I laid out a plan that consisted of things like goal setting, time management, commitment, hard work, and dedication. Along the way, I found things like bonding, cohesiveness, and perseverance. My goal was achieved not as an individual, but rather as a Team. I hired a Coach. I trained with a group. On race day, I ran with a partner, and had 2 members of my Team, run in with me the last 2 miles. I would not have reached my goal, had I attempted it by myself.
  
8. I feel that it is important to promote a culture of disclosure. I do not foresee any possible conflicts of interest, but if a conflict were to arise, I would be sure to bring it to the Board's attention and recuse myself from voting or sharing any input on that matter.