

From: Joshua Franklin

hifamilyadvocacy@gmail.com

To: The Senate Ka 'Aha Kenekoa

Office of Joy A. San Buenaventura

Re: Governor's Message No. 644 Nomination of Joshua Franklin to the Commission on Fatherhood

My names Joshua Franklin also known as Joshua Alameda. I've helped families in child welfare, victims of domestic abuse, children in need of IEP services under Section 504, children who are harassed in our public schools, and more. I have already devoted over a thousand hours of personal time to kokua. In 2015, I prepared a lawsuit against the Hawaii Department of Education that culminated in a substantial settlement to impose adjustments to our disciplinary code of conduct. In addition, this forced the DOE to expand and create web-based staff training to make our schools more inclusive and secure for all keiki. During that time period I assisted hundreds of families who reached out to me via social media or by phone with their own issues with the DOE. I understand the issues that face Hawaii from a socio-political and economic perspective and also from being a boots on the ground family advocate in our State. My education on the sociological issues facing us here in Hawaii is considerable as I attained my Palapala Oihana (Hawaiian studies/lifestyles certificate) back in 2007 and will now be graduating this spring with my Sociology Degree from our University here in Hilo. I bring to the table life experience, an educational foundation, and personal advancement to overcome adversity that gives me a unique perspective on finding remedies for fatherhood issues. I long to see positive change in our community to promote fatherhood and provide support for fathers and families. I believe I can assist the commission to help to ensure that families in Hawaii are able to thrive and succeed. I humbly ask for your support for a seat within the Hawaii State Commission on Fatherhood. Below are clarifying bullets to some of your questions as the other questions have been answered in the above statement.

- *How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Commission on Fatherhood?*

To actively engage our community in promoting the importance of active fatherhood as fathers play an integral role to the success of our children. This is of course is supported by numerous sociological reports on the importance of fatherhood.

- I hope to promote the importance of fatherhood through an academic approach with research to bring to forefront awareness on issues of fatherless homes and the unique challenges facing fatherhood here in Hawaii.
- Three qualities that best describe me would be my ability to persevere, remain objective, and most of all my ability to love. These qualities benefit the Commission on Fatherhood due to the foundation of aloha that I bring which fuels my unwavering dedication to my community and commitment to see a better tomorrow for our keiki.
- As mentioned I am responsible for significant changes to our education systems disciplinary code of conduct as well as response to inclusivity training. This benefits the Commission on Fatherhood as I am well versed and educated in civil rights, disability rights and more.
- *Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Commission on Fatherhood? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?*

I don't see any conflicts, but if one does emerge, I would handle the conflict by conducting a comprehensive investigation; one of my strengths is my ability to stay objective. If there was ever a conflict of interest, I would promptly notify the commission and take appropriate corrective action, including accepting a resignation.

Sincerely

Joshua Franklin

GM-644

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 3:21:44 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/31/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carlos Valdez	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

To whom this may concern:

I am writing this letter to recommend Joshua Franklin for the State Commission of Fatherhood. I have been a process server in Hilo for over a decade as my company has a combined 25-plus years of experience serving legal documents, processing evictions, and fugitive recovery. I first met Joshua sometime in 2015, and since then, I have witnessed firsthand his passion for delivering positive change to the community. He is selfless, as I have known countless families that have used him for mediation, TROs, and as a family advocate. I don't know anyone who cares more for the community than Josh. He has given me hope as he continues to shine a light on issues facing the community. Josh is a true professional. I served his multiple legal filings to the Department of Education's staff and even had the privilege of reading the lawsuit he wrote. It's hard to believe that he is not an attorney, as his level of writing and formulation of arguments is incredible. I highly recommend him for the State Commission of Fatherhood; we need Josh in this position. Josh is already assisting numerous children and families. It's time to allow his ideas and perspectives be heard within our State from a seat within the Commission of Fatherhood.

Mahalo

Carlos Valdez

Nonohe Botelho, MSCP
45-077 K Waikalua Rd.
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Date: March 29, 2023

To: The Senate Ka 'Aha Kanekoa

Office of Joy A. San Buenaventura

Re: Governor's Message No. 644 Nomination of Joshua Franklin to the Commission of Fatherhood (COF)

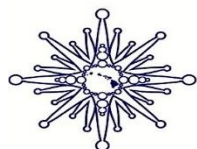
My name is Nonohe Botelho, I am an independent consultant/ advocate for victims and their families. I am writing on behalf of Joshua Franklin. It is my pleasure to nominate Joshua Franklin for the Commission of Fatherhood (COF). I have known Joshua for about a year, and he has been a tremendous asset to our group, the Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform.

Joshua has demonstrated the ability and the capacity to manage and organize his skills to help victims in our community. Joshua is a fast learner and is family centered and well educated in culturally appropriate strategies for the community. He is trauma informed and can reach others who have also suffered trauma. Joshua can build meaningful connections in the community, especially regarding the Native Hawaiian population. Joshua is dedicated to raising awareness regarding healthy families, healthy parents, and specifically healthy fathers.

As a member of the COF, Joshua has many skills to bring to the table. He can work collaboratively with others and maintains a high level of integrity. He is able to develop and implement programs and is able to maintain relationships with leadership and staff. His strength is that he is able to communicate with various stakeholders and is very capable of facilitating diverse and difficult conversations and meetings. He is creative and thinks "out of the box," and is cool under pressure!

It is my pleasure to recommend Joshua Franklin for the Commission of Fatherhood. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Nonohe Botelho, MSCP
Independent Consultant/ Victim Advocate
Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform



HAWAII COALITION
FOR
CHILD PROTECTIVE REFORM

GM-644

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:44:02 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/31/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marilyn Yamamoto	Testifying for Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee members,

The HCCPR **strongly supports** the confirmation of Joshua Franklin for the Commission on Fatherhood.

Joshua is a single parent of two children and a prospective holder of a Bachelor's degree in Sociology. For the past 10 years, he has been assisting families, particularly fathers who have been marginalized in the Family Court.. He is diligent in the support of due process and constitutional rights of parents and children.

Mr. Franklin has high-energy with solution-oriented goals and will be an asset to the Commission.

Marilyn Yamamoto

GM-644

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:59:40 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/31/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeff Esmond	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I first met Joshua Franklin last year and I believe and hope that with his passion, dedication to learning and his overall background, he will strengthen the Hawaii State Commission on Fatherhood.

GM-644

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 8:28:50 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/31/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacelyn Auna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is with much enthusiasm that I recommend Joshua Franklin as the Nominee for the Commission on Fatherhood.

Joshuas has the skill and understanding of the system to help children and families share their voice. There are many in our communities who lack resources, lack of help and lack of education to fight for their rights. Joshua is willing to do all he can to help them. He advocates for truth and honesty.

He is diligent, loyal, and truly defines what Aloha is. Give Joshua the opportunity to be part of a movement for all our Ohana, especially fathers rights.

GM-644

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 8:32:15 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/31/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rynae Malia Mendes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I support Joshua Alameda for a seat on the Commission of Fatherhood because I have known Mr. Alameda for helping and engaging in positive encouragement for his community. He has helped me with resources to help a family of mine with drug addiction and the Child Welfare system. He has been an advocate for so many local families who needed the guidance that is limited to seek help for what we need to better our community. He would be an amazing asset to the Commission of Fatherhood. Mahalo.