

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



MARK PATTERSON
CHAIR

DEPT. COMM. NO. 229
CHRISTIN M. JOHNSON
OVERSIGHT COORDINATOR

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
E HUIKALA A MA'EMA'E NŌ
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COMMISSIONERS
HON. R. MARK BROWNING (ret.)

HON. RONALD IBARRA (ret.)

MARTHA TORNEY

HON. MICHAEL A. TOWN (ret.)

March 7, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

In accordance with Chapter 353L-6, I am submitting the monthly Oversight Coordinator Report for the month of February. This report includes actions taken by the Commission and expenses for the preceding month. This report may be reviewed electronically at <http://hcsoc.hawaii.gov/reports>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 808-900-2200.

Respectfully,

Christin Johnson
Oversight Coordinator

c: Governor's Office
Legislative Reference Bureau Library (1 hard copy)

Enclosure



Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission

Monthly Oversight Coordinator Report – February 2025

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Introduction

In accordance with Chapter §353L-6, the Oversight Coordinator shall submit a monthly report to the Commission, the Governor, and the Legislature. The monthly report shall include actions taken by the Commission and expenses for the preceding month. In addition to the mandated parties this report must be shared with, the Oversight Coordinator publicly posts the monthly report to increase transparency and accountability. This report will also be shared with each individual who has the responsibility of appointing members of the Commission. This includes:

- 1) Governor of Hawaii
- 2) President of the Hawaii Senate
- 3) Speaker of the Hawaii House of Representatives
- 4) Hawaii Supreme Court Chief Justice
- 5) Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

The Oversight Coordinator monthly reports are released on the first Thursday of each month, covering the previous month, and will be discussed on the second Thursday of each month at the monthly Commission meetings.

Death in Custody

Note: The following death was reported in the January 2025 Oversight Coordinator Report published on February 7, 2025: On February 5, 2025, around 1:00am at the Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC), a corrections officer responded to commotion coming from a cell, immediately gave direct orders for two cellmates to get away from each other, and then immediately called for backup. Backup arrived, the cellmates were removed, and staff began administering CPR on a 33-year-old male. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel arrived at the facility and assumed CPR and life-saving measures. Around 1:50am, the individual in custody was pronounced deceased. This death appears to be a homicide.

Welcoming New Staff

Alec Jamerson, Jail Oversight Specialist

Alec spent much of his childhood in Honolulu, HI and brings a decade of investigative experience to the HCSOC. Alec's experience investigating policy violations, Title IX and Title VII violations, criminal and civil misconduct, workplace misconduct, sexual misconduct, alcohol consumption, diversion, fraud, nursing violations, use of force, and misuse of information technology systems has provided insight into the need for policy reform. Alec first recognized the need for correctional reform in 2007, when he completed a field research project on the cause of homelessness in Long Beach, CA. After receiving his BA from the University of New Mexico, Alec began his service to the national community as an Investigation Analyst in 2014, conducting investigations that protect national security. Alec became a credentialed Investigator in 2017. His professional development journey has led Alec to ho'opili hou to Hawaii and directly serve the community that is an integral part of his ohana.

Kimmy Takata, Reentry Oversight Specialist

Kimmy Takata brings both professional expertise and lived experience to the Oversight Commission. Having navigated the criminal justice system firsthand, she has dedicated her career to supporting justice-involved individuals through advocacy, peer support, and systemic reform. Upon reentering society, Kimmy Takata pursued higher education, earning an associate's degree in Hawaiian studies, a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, and is soon to complete her Master's in Criminal Justice. For over a decade, she has worked with the Pu'a Foundation, providing direct support to incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women. She is a Certified Peer Support Specialist through the Department of Health and now serves as a trainer, equipping others with the tools to guide individuals through reentry. Her lived experience, combined with her professional background, gives her a unique perspective on the challenges within the system. With deep insight into where the system fails and where it can be improved, Kimmy Takata is committed to advocating for meaningful, trauma-informed reforms that promote successful reintegration and reduce recidivism in Hawai'i.

Published Reports

2025 Reentry Report

Consistent with the Commission's mandate to monitor and review the reentry system and comprehensive offender reentry program, the Commission has published its inaugural reentry report, *Hoe Amau: The current state of reentry in Hawaii*.

Hawaii's correctional and reentry system stands at a pivotal moment, with a clear path forward toward a rehabilitative and therapeutic model. While significant challenges remain—including staffing shortages, gaps in reentry services, and delays in parole releases—this report highlights both the barriers and the opportunities for meaningful reform. Addressing systemic issues such as inadequate reentry planning, limited program availability, and inconsistent implementation of statutory mandates will be critical in improving outcomes for individuals in custody and enhancing community safety.

The report will be presented during the March 13 2025 Commission meeting and can be read at: <https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov/systemic-reports/>

Events Attended

Jail and Prison Oversight Forum

On February 18, 2025, Commission staff attended the *Jail & Prison Oversight Forum* hosted by the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE). The open forum covered the Office of the Washington State Corrections Ombuds (OCO) [recent report on unexpected fatalities](#) and allowed opportunity for questions and answers from other corrections oversight professionals across the nation. The report provided transparency and insight into the leading causes of unexpected fatalities within the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC), and how the DOC classifies unexpected fatalities. OCO's report on unexpected fatalities helps to set a precedent of transparency for reporting unexpected fatalities in correctional facilities.

NACOLE Webinar: Digital Video Evidence: Identifying Technical Challenges and Limitations

On February 21, 2025, Commission staff attended a webinar hosted by NACOLE covering Digital Video Evidence: Identifying Technical Challenges and Limitations. Casey Yunko, a Forensic Video Technician with Axon, discussed the importance of proper training for anyone tasked with reviewing and/or processing multimedia evidence for investigative purposes. He provided a thorough presentation on how to identify technical complications and limitations with video evidence and the misconceptions of digital video evidence. Casey also covered where to find more training for certification in authenticating video evidence. This training provided valuable insight into navigating correctional facility's CCTV systems.

2025 Pu'uhonua Summit

On February 28, 2025, commission staff attended the Pu'uhonua Summit hosted by Hawaii Community College Administration of Justice (AJ) Club and Program. The Lāmalama Ka Ulu Healing Center led discussions on truth, healing, and recovery. Attendees consisted of students from varying majors, cultural practitioners, community partners, and supporters coming together to learn about and immerse in experiencing the historical events of Hawai'i and reenact its impact on societal harmony with the land, with each other, and within families. The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) shared a presentation on current initiatives and future plans for rehabilitation, reentry, and transparency.

The summit highlighted the lived experiences of justice-involved individuals, shedding light on their reentry challenges and successes. It provided a collaborative space for talk story, resource sharing, and strengthening community support for reintegration.

Past Meetings

On February 13, 2025, the Commission hosted its monthly public meeting. All past meeting agendas, video recordings, meeting minutes, and testimonies can be found on our website here: <https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov/2025-meetings/>. All meetings are live streamed on our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube channel](#).

Expenses for the Preceding Months – January & February

Note: Due to the schedule change for monthly meetings for 2025, there was not a monthly report posted in January 2025. Therefore, the first report of the year was the February 13, 2025 monthly report, which covered December 2024 expenses. January and February 2025 expenses are included in this report, and applicable monthly expenses will be reported in alignment with the monthly reports beginning next month.

January 2025

	Cost	Qty	Total	Notes
Office Equipment and Supplies			\$659	
Office Furniture			\$0.00	
General Office Supplies	\$200.00	1.00	\$200.00	Parking Passes
Staff and Commission Badges			\$0.00	
Staff and Commission Badge Holders			\$0.00	
Cell Phone			\$0.00	
Cell Phone Monthly Plan	\$172.99	1.00	\$172.99	
Wifi Hotspot			\$0.00	
Heroku Monthly Plan - Complaint Management	\$130.00	1.00	\$130.00	November/December
Eleastic Cloud Monthly Plan - Complaint Management	\$35.80	1.00	\$35.80	November/December
Other Current Expenditures	\$120.00	1.00	\$120.00	Canva subscription
Inter-Island Correctional Facility Travel			\$324.29	
Airfare	\$284.29	1.00	\$284.29	RI-12/05 & 01/09
Car Rental			\$0.00	
Daily Per Diem	\$20.00	2.00	\$40.00	CMC-08/23 & 10/17
Lodging+Tax			\$0.00	
Ground Transportation			\$0.00	
Airport Parking			\$0.00	
Per Diem - Misc			\$0.00	
Mainland Correctional Facility Travel			\$0.00	
Airfare			\$0.00	
Car Rental			\$0.00	
Daily Per Diem			\$0.00	
Lodging+Tax			\$0.00	
Ground Transportation			\$0.00	
Airport Parking			\$0.00	
Memberships + Conferences			\$1,960.61	
NACOLE (National Assoc. for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement)			\$0.00	
National Association of Sentencing Commissions			\$0.00	
NACOLE Virtual Training			\$0.00	
Going Home Hawaii Reentry Summit			\$0.00	
Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice			\$0.00	
Airfare			\$0.00	
Car Rental			\$0.00	
Daily Per Diem	\$974.25	1.00	\$974.25	MKP-10/06
Lodging+Tax	\$986.36	1.00	\$986.36	MKP-10/06
Ground Transportation			\$0.00	
Airport Parking			\$0.00	
Baggage Fee			\$0.00	
TOTAL			\$2,943.69	

* All expenses reflect posted transactions procured

February 2025

	Cost	Qty	Total	Notes
Office Equipment and Supplies			\$0	
Office Furniture			\$0.00	
General Office Supplies			\$0.00	
Staff and Commission Badges			\$0.00	
Staff and Commission Badge Holders			\$0.00	
Cell Phone			\$0.00	
Cell Phone Monthly Plan			\$0.00	
Wifi Hotspot			\$0.00	
Heroku Monthly Plan - Complaint Management			\$0.00	
Elastic Cloud Monthly Plan - Complaint Management			\$0.00	
Other Current Expenditures			\$0.00	
Inter-Island Correctional Facility Travel			\$20.00	
Airfare			\$0.00	
Car Rental			\$0.00	
Daily Per Diem	\$20.00	1.00	\$20.00	CMJ-10/17
Lodging+Tax			\$0.00	
Ground Transportation			\$0.00	
Airport Parking			\$0.00	
Per Diem - Misc			\$0.00	
Mainland Correctional Facility Travel			\$0.00	
Airfare			\$0.00	
Car Rental			\$0.00	
Daily Per Diem			\$0.00	
Lodging+Tax			\$0.00	
Ground Transportation			\$0.00	
Airport Parking			\$0.00	
Memberships + Conferences			\$0.00	
NACOLE (National Assoc. for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement)			\$0.00	
National Association of Sentencing Commissions			\$0.00	
NACOLE Virtual Training			\$0.00	
Going Home Hawaii Reentry Summit			\$0.00	
Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice			\$0.00	
Airfare			\$0.00	
Car Rental			\$0.00	
Daily Per Diem			\$0.00	
Lodging+Tax			\$0.00	
Ground Transportation			\$0.00	
Airport Parking			\$0.00	
Baggage Fee			\$0.00	
TOTAL			\$20.00	

* All expenses reflect posted transactions procured

General Office Information

Mailing Address: Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission
235 S Beretania Street, 16th floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Website: <https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov>

Submit Testimony: <https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov/submit-testimony/>

Email: hcsoc@hawaii.gov

Social Media: [YouTube](#)
[LinkedIn](#)
[Facebook](#)
[Instagram](#)

Monthly Meetings

This report will be discussed at the monthly Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission meeting held on March 13, 2025. The next monthly meeting is scheduled to occur on April 10, 2025, at the Kaua'i Community College, 3-1901 Kaumuali'i Hwy, Room OCET 106, Lihue, Hawai'i 96766 and online via Zoom. More information can be found on the Commission's webpage here: <https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov/information/>.