



**Rodney A. Maile**  
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

**Daylin-Rose Heather**  
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

December 23, 2024

**Via electronic submission**

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear President Kouchi and Speaker Nakamura:

Pursuant to Section 601-3.6, Hawaii'i Revised Statutes, the Judiciary is transmitting a copy of the *Report on the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account*.

In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, we are also transmitting a copy of this report to the Legislative Reference Bureau Library.

The public may view an electronic copy of this report on the Judiciary's website at the following link: [https://www.courts.state.hi.us/news and reports/reports/reports](https://www.courts.state.hi.us/news_and_reports/reports/reports).

Should you have any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact Karen Takahashi of the Judiciary's Legislative Affairs and Special Projects Division at 808-539-4896, or via e-mail at [Karen.T.Takahashi@courts.hawaii.gov](mailto:Karen.T.Takahashi@courts.hawaii.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rodney A. Maile".

Rodney A. Maile  
Administrative Director of the Courts

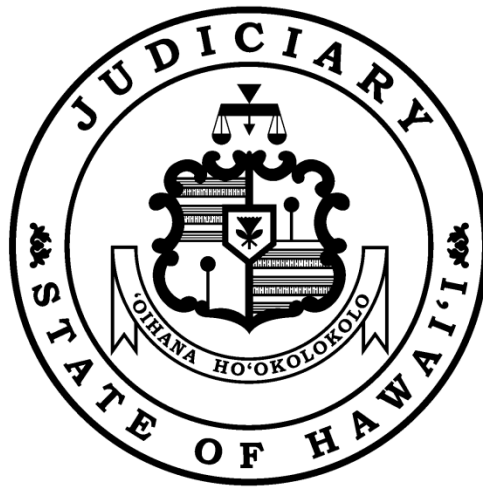
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**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE  
2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**A Report on the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account**

**Pursuant to HRS § 601-3.6**



**Prepared by:**

**The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i**

**December 2024**

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE  
2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**A Report on the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account**

**Pursuant to HRS § 601-3.6**

This report is respectfully prepared pursuant to Act 232, Session Laws of Hawai'i 1994, HRS § 601-3.6, which requests an annual report on the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account.

In 1994, the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account, placed in the Judiciary, was created by the Legislature, State of Hawai'i, for the purpose of developing and/or expanding new and existing programs. The scope of the Judiciary's Special Account may include, but is not limited to, grants or purchases of services and staff programs which support or provide domestic violence or child abuse intervention or prevention, as authorized by law.

The Judiciary's Special Account is financed through a portion of the monies collected by the Department of Health from the issuance of birth, death, and marriage certificates. In addition, any fines collected pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 586-11 (Violation for an Order of Protection) and contributions from state tax refunds are deposited into the Judiciary's Special Account.

**Programs and Activities Funded Through the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Fund**

Monies from the Judiciary's Special Account continue to provide funding for a broad range of programs, projects, and activities statewide, which address interventions in domestic violence and the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The process of determining which services, programs, and activities receive funding involve internal planning and collaboration within the Judiciary, as well as coordination with private and public stakeholders in the community.

The following programs, projects and activities were funded by the Judiciary's Special Account in Fiscal Year 2024:

**1. Purchase of Service Programs**

The following nonprofit organizations named below received funding to provide or supplement their contracted services with the Judiciary:

- Child and Family Service/Developing Options to Violence (O'ahu) The *Developing Options to Violence* program provided specialized domestic violence intervention services which included:
  - group/individual counseling services for adult survivors of domestic violence;
  - counseling services for children and youth who have been a victim or witness to family violence;
  - domestic violence intervention services for juveniles who have been adjudicated by the Family Court for the charge of abuse of family or household member or a related charge, such as intimate partner violence;
  - domestic violence intervention services for adults who perpetrate domestic violence.
  
- Domestic Violence Action Center (O'ahu)  
The following advocacy services for victims of domestic violence were provided by the Domestic Violence Action Center:
  - advocacy and support services for victims filing a temporary restraining order;
  - court outreach at Family Court in Kapolei and Circuit Court in Honolulu;
  - civil legal services;
  - hotline services (information and referrals);
  - case management.
  
- Parents and Children Together/Family Peace Center (O'ahu) Funding was provided to the Family Peace Center on O'ahu for essential domestic violence services. The specific services provided included:
  - victim advocacy and support groups;
  - counseling and/or case management for adult survivors/victims;
  - counseling for children and youth who have been a victim or witness to family violence;
  - domestic violence intervention services for juveniles who have been adjudicated by the Family Court for the charge of abuse of family or household member or a related charge, such as intimate partner violence; efforts also involved outreach to engage family members of the juveniles in services;
  - domestic violence intervention services for adults who perpetrate domestic violence.
  
- Parents and Children Together/Family Visitation Center (O'ahu)  
Supervised child visitation and safe exchange services were provided to court-referred families on the island of O'ahu. The majority of referrals involved temporary restraining orders and orders of protection, however, other referrals involved divorce, child custody, and paternity cases. The Family Court of the First Circuit relies on Family Visitation Center (FVC) services to provide safe, supervised visits and exchanges when there is a concern of domestic violence. The FVC provides its services through a lens that specifically considers domestic violence, safety for victims and their children, and

accountability for those who have committed domestic violence. The center itself has been modified to provide safety and security for all involved. PACT is the only provider of this type of service on the island of O'ahu.

## 2. Federal Grant Projects

Matching funds from the Judiciary's Special Account were used for the federally-funded Judiciary grant projects listed below:

### ➤ State Access and Visitation Program Grant

This formula grant is awarded to the Judiciary annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Support Enforcement, to provide supervised child visitation and exchange services in a safe setting. The federal grant funds and matching funds from the Special Account were used to provide these services on the islands of O'ahu and Hawai'i. Priority was given to those cases involving domestic violence or other high-conflict situations. The federal grant was awarded in the amount of \$100,000 and required a 10 percent match in funds, \$11,111 in matching funds from the Special Account was allocated to these services. Parents and Children Together/Family Visitation Center on O'ahu received a purchase of service contract to supplement their services.

### ➤ STOP Violence Against Women Act Grant, 22-WF-09 / "A Multi-Pronged Approach to Addressing DV"

- Funds supported the *2023 Family Court Symposium*, which included presentations on the intersection of federal immigration laws and state family laws in relation to domestic violence cases; exploring technology in a digital society; and understanding the harm, impact, and accountability in domestic violence situations and cases. Additional sessions, held after the Symposium, covered a more in-depth session on immigration law issues and domestic violence-informed parenting plans. This training is critical for judges so they are informed of current research and practices, debriefed with example cases, and allowed to apply concepts and deepen their understanding of domestic violence-related concepts.
- Funds supported the *2023 Annual DV 101: Fundamentals of Domestic Violence* training, a collaboration between the Department of Health, Attorney General, Department Human Services, as well as the Judiciary. Held in October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the virtual three-part series featured local experts who provided insight to a predominantly Hawai'i audience regarding the complexities of intimate partner violence. The array of participants included, but was not limited to, social workers, probation and parole officers, child welfare professionals, domestic violence advocates, education professionals, and substance-abuse treatment professionals.
- Funds supported the use of the Correctional Program Checklist (CPC), which evaluates the extent to which a program adheres to evidence-based practices that are strongly correlated to reduction in recidivism. Program evaluations are needed in order to ensure that evidence-based practices are being adhered to by the program in their operations and curriculum. A CPC assessment was conducted with a neighbor island domestic violence provider.

- Funds supported training and technical assistance for coordinated community responses on Hawai'i island and Kaua'i: East Hawai'i Domestic Abuse Response Team, the West Hawai'i Domestic Abuse Response Team, Kaua'i Domestic Violence High Risk Team, and the Kaua'i Domestic Violence Task Force. This is a collaborative effort between the Hawai'i Department of Health and the Judiciary.
- Ongoing domestic violence training for staff who work with domestic violence-related matters who attended the Hawai'i Summit of the Institute on Violence, Abuse, and Trauma and the annual conference of the Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

### **3. Trainings, Meetings, and Other Expenses**

Funds supported the maintenance of domestic violence risk assessments in a database. Funding also supported travel and conference fees for staff to attend an out-of-state domestic violence conference.

#### **Special Fund Assessment (Act 34, SLH 1964)**

The Special Fund Assessment fee for FY 2024 was \$21,790.

#### **Summary**

The Judiciary's Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account continues to enable the Judiciary to develop, implement, and maintain a proactive stance in achieving the mission of HRS § 601-3.6, to support and provide spouse or child abuse intervention or prevention in the state of Hawai'i. One of the major strengths in the establishment of the Special Account has been the discretion given to the Judiciary, which has encouraged and allowed funding for a comprehensive range of services and activities, which would not have been possible otherwise. As a result, services for victims of domestic violence, as well as children exposed to it, have been sustained, and appropriate and effective intervention services rendered for persons who perpetrate domestic violence.

The funds also allow for routine statewide training for judges and Judiciary staff provided by subject matter experts on a wide range of important and intersecting issues related to domestic violence and child abuse. Additionally, the ability to include other public and private domestic violence agencies in trainings increases collaboration, leading to improved coordination to close gaps and create safer communities where families thrive.

The Judiciary remains committed to the responsible use of monies from the Special Account to promote the safety and well-being of domestic violence and child abuse and neglect victims and their family members, increase accountability of persons who perpetrate domestic violence, and take a strong and committed stance on these important issues.

**SPOUSE & CHILD ABUSE SPECIAL FUND  
FY 2024**

REVENUE CODES	HRS SECTION		<u>FY2024</u>
		<b>FY BEGINNING CASH BALANCE</b>	<b>270,099</b>
0222	§572-5	MARRIAGE LICENSES	83,525
0735	§235-105.5	TAXES COLLECTED UNDER ACT228, SLH2004	3,622
1101	§338-14.5	FEES, CERTIFIED COPIES OF HEALTH STATISTICS RECORDS	282,129
1567	§§580-10, 586-4	VIOLATION OF TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER/PROTECTIVE ORDER (ACT 172/98 & 200/99)	279
		SUB-TOTAL	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/> 369,555
0288		INVESTMENT POOL EARNINGS (ACT 119/98)	10,341
1364		REFUND/REIMBURSEMENT PRIOR PERIOD EXPENSES	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
		TOTAL REVENUES	<u>379,896</u>
2021		IMPOSED CONTRIBUTIONS	
2023		PER DIEM JUDGES	
3203		PRINTED FORMS	
3209		OTHER STATIONERY/OFC SUPP	81
3301		FOOD SUPPLIES	
3502		SUBSCRIPTIONS	
4201		TRANSPORTATION, INTRA-STATE - EMPLOYEES	615
4202		TRANSPORTATION, INTRA-STATE - OTHERS	32
4301		SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE, INTRA-STATE - EMPLOYEES	4,230
4302		SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE, INTRA-STATE - OTHERS	235
4401		TRANS, OUT OF STATE - EMPLOYEES	2,826
4402		TRANS, OUT OF STATE - OTHERS	
4501		SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE, OUT OF STATE - EMPLOYEES	4,607
4502		SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE, OUT OF STATE - OTHERS	
4601		HIRE OF PASSENGER CARS - EMPLOYEES	364
4602		HIRE OF PASSENGER CARS - OTHERS	
4801		OTHER TRAVEL	291
5503		OTHER RENTAL OF LAND, BLDG	
5805		BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES (REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE)	
6609		PURCHASE OF SERVICES CONTRACTS	300,711
7198		OTHER SERVICES ON FEE BASIS	25,057
7204		SPECIAL FUND ASSESSMENT (ACT 34, SLH 1964)	21,790
7205		TRAINING COSTS & REGISTRATION FEES	920
7215		OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CURRENT EXPENSES	180
7300		INTEREST ON DELINQUENT PAYMENTS	
		TOTAL EXPENSES	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/> 361,939
		<b>FY ENDING CASH BALANCE</b>	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 1.5px solid black;"/> <b>288,056</b>