

**From:** Dwight, Joseph [mailto:jdwright@firstam.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, October 18, 2007 2:56 PM

**To:** Sen. Clayton Hee; hee1 - Sesnita

**Subject:** RE: Interim Appointment to the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) Board

Senator Hee,

I appreciate the opportunity to briefly share a little about my background in order to assist the committee. In the interest of time, I will try to avoid re-stating what is already in the paperwork before you.

I was born and raised in Kailua. I am a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools Class of 1988. Thereafter, I attended the University of Hawaii and received a B.A. in political science. I attended the William S. Richardson School of Law, where I was a member of the Law Review. I worked in private practice as an attorney specializing in litigation and real property law until joining First American Title in 2000 as the in-house counsel and agency manager. I was named the President of the company at the end of 2004, the position I hold today. First American Title is the State's second largest title and escrow company and a subsidiary of the largest title insurer in the world. We have over 100 employees in Hawaii on all of the major islands.

In my free time, I enjoy surfing, fishing and outrigger canoe paddling. My wife and I have two young children ages 5 and 7 that also enjoy the outdoors and ocean activities.

I take my appointment to the HCDA very seriously. Hawaii is a unique place, and I recognize that I have an obligation to work to ensure that it remains so for my children and future generations. I welcome the opportunity to not only volunteer my time, but also my energy and experience to the HCDA as it administers the very important Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa areas.

I am happy to meet with you should you believe it necessary and look forward to answering any questions you or other members of the committee may have regarding my appointment.

Mahalo,

Kepa Dwight  
State Manager and President  
First American Title Company, Inc.  
808.545.6144

10/24/2007



HAWAII COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



KAKA'AKO  
KALAELOA

Linda Lingle  
Governor

Paul Kimura  
Vice Chairperson

Teney K. Takahashi  
Interim Executive Director

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Amended: 10/24/07

STATEMENT OF

TENEY K. TAKAHASHI, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BEFORE THE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

ON

Thursday, October 25, 2007

2:45 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of

**GM 106 and GM 107 - SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND  
CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAI'I  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
(HCDA), GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
JOSEPH L. DWIGHT, IV, FOR A TERM TO  
EXPIRE 6-30-2008 AND 6-30-2012.**

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and Members of the Senate Committee on  
Water and Land.

As the Interim Executive Director of the Hawaii Community Development  
Authority (HCDA), I support the gubernatorial nomination of Mr. Joseph L. Dwight,  
IV, to serve as a member of the HCDA.

As a member of the Authority, Mr. Dwight will serve the people of Hawaii  
well, because of his sincere desire to make Hawaii a better place to live. I am  
confident that he will play a strong role in making HCDA stronger and more  
effective in achieving its missions and goals in Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa.

Mr. Dwight was raised in Hawaii, graduated from Kamehameha Schools and received his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Hawaii and a juris doctor from the William S. Richardson School of Law, and has since established his career at First American Title Company in Hawaii.

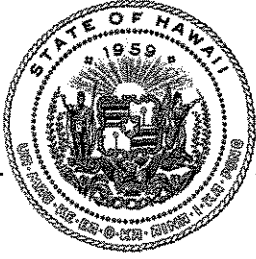
Prior to joining First American Title Company in 2000, Mr. Dwight was a former practicing attorney with Stubenberg & Durrett, Attorneys at Law, where his focus was on real estate law.

As a Member of the Young President's Organization, he is committed to learning to be a better leader through idea exchange with more than 20,000 members in 300 chapters worldwide, and as a Trustee for the Le Jardin Academy, it shows his value of education not only for himself, but for the children of Hawaii.

With Mr. Dwight's continuous desire to learn and his extensive experience in real estate matters, we believe that Mr. Dwight will be committed to working for the betterment of the people of Hawaii and can serve as their advocate on the Authority as the HCDA continues to plan for the futures of the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa Districts.

In summary, we feel that Mr. Dwight will provide significant contributions to the Authority, and we look forward to working with him in this capacity. We urge your favorable consideration of his nomination to serve as a member of the HCDA.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Dwight.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR  
THEODORE E. LIU  
DIRECTOR  
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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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**Amended: 10/24/07**

Statement of  
**THEODORE E. LIU**  
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Thursday, October 25, 2007

2:45 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of  
**GM 106 and GM 107**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (HCDA),  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JOSEPH L. DWIGHT, IV, FOR A TERM  
TO EXPIRE 6-30-2008 AND 6-30-2012.**

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and Members of the Senate Committee on  
Water and Land.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) respectfully supports the gubernatorial nomination of Mr. Joseph L. Dwight, IV, to serve as a member of the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA), an agency administratively attached to DBEDT.

HCDA's main focus is to create better communities for the people of Hawaii. As a HCDA member for the past 6 years, I recognize the challenges and the dedication needed to meet this goal and I believe that Mr. Dwight will serve well on the Authority.

Mr. Dwight is a life-long resident of the State of Hawaii and a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and the University of Hawaii. He received his law degree from

the William S. Richardson School of Law. While in private practice, Mr. Dwight focused on all aspects of real estate law in Hawaii, including project development, financing, construction, land titles and real estate related litigation. He has deep roots in Hawaii and understands the changing dynamics and challenges that businesses face, particularly small businesses. He is firmly committed to communicating with and serving as a representative of the wide range of constituents that are contributing to HCDA's work in Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa.

Mr. Dwight is the kind of individual who will enhance the effectiveness of HCDA because he would assume a policy role for the agency. His success in the private sector, as President and State Manager of First American Title Company, Inc. (Hawaii) whose main branch is in the heart of the Kaka'ako District and in the community, serving as Trustee for Le Jardin Academy, has well-equipped Mr. Dwight to contribute to HCDA's legislative mandate of combining the strength of private enterprise with public development and regulation to produce better community development.

For these reasons, I urge your favorable consideration of his nomination to serve as a member of HCDA. Thank you.

**Rowena Anelaaulii Somerville, Esq.**  
1302 Aloha Oe Drive  
Kailua, Hawaii 96734  
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October 24, 2007

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair  
Committee on Water and Land  
State Capitol, Rm. 225  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Appointment of Joseph L. Dwight, IV to the Hawaii Community  
Development Authority  
Hearing date/time: Thursday, October 25, 2007, 2:45 p.m.

Dear Senator Hee,

Chair Hee and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land, I am writing in support of Joseph L. Dwight, IV for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA).

I have known and worked with Mr. Dwight for over fifteen years. He is a highly skilled attorney and is very familiar with the real estate and development industry. He is a proven, committed and highly effective leader. His determination, tenacity, and vast knowledge would be an asset to the Hawaii Community Development Authority. I have confidence in Mr. Dwight's ability to represent the community. As he has proven from his work experience, he will perform his duties with persistence and enthusiasm.

For these reasons, I ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation of Mr. Dwight to the Hawaii Community Development Authority, and I thank you for the opportunity to provide this written testimony. Should you have any questions, I can be contacted at the above numbers.

Very truly yours,

Rowena A. Somerville

**TESTIMONY OF KU'UHAKU PARK**  
**IN REGARDS TO**  
**GM106 and GM107**  
**NOMINATION OF JOSEPH L. DWIGHT, IV**  
**TO THE HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**  
**ON**  
**OCTOBER 25, 2007**

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

I am Ku'uhaku Park, testifying in support of GM106 and GM107, nominating Joseph L. Dwight, IV to the Hawaii Community Development Authority. I am humbly recommending that you confirm Mr. Dwight for this position.

I have known Mr. Dwight for over ten years, and in this time I have known him to be nothing less than smart, articulate and honest.

His role as a spectacularly successful businessman combined with his acumen as an avid all-around waterman, demonstrates the balance that he would bring to the HCDA.

Historically, due to the polarizing issues that the authority has to deal with, it appears that HCDA has been stymied by either the boating and surfing communities, or the business industry with little or no gray area to maneuver in. I believe that with Mr. Dwight's feet planted firmly in each of these realms, he could definitely bring about clarity and understanding to both parties.

I can assure you that having Mr. Dwight as a member of the HCDA will be a definite asset to the Authority, the State and its citizenry.

Thank you for your kind and serious consideration of my testimony in this matter.



October 25, 2007

Honorable Senator Clayton Hee  
Chair, Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: Confirmation of Joseph L. Dwight, IV to the Hawai'i Community  
Development Authority**

Dear Senator Hee and Members of the Committee:

It is with pleasure that I support the confirmation of Joseph L. Dwight, IV to the Hawai'i Community Development Authority. I believe that Mr. Dwight will do an excellent job as a member of the Hawai'i Community Development Authority. In my capacity as an attorney in private practice, I have had a number of opportunities to work with Mr. Dwight. Based on my first-hand experience, I have been impressed with Mr. Dwight's strong leadership and knowledge of real property and development matters. For these and many other reasons, Mr. Dwight is highly respected among his peers in the business community.

Previously scheduled commitments prevent me from personally appearing at Mr. Dwight's confirmation hearing. However please consider this letter an endorsement of Mr. Dwight's candidacy. I am convinced that he will contribute tremendously as a member of the Hawai'i Community Development Authority, and I respectfully encourage this Committee to proceed with confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my strong support for the confirmation of Joseph L. Dwight, IV.

Very Truly Yours,



John T. Komeiji, Esq.

EMAIL: [testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Senator Clayton Hee,  
Chairperson of the Senate Committee On Water And Land  
Room 218, State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: Joseph L. "Kepa" Dwight IV  
In Support of Confirmation to the  
Hawai'i Community Development Authority**

Chairperson Clayton Hee, Vice Chairperson Russell S. Kokubun, and Members of the Senate Committee On Water And Land:

I am Wray Kondo, a lawyer with Watanabe Ing and Komeiji and have been licensed to practice law in Hawaii since 1977.

It is with pleasure that I submit this letter in support of the confirmation of Joseph L. "Kepa" Dwight IV to the Hawai'i Community Development Authority.

I have known Kepa since 2002 when I began doing title insurance related work for First American Title Company and Kepa was the General Counsel. At the time, Kepa had been with First American for about two years. Since then, Kepa was named president and CEO for the Hawaii offices of First American and later was name named state manager for Hawaii in charge of all title and escrow operations statewide in Hawaii.

Kepa has a strong work ethic and is well respected in the real estate business community as well as in the general business community. He is someone who carries himself with integrity, honesty and good common sense in dealing with the various parties in the real estate communities with which I am familiar. This would include the individual homeowner issues, subdivision issues on both the developer side and the individual buyer sides and commercial real estate development.

With his professional background and having his local knowledge of Hawaii, Kepa would make a fine contributing member of Hawai'i Community Development Authority.

In closing, please accept this as my very strong support for the confirmation of Kepa Dwight to the Hawai'i Community Development Authority.