



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

October 19, 2007

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland
State Capitol, Room 226
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Chun Oakland:

I am writing in support of the appointment of Sherrilee Dodson to the Board of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA). Ms. Dodson is exactly the kind of person who can assist the State of Hawaii in meeting its goals of improving public housing and addressing the problem of homelessness in our state.

During the past several months I have had the opportunity to serve with Ms. Dodson as a fellow member of this HPHA board.

Ms. Dodson brings a Maui perspective to the Board that is most helpful. Her background as the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity on Maui has provided invaluable insights on the financial options and processes necessary to provide low cost housing for the residents of Hawaii. Sherri has already demonstrated that she thoroughly understands housing and homeless issues and has made good, common sense recommendations during our Board deliberations.

I hope you will support and recommend the confirmation of Sherrilee Dodson to the HPHA Board. Regrettably, I will be on the Mainland when the confirmation hearing takes place. Should you have any questions regarding my support for this Board member, please feel free to contact me on my cell phone at 497-7895.

Sincerely,

LINDA L. SMITH
Senior Policy Advisor



**Maui Economic
Opportunity, Inc.**

EST. 1984

99 Mahalanui Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
808-249-2990
Fax: 808-249-2991



October 19, 2007

Senator Suzanne C. Harris Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 226
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Sherrilee Dodson

Moana Senator C. Harris Oakland and Committee Members,

I have the pleasure of writing to you today with my **SUPPORT** for Sherrilee Dodson to be appointed as a Board Member to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. I have had the opportunity to work with Sherri on occasions over the past 6 years and find her to be someone I respect and appreciate. She has taken on and accomplished many challenges that I admire her for. I know she will do a great job for the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and the State of Hawaii.

Me ka hana hou.

Sandra "Sami" K. Pua

The Promise of Community Action

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.



Enriching Lives Through Self-Initiative

October 19, 2007

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 226
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Chun Oakland,

I am writing this letter in reference to Sherri Dodson who has been appointed to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. I got to know Sherri through the Weinberg Fellowship for Executive Directors of Not for Profit organization.

I believe Sherri is very knowledgeable in the housing sector and would be a valuable addition to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. Her background combined with her current experience and exposure would make her an asset.

Sherri is a very determined person with a lot of integrity who is not afraid to work hard. She is a great team player who is always open to collaborative efforts. I highly recommend her for this appointment. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Aloha,


Chantal Ratte
Executive Director

WRIGHT & KIRSCHBRAUN
A Limited Liability Law Company
1885 Main Street, Suite 108
Wailuku, HI 96793
Telephone: (808)244-6644
Facsimile: (808)244-1013
E-Mail: WrightKirsch@aol.com

October 19, 2007

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland
and Members of the Senate Committee
on Human Services and Housing
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 226
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **SHERRILEE DODSON**

To Chairman Oakland,

It is with no reservations at all that I recommend Sherrilee Dodson as a Board Member to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. She is one of the most honorable and honest people I know, dedicated and hard-working, and when she accepts a new position, she does not back down from the challenges it presents. I have known Sherri for over 20 years and have worked with her, so I have first hand knowledge of her professionalism and common sense. She is also a nice person and works well with others, even in difficult situations. You could not find a finer person for this position.

Very truly yours,

DEBORAH K. WRIGHT



Lokahi Pacific

October 22, 2007

Ms. Suzanne Chun Oakland
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 226
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Sherri Dodson

Dear Ms. Oakland:

This letter is written in support of Ms. Sherri Dodson's appointment to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority Board.

She will be a tremendous asset to your Board based on her many years of "hands on" duties as Executive Director of Habitat For Humanity Maui, being an attorney in her former life, as well as her many positive attributes. She is extremely passionate about her organization's mission and has implemented many creative programs to rebuild her organization to the success it enjoys today. Sherri has made a very impressive and direct impact in the community with the number of homes and families she has blessed to date and her leadership has produced millions in grant funds to enlarge the organization's asset base.

Sherri's simple, genuine and no nonsense outlook on life has served her well and I highly recommend her for the position.

Sincerely,

KAMAILE M. SOMBELON
Executive Director

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

VIA FACSIMILE 586-6131

Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland
Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing
Hawaii State Legislature

Dear Chair Chun Oakland:

I am submitting written testimony in strong support of the confirmation of Sherrilee K. Dodson to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's Board of Directors. Ms. Dodson's experience and knowledge accumulated through her work in the areas of immigration law, grant writing, and fundraising are a testament to her skill and expertise. Moreover, I believe Ms. Dodson will be able to effectively draw upon her experience working with various agencies in a volunteer capacity on the island of Maui, and effectively direct the Hawaii Public Housing Authority in its work and coordination with numerous community organizations and agencies across the state.

Ms. Dodson's background will provide a complementary skill set to those currently existing amongst the various members of the Board of Directors. Therefore, I am confident that this nominee will prove herself to be a motivated and valued member of the HPHA Board of Directors.

Respectfully,



R. Eric Beaver
Vice-Chair, Board of Directors
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Regarding appointment of Sherilee Dodson to Board of Directors of Hawaii Public Housing
Hearing at 1:15 tues. Oct. 23, 2007.

In my 30 years as a professional in the construction industry I have never met anyone so incompetent and ill-qualified in the area of housing as Ms. Dodson. Her only qualification to be chosen for the director of Habitat for Humanity was she worked hard for the Lingle election campaign. Looking at the board of Directors for Oahu's Habitat, it is similarly packed with loyal Republican party workers.

As habitat director, Ms. Dodson had no idea how to build houses and refused to listen to the advice of any of her more qualified board of directors or hired construction supervisors. She made brash claims about how cheaply she could build a house without ever establishing a budget. Her "bookkeeping" is in such chaos, she has no idea how much the houses cost. No accountability whatsoever.

Her most damning flaw however is her condescending and abusive attitude towards the recipient families of Habitat's homes. She has no understanding of the issues and dynamics of the plight of the poor people the program was designed to help. And she has even less regard for Hawaiian culture, a major disqualification since the majority of recipients are in Hawaiian homelands. She talks over and around the people getting the homes and threatens them with disqualification if they question her unilateral and capricious decisions. If you could interview any of the homeowners in the program, the list would be endless with complaints about their treatment under her, but not one will speak to the press or any government agency for fear of losing their house thru her vindictiveness.

Public Housing agencies need strong advocates for the poor and to implement programs that actually create housing, not just study it. Ms. Dodson is not that person and never will be. If the Lingle administration's goal is to pack the board with people who philosophically disagree with social programs that spend tax money helping the poor, and wants people who will drag their feet and slow down programs that are practically dead anyway, Ms. Dodson fits that profile.

Yours truly, Dick Hall

P.O. Box 6095
Hilo, Hi. 96720
E-mail: dickhall14@hotmail.com



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

October 23, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: **GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE ANNE MARIE BECK TO THE
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY (HPHA)**

Hearing: Tuesday, October 23, 2007, 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services supports the nomination of Anne Marie Beck to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Ms. Beck is the Executive Director for the Honolulu Habitat for Humanity which helps people to build and own their own homes. She designed the Community Development Lending program for American Savings Bank to further the bank's goals for the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) and was the Program Administrator for the Bank of Hawaii's CRA program, developing new ways to support low and moderate income communities, including Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) and Federal Home Loan Bank funding. The relationships she developed when working with the community on community development programs and services will make her a valuable member of the HPHA Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Beck's nomination.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

October 23, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: **GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE RENE BERTHIAUME TO THE
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY (HPHA)**

Hearing: Tuesday, October 23, 2007, 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services supports the nomination of Rene Berthiaume to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Mr. Berthiaume is the Vice President for Network Enterprises, Inc. which develops programs for transitional and permanent housing for homeless veterans. He has extensive experience not only with veterans programs but also with services and programs for persons with developmental disabilities where he developed vocational and educational programs. Mr. Berthiaume's housing and community services experience and relationships will make him a valuable member of the HPHA Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Berthiaume's nomination.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

October 23, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: **GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE SHERRILEE K. DODSON TO THE
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY (HPHA)**

Hearing: Tuesday, October 23, 2007, 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services supports the nomination of Sherrilee K. Dodson to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Ms. Dodson is the Executive Director for the Maui Habitat for Humanity which helps people to build and own their own homes. She is a winner of the Pioneer in Excellence Award for the Habitat for Humanity International. She was also an immigration attorney and a Professor of Law and Ethics for the University of Phoenix, Maui. Her experience in housing programs and her numerous community services activities will make her a valuable member of the HPHA Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Dodson's nomination.

Tuesday, October 23, 2007: Testimony List

**Committee on Human Services and Public Housing (HSP)
Notice of Hearing**

**Relating to Sherrilee K. Dodson, Confirmation to the Board of
Directors of the Hawaiian Public Housing Authority**

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Linda L. Smith, Senior Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Hawaii | Supports |
| 2. Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. | Supports |
| 3. Chantal Ratte, Executive Director
Ka Lima O Maui | Supports |
| 4. Deborah K. Wright
Wright & Kirschbraun | Supports |
| 5. Kamaile M. Sombelon, Executive Director
Lokahi Pacific | Supports |
| 6. R. Eric Beaver, Vice-Chair
Board of Directors
Hawaii Public Housing Authority | Supports |
| 7. Dick Hall | Opposes |

Late Testimony Received Prior to Hearing:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Lillian B. Koller, Director
Department of Human Services, State of Hawaii | Supports |
|---|----------|

Late Testimonies received on 10/24/07, after the Hearing:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| 1. Olga P. Akana | Supports |
| 2. Esmeralda Tejeda | Supports |

Additional Information received on 10/24/07:

- | |
|--|
| 1. Response Received on 10/24/07 from Sherri K. Dodson |
|--|

Tuesday, October 23, 2007: Testimony List

**Committee on Human Services and Public Housing (HSP)
Notice of Hearing**

**Relating to Sherrilee K. Dodson, Confirmation to the Board of
Directors of the Hawaiian Public Housing Authority**

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Linda L. Smith, Senior Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Hawaii | Supports |
| 2. Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. | Supports |
| 3. Chantal Ratte, Executive Director
Ka Lima O Maui | Supports |
| 4. Deborah K. Wright
Wright & Kirschbraun | Supports |
| 5. Kamaile M. Sombelon, Executive Director
Lokahi Pacific | Supports |
| 6. R. Eric Beaver, Vice-Chair
Board Of Directors
Hawaii Public Housing Authority | Supports |
| 7. Dick Hall | Opposes |

Dear Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland;

I am writing this letter in support of Sherri Dodson, the Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity Maui. My mothers house was the first Habitat home built on Maui. Sherri was there from the first day we dug our first hole till the final touches were made on the house. My ohana and I got to know Sherri during the building of my mothers house and we are very grateful for everything she has done for us.

We have always kept in touch with Sherri even though my mothers home is finished. Her opinion is well respected in our ohana as well as other ohanas that she has helped. We know that we can count on her when we need help, or when we just need a shoulder to cry on.

I am very thankful for Sherri and Habitat for Humanity. She has been an inspiration to us all. We are proud to be the first Habitat family and even more proud that Habitat continues to help Hawaiians build homes on our land. Now my mother has a place that she can call home.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Olga P. Akana', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Olga P. Akana

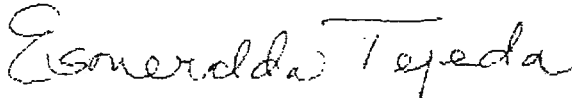
Dear Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland;

I am writing this letter in support of Sherri Dodson, the Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity Maui. I am the recipient of the first Habitat house built on Maui. Sherri started on the day we started building my house. I got to know Sherri during the building of our home and have continued to stay in touch with her even though we have paid off our mortgage with Habitat.

Sherri has always been willing to help me and my family even after we finished building our house. I know that I can count on her no matter what it is that I need help with. I call her even when I just need to talk. I respect her opinion and rely on her because she has always been willing to help me or my family.

I am very thankful for Habitat for Humanity Maui and especially for Sherri. My family and I had to live on the beach for a time so having a home means so much to us. We are proud to be the first Habitat family and even more proud that Habitat continues to help Hawaiians build homes on our land.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Esmeralda Tejeda". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Esmeralda Tejeda



October 24, 2007

*Building
houses
building
hope*

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland
and members of the Committee on
Human Services and Public Housing

Re: Confirmation to Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Dear Senator Chun Oakland,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee on October 23, 2007, regarding my confirmation to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. This is my first experience being confirmed to a Board so I did not know what to expect. I wanted to thank you for your kindness which made the experience less stressful and actually enjoyable.

I am not sure if it is appropriate to address the one negative letter against my confirmation but as I indicated at the hearing I really didn't have much recollection of the circumstances surrounding some of the accusations made by the letter writer. After some reflection and reviewing the office files I do now have more information about who the letter writer is and his relationship to Habitat for Humanity Maui.

As I indicated at the hearing, Mr. Hall was contracted as a Project Manager for one of the first two houses built in 2003. He began project managing for us in July of 2003 and his contract was terminated in December of 2003. I don't feel it necessary to give any detail about the circumstances that resulted in us terminating his contract except to say that I did have full support of my Board of Directors at the time to terminate the contact.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Hall is still quite angry about the situation and I won't address his personal attacks to me, but I do feel strongly that the allegations about Habitat for Humanity Maui need to be addressed.

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland
and members of the Committee on
Human Services and Public Housing
October 24, 2007
Page 2

Habitat for Humanity Maui was incorporated in 1997 and spent the three years building up support for the organization. It began a renovation in 2000 and spent the next several years doing renovations on a couple of houses. In 2003 they hired me as their first Executive Director as they had planned to start their first full build on Hawaiian Home Lands in Kula.

At the time I was just coming off a period of disability from my second kidney transplant and had wanted a career change. I answered an ad in the paper and was interviewed along with several other candidates. I was not chosen as director because of any affiliation with the Lingle election campaign. My understanding was that I was hired by the Board of Directors because of my resume and my knowledge of the construction industry.

My job description was and is to manage the day to day activities of Habitat and to carry out the vision of the Board of Directors. On behalf of our very competent Board of Directors, the highly qualified staff and the over 2,500 volunteers that now work with Habitat for Humanity Maui, we are very proud of our contribution to the Hawaiian community and the community at large.

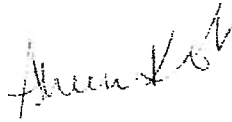
Habitat for Humanity Maui has partnered with many agencies on projects to help the community. HfHM with the help of Nortel Company volunteers renovated the Central Boys and Girls Club building. The Maui Rotary Clubs partnered with Habitat to renovate units at the public housing project in Happy Valley. Habitat also offers discounted or free building materials to all the non-profit agencies on Maui and Molokai.

Habitat has built 15 homes since that first day in 2003. Currently Habitat is building 14 homes and designing a 40 unit condominium building for Wailuku. Habitat has a great reputation in this community because of its Board, staff and volunteers. We hope that your opinion of this organization is not tainted by one person's opinion.

I will be glad to answer any specific questions that you or the Committee may have. I am proud to be associated with this organization and proud of what we have accomplished in the last four years in this community.

I am excited about the opportunity to serve on the Hawaii Public Housing Authority Board of Directors. I feel it is a great honor and hope to bring the perspective of an outer islander as well as a non-profit developer to the Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sherri K. Dodson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sherri K. Dodson
Executive Director

Thursday, October 25, 2007: Testimony List

**Committee on Human Services and Public Housing (HSP)
Notice of Hearing**

**Relating to GM 88 – Elena M. H. Cabatu, Confirmation to the
Commission on the Status of Women**

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Lillian B. Koller, Director
State of Hawaii, Department of Human Services | Supports |
| 2. Sharon Ferguson-Quick, Executive Director,
State of Hawaii, Hawaii State Commission on the
Status of Women | Supports |
| 3. Sarah Craven, Chief, Washington D. C. Office,
United Nations Population Fund | Supports |
| 4. Miles Takaaze, Vice President & Public Affairs
Director, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation | Supports |
| 5. Micheline M. Kennedy, Vice President,
Communications Consortium Media Center;
and Project Manager, Global Population, Health
and Development Project | Supports |
| 6. Stephanie Salazar, News and Public Affairs
Director, KHBC 1060AM and KHWI FM Radio,
Hilo, Hawaii | Supports |
| 7. Lynda Dolan, M. D., Chief of Staff, Hilo Medical
Center | Supports |
| 8. Lawrence J. Holbrook | Opposes |