



# THE HIGH ROAD

"Preserving public confidence in public servants."

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Hawaii State Ethics Commission

October 2011

## Meet the Members of the Hawaii State Ethics Commission

The Hawaii State Ethics Commission administers and enforces the State Ethics Code. The Commission consists of five members, who are nominated by the Judicial Council and appointed by the Governor. Each member must be a U.S. citizen and a resident of Hawaii. The members of the Commission volunteer their time and service to promote high standards of ethical conduct in state government.



Left to Right: Commissioner Les M. Knudsen, Commissioner Jacqueline B. Kido, Chair Maria J. Sullivan, Vice Chair Cassandra J. Leolani Abdul, Commissioner Edward L. Broglio

Meet the current members of the Hawaii State Ethics Commission:

**Maria J. Sullivan, Esq., Chair.** Ms. Sullivan is an attorney with her own private law practice. She obtained her law degree from Seattle University School of Law. Before moving to Hawaii, Ms. Sullivan was an Assistant Attorney General for the Washington State Office of the Attorney General. She also previously served as the Senior Disciplinary Counsel for the Washington State Bar Association Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

**Cassandra J. Leolani Abdul, Vice Chair.** Ms. Abdul is a real estate broker, and is President and Principal Broker for Kay Abdul Realtors, Inc. Her professional career includes having served in senior management positions at the Bank of Hawaii, where she directed the management of real estate and trust assets. Ms. Abdul has an MBA degree from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

**Les M. Knudsen, Commissioner.** Mr. Knudsen is a former human resources executive in the healthcare industry. Before retiring and moving to Hawaii, he worked in hospital management positions in California as a human resources administrator. Mr. Knudsen is a graduate of California Polytechnic State University, where he received a degree in Public Administration and Human Resources.

**Edward L. Broglio, Commissioner.** Mr. Broglio is a retired U.S. Postal Service executive. His long and distinguished career in government service includes having served as the District Manager for the U.S. Postal Service in Hawaii, with responsibility for Hawaii, Guam, Rota, Saipan, and American Samoa. Mr. Broglio is a graduate of Sonoma State College, with a degree in Economics.

**Jacqueline B. Kido, Esq., Commissioner.** Ms. Kido recently concluded four years of litigation practice with the law firm of Cades Schutte, LLP. She obtained her law degree from the UCLA School of Law. Ms. Kido previously held the post of Director of Communications for the Office of Governor Benjamin Cayetano. She has also served as a member of the board of directors and as State President of the League of Women Voters of Hawaii.

## Terrific Response to Summer Ethics Classes!



Ask nearly 600 state employees what they did this summer and they may tell you that they attended an ethics training class. The State Ethics Commission held ethics classes in July and August for state employees on Oahu, the Big Island (Hilo and Kona), Maui, and Kauai. Response to the classes was overwhelming. On Oahu, ethics training was held at the Hawaii Convention Center to accommodate over 250 employees who signed up to learn about the State ethics laws. The training sessions covered important ethics laws relating to gifts, conflicts of interests, misuse of official position, and post-employment restrictions. Ethics training sessions will be offered on Oahu and the neighbor islands annually. Mahalo to all employees who attended ethics classes this summer!

## Ethics Guidelines for Gifts

The Hawaii State Ethics Commission has issued a new publication called, "Guidelines for Gifts Under the State Ethics Code." This publication discusses the gifts law and how it applies to state legislators and employees. The gifts guidelines are intended to assist individuals in understanding and navigating the gifts law.

The gifts guidelines discuss a variety of gifts. These include: "Gifts of Aloha" and other small gifts that may be accepted, such as a box of candy or malasadas for the office; meals and other "food and drink" events, including receptions, "meet and greet" types of events, and fundraiser dinners; "activity-related" gifts, such as golf and tickets to movies and shows; and gifts that are travel-related, such as airfare or hotel accommodations.

The gifts guidelines are available on our website, at [http://hawaii.gov/ethics/pubs\\_guides/gifts/GiftsGuidelines.pdf](http://hawaii.gov/ethics/pubs_guides/gifts/GiftsGuidelines.pdf).

State legislators and employees are encouraged to contact the Commission for advice if they have questions about any gifts.

## Ethics Overview for State Board and Commission Members

Do you serve on a state board or commission? Learn how the State Ethics Code, Chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, applies to you. Check out our latest publication, "Overview of the State Ethics Code for State Board and Commission Members," on our website, at [http://hawaii.gov/ethics/pubs\\_guides/ForBoardComm/EthicsCodeOverview.pdf](http://hawaii.gov/ethics/pubs_guides/ForBoardComm/EthicsCodeOverview.pdf). In addition, our video presentation on ethics for board and commission members can be found on the Governor's website, at <http://hawaii.gov/gov/about/boards-commissions.html>.



## APEC Invitations to Legislators

The Hawaii Host Committee for the 2011 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation ("APEC") Forum asked the State Ethics Commission whether legislators could be invited to attend various APEC events free of charge in November of 2011. The Hawaii Host Committee's role is to advance the interests of the State of Hawaii as the host of the APEC Forum. The State Ethics Commission recognized the importance to the State in hosting the APEC Forum and viewed the legislators' participation in APEC-related events to be of benefit to the State. The Commission advised the Hawaii Host Committee that the acceptance of the invitations by legislators would not raise concerns under the State Ethics Code.

***The High Road*** is a publication of the Hawaii State Ethics Commission.

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