



“The people of Hawaii believe that public officers and employees must exhibit the highest standards of ethical conduct and that these standards come from the personal integrity of each individual in government.”

- Hawaii State Constitution, Art. XIV

The High Road

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WELCOME NEW COMMISSIONER REYNALDO GRAULTY

Reynaldo D. Graulty is an attorney with a long and distinguished public service career in all three branches of state government: He served as a Representative and Senator in the state legislature; as the state Insurance Commissioner; and as a circuit court judge. He also taught ethics as an Adjunct Professor at Chaminade University. Mr. Graulty holds a B.A. degree from State University of New York at Albany and a J.D. degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii. Mr. Graulty is a past recipient of the Outstanding Alumnus Award, Class of '79, William S. Richardson School of Law.



ETHICS TRAINING FOR STATE EMPLOYEES AND BOARD MEMBERS

The State Ethics Commission is offering ethics classes in August:

Ethics for State Employees:

Aug. 18, 2015
9:30 am - 11:00 am
Mission Memorial Auditorium

Ethics for State Board/ Commission Members:

Aug. 26, 2015
9:30 am - 11:00 am
State Capitol Auditorium

Classes will provide attendees with an overview of the State Ethics Code, including: (1) conflicts of interests; (2) gifts and the reporting of gifts; (3) confidential information; (4) misuse of official position; and (5) post-employment restrictions.

Registration for the classes is through the Commission's website at: <http://ethics.hawaii.gov>. If you require special assistance, please contact the Commission's office.

Commissioners:

David O’Neal,
Vice Chair
Susan DeGuzman
Ruth Tschumy
Melinda Wood
Reynaldo Graulty

Executive Director:

Leslie H. Kondo

Address:

1001 Bishop Street
Suite 970
Honolulu, HI 96813

Telephone:

(808) 587-0460

Fax:

(808) 587-0470

Email:

ethics@hawaiiethics.org

Next Public Meeting:

July 22, 2015
10:00 am

MAHALO TO CHAIR EDWARD BROGLIO

The Commission extends its warmest Aloha, appreciation, and best wishes to Edward Broglio, whose term expired on June 30, 2015. Mr. Broglio served as a Commissioner from May 26, 2011 to August 26, 2012 and from February 19, 2013 to June 30, 2015, most recently serving as the Chair from July 2014 through June 2015.

BOARD MEMBER’S RECUSAL NOT ENOUGH TO AVOID A CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The State Ethics Commission issued an ethics charge against a member of a state board who submitted applications to her own board on behalf of her private employer and her private employer’s clients.

Although she recused herself from taking action on the applications in her capacity as a board member, the State Ethics Code prohibits a state board member from being paid to assist or represent any person or private business on matters before the member’s board. For example, a board member cannot assist or represent a private business for pay by submitting a claim or proposal to the member’s board; negotiating a contract with

the board; or advocating for or against administrative action by the board.

“Under HRS section 84-14(d), Jane Doe was prohibited from being compensated to assist or represent her firm or her private clients on matters before the Board.”

The State Ethics Code provision is intended to prevent “influence peddling,” i.e., it prohibits state officials from using or attempting to use their influence or connections in government to obtain special treatment. In the case of a board member, influence peddling may arise from the contacts and relationships developed with other board members and the board’s employees. For a full discussion of this case, see

Informal Advisory Opinion No. 2014-2, <http://files.hawaii.gov/ethics/advice/IAO2014-02A.pdf>.

ACT 151: FUNDS FOR AN ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM

On June 26, 2015, Governor Ige signed Act 151, which appropriates \$130,000 to the State Ethics Commission for the design and development of an electronic filing system for financial disclosure statements and lobbying reports. The Commission receives over 4,000 filings annually from legislators, state employees, members of state boards and com-



missions, lobbyists, and lobbying organizations. Until recently, most filers filed disclosure forms and reports in paper format. Act 151 provides needed funding for the Commission to develop a more user-friendly system that will allow filers to electronically file required disclosure forms and reports. The Commission hopes to have its new electronic filing system in place by the end of 2015.