

BEFORE THE HAWAI'I STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

STATE OF HAWAI'I

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HAWAI'I STATE ETHICS COMMISSION,

Complainant,

vs.

SENATOR BRENTON AWA,

Respondent.

REQ-2024-0222

NOTICE OF HEARING

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NOTICE OF HEARING

On August 20, 2025, the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission ("Commission") issued a Notice of Violation and Order ("NOV") against Senator Brenton Awa ("Respondent") for alleged misuse of official position and state resources for political campaign activities, in violation of the State Ethics Code, Hawai'i Revised Statutes ("HRS") chapter 84.

The NOV was served on Respondent on August 21, 2025 via certified mail. On September 5, 2025, Respondent filed a written response contesting the NOV and requested a hearing on the matter. Accordingly, the Commission issues this Notice of Hearing pursuant to Hawai'i Administrative Rules ("HAR") § 21-5-5.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a contested case hearing will be held before the Commission on **Monday, November 3, 2025, beginning at 9:00 a.m.**, and may be continued from day to day as ordered or directed by the Commission.

In accordance with HRS § 91-9(c), the hearing will be conducted remotely via Zoom (or other similar interactive videoconference technology platform). Parties, their respective counsel, and any witnesses that may be called to testify at the hearing shall participate remotely in the proceeding using the following link:

Videoconference:	<a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81510982445?pwd=kiCyHYX6QnulkhBr6qOPTYVqUwdEhv.1">Join Zoom Meeting</a> <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81510982445?pwd=kiCyHYX6QnulkhBr6qOPTYVqUwdEhv.1">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81510982445?pwd=kiCyHYX6QnulkhBr6qOPTYVqUwdEhv.1</a>
Phone:	+1 (408) 638-0968 or +1 (669) 444-9171
Meeting ID:	815 1098 2445
Passcode:	DYWzZ9

The hearing is being held under the legal authority of HRS § 84-31, as amended by 2025 Haw. Sess. Laws Act 13 § 3 (April 10, 2025) (to be codified at HRS § 84-31(g)). Act 13 authorizes the Commission to utilize an expedited enforcement process for violations of the State Ethics Code. The hearing shall be conducted by the Commission in accordance with HRS chapters 84 and 91, and HAR Title 21, chapter 5.

The issue before the Commission is whether Respondent violated HRS § 84-13(a), the Fair Treatment law of the State Ethics Code, by using his official position, staff time, and/or state resources to secure unwarranted privileges, exemptions, advantages, or treatment in support of a political campaign. The specific issues and alleged conduct are set forth in the NOV, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Members of the public may view the hearing via live video streaming using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/live/seYImKGEILg>.

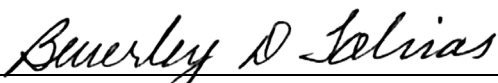
Any request by a party in this proceeding to modify the hearing format shall be submitted to the Commission by filing a motion, as specified in the Commission's Prehearing Order. The parties may retain counsel; an individual may appear on the individual's own behalf; a member of a partnership may represent the partnership; and an officer or authorized employee of a corporation, trust, or association may represent the corporation, trust, or association.

Dated: Honolulu, Hawai'i, October 6, 2025.

HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



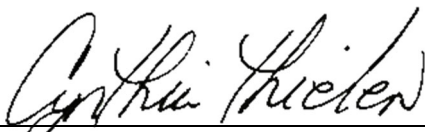
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Wesley F. Fong, Chair

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Beverley Tobias, Vice Chair

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Robert Hong, Commissioner

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Cynthia Thielen, Commissioner

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Roderick Becker, Commissioner