



**Family Court of the First Circuit — THE JUDICIARY • STATE OF HAWAII**  
RONALD T.Y. MOON KAPOLEI COURTHOUSE • 4675 KAPOLEI PARKWAY • KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707-3272

**R. MARK BROWNING**  
SENIOR JUDGE

**JEANNETTE H. CASTAGNETTI**  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

**FA'AUUGA L. TO'OTO'O**  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

**DISTRICT FAMILY JUDGES**

**JENNIFER L. CHING**  
**SHERRI L. IHA**  
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**CATHERINE H. REMIGIO**  
**BODE A. UALE**  
**MATTHEW J. VIOLA**

January 24, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Committee  
Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative

**FROM:** R. Mark Browning *RMB*  
Senior Judge, Family Court, First Circuit

**RE:** 2012 Facilities Self Assessment

We deeply appreciate the efforts of all those who participated in the self-assessment process. We are pleased to see the improvements made in the conditions of confinement at Hale Ho'omaluu Juvenile Detention Facility (HHJDF) since 2009. This current self-assessment shows that substantial improvement has been made in remedying issues identified in 2009.

While significant work remains to be done, we are moving forward to address these issues. Presently, five (5) additional policies are under review by our employees' respective collective bargaining representatives and we expect these policies to be adopted shortly. Three policies are currently being drafted and will also be forwarded to the respective unions within the next few months. Upon the adoption of these policies, HHJDF will have succeeded in ensuring its operations and practices meet American Correctional Association and Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative standards.

We will continue to move forward in adopting new policies and procedures that reflect current best practices in detention and ensure all staff are properly trained in the new procedures. In addition to procedures, we will ensure that staff have the knowledge and skills to work with special populations of youth in particular youth who are lesbian, bisexual, gay, or transgender (LGBT). We will look to the LGBT community for guidance on creating a safe environment for these youth.

Notable progress has been made in the areas of youth and staff safety, use of restraints, isolation, youth rights, and the educational program. HHJDF administrators have begun to address areas such as fire drills, increase of staffing, staff training, and addressing the unique needs of special populations. Training of staff is an area in need of improvement. With the hiring of a full-time trainer, we will develop and implement a

comprehensive training plan. In March 2012, all staff will receive training on the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). This training will focus on key areas such as adolescent development and sexuality, victimization of youth, and local laws and Judiciary policies pertaining to zero tolerance of sexual abuse as well as related procedures. To sustain and improve our effort towards addressing all the standards, the HHJDF administrators will convene a diverse workgroup and provide the leadership for this workgroup to implement corrective actions, insure policies and procedures are adopted, and create more partnerships with community groups. Recently, instructors from Alu Like have started teaching a Hawaiian Values course. Our community-based partnerships are our most valuable relationships.

HHJDF utilized the highest standards to assess the conditions at HHJDF as it is our core responsibility to ensure all youth receive quality care while detained. It is our commitment to continuously move forward in addressing the conditions of confinement at HHJDF.