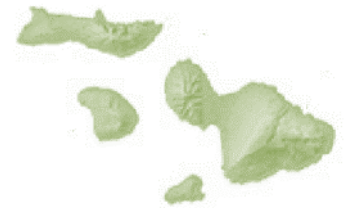


RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

VICTORIA J. TAKAYESU
Corporation Counsel

MIMI DESJARDINS
First Deputy

LYDIA A. TODA
Risk Management Officer



DEPARTMENT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET, 3RD FLOOR
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
EMAIL: CORPCOUN@MAUICOUNTY.GOV
TELEPHONE: (808)270-7740

September 2, 2025

Nohelani U'u-Hodgins, Chair
and Members of the Government Relations,
Ethics, and Transparency Committee
County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793

Re: Response Regarding Boards and Commissions
(GREAT-5(3))

Dear Chair U'u -Hodgins:

This is in response to your request of August 22, 2025, for a legal opinion.

1. Ordinance 5779 (2025) became effective on March 11, 2025. Please explain how the Department is applying Ordinance 5779 (2025).

RESPONSE: The department is applying the ordinance to those vacancies that occurred prior to the establishment of the Independent Nomination Board (INB), no list was ever provided, and the Mayor is the appointing authority. Therefore, the requirement in section 2.41.050(A), to provide a list was never triggered. The effective date of the ordinance amending this code section was March 11, 2025. Meaning, that the Council could make unilateral appointments until April 10, 2025, which was the 30-day deadline. If the Council did not fill those vacancies, then the Mayor's office had thirty days to appoint a member. Since no names were submitted within that period, then the thirty-day deadline went back to the Council and then alternated between Council and the Mayor. The deadlines for all vacancies that occurred prior to the establishment of the INB should be the same.

Received at 9/2/2025 GREAT Committee meeting
from Deputy Corporation Counsel Yukari Murakami

2. Please provide the Department's counting mechanism used to fill vacancies under Charter Sections 13-2(17), 13-2(18), and 13-2(19).

RESPONSE:

The deadlines were calculated on 30-day intervals, and if the last day was a Sunday or a holiday, then it was extended to the next business day. Please see attached chart for dates up to December 2025. In this calculation it did not matter whether the vacancies occurred due to a mass nomination (that occurred prior to INB establishment) or death, resignation or termination, so the calculation is the same for both 13-2(17) or (18).

If a deadline under Charter Section 13-2(17) and 13-2(18) passed, then the deadline under Section 13-2(19) applies. If the appointing authority misses their deadline under 13-2(19), then the deadlines under Ordinance 5779 applies.

The deadline under Charter Section 13-2(19) had already passed for these vacancies, and therefore the deadlines under Ordinance 5779 was applied.

3. Please provide the Department's current schedule for filling vacancies under the counting mechanism noted in question 2.

RESPONSE: Please see attached chart.

4. Please provide a list of appointments made under this counting mechanism to date.

RESPONSE: The appointments made under this counting mechanism from the effective date of March 11, 2025, for Ordinance 5779 are as follows:

Maui County Cultural Resources Commission: Myriam
Arakawa

Police Commission: Don Cameron

Maui Planning Commission: Joshua Circle-Woodburn
(upcountry seat)

The corresponding county communication letters regarding these appointees are attached to this response.

Nohelani U'u-Hodgins, Chair
and Members of the Government Relations, Ethics, and
Transparency Committee
County of Maui
September 2, 2025
Page | **3**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Y. Murakami', with a stylized flourish at the end.

YUKARI MURAKAMI
Deputy Corporation Counsel

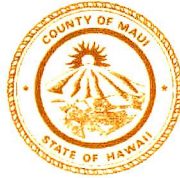
Cc: Boards and Commissions
Attachments

Appointing Schedule for Board Vacancies Without INB's List	
Deadline Date	Event
03/11/2025	effective date of ordinance 5779 (2025)
04/10/2025	deadline for Council to submit names for vacancies (triggered by Ord. 5779)
05/09/2025	deadline for Mayor to submit names since Council missed their deadline to submit appointees (note: 30 th day was 5/10, Saturday**)
06/09/2025	deadline for Council to submit names since Mayor missed his deadline to submit appointees (note: 30 th day was 6/8, Sunday**)
07/09/2025	deadline for Mayor to submit names – Mayor submitted appointees to Maui Police Commission and Maui County Cultural Resources Commission
08/08/2025	deadline for Council to submit names – no names submitted
09/08/2025	deadline for Mayor to submit names (note: 30 th day is 09/07/2025, Sunday**) – Mayor Submitted appointee to Maui Planning Commission
10/08/2025	deadline for Council to submit names
11/07/2025	deadline for Mayor to submit names
12/08/2025	deadline for Council to submit names (note: 30 th day is 12/7, Sunday**)

** per Maui County Code 1.04/020(E), if the 30th day was a Sunday, the deadline was extended to next business day. If the last day was a Saturday, the deadline was moved to last business day before, on Friday.

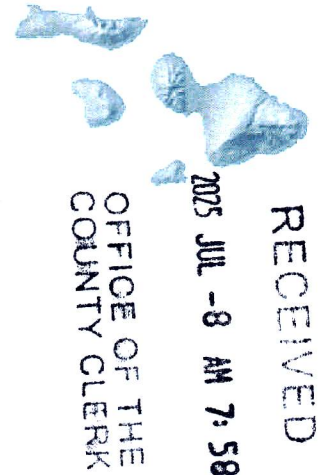
RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Managing Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.boards.commissions@mauicounty.gov

July 8, 2025



The Honorable Alice L. Lee
and Members of the Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

SUBJECT: **NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS,
COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

In accordance with Sections 2.40.110, 2.88.030 and 2.41.050 of the Maui County Code, as amended, and Section 13-2(19) of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, I am pleased to inform you of the following appointment to the Maui County Cultural Resources Commission:

Maui County Cultural Resources Commission

Miriam Anuheia Arakawa
(Replacing Karen Kamalu Poepoe)

Term Expiration 3/31/26

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Jody K. Yoshida, Boards and Commissions Liaison, Office of the Mayor, at ext. 7415.

Sincerely,

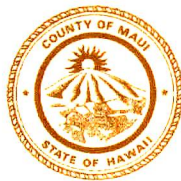
A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Richard T. Bissen, Jr.", is written over the printed name.

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor, County of Maui

cc: Yukari Murakami, Deputy Corporation Counsel

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Managing Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
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www.boards.commissions@mauicounty.gov

July 8, 2025

The Honorable Alice L. Lee
and Members of the Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

**SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS,
COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

In accordance with Section 2.41.050 of the Maui County Code, as amended and Sections 8-12.2 and 13-2(19) of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, I am pleased to inform you of the following appointment to the Police Commission:


Police Commission

Donald Angus Cameron II

Term Expiration 3/31/2029

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Jody Yoshida, Boards and Commissions Liaison, Office of the Mayor, at (808) 270-7855.

Sincerely,


RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

cc: Yukari Murakami, Deputy Corporation Counsel



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COUNTY CLERK

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Managing Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.boards.commissions@mauicounty.gov

August 25, 2025

The Honorable Alice L. Lee
and Members of the Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

**SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS,
COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS**

In accordance with Sections 8-8.4 and 13-2(19) of the charter of the County of Maui, and Sections 2.28.010 and 2.41.050 of the Maui County Code as amended, I am pleased to submit the following appointment to the Maui Planning Commission.

Maui Planning Commission

Joshua Circle-Woodburn
(Upcountry)

Term Expiration 3/31/2027

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact Boards and Commissions Staff at 808-270-7415 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Bissen, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor, County of Maui

Cc: Yukari Murakami, Deputy Corporation Counsel



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