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Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

February 6, 2026

K. Kauanoë Batangan, Chair
Government, Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee
Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793

Dear Chair Batangan:

SUBJECT: INITIAL CASE ASSESSMENT, LITIGATION COSTS ASSESSMENT, AND SETTLEMENT OPTIONS FROM SPECIAL COUNSEL UNDER RESOLUTION 25-109, CD1 (GREAT-5(1)) (PAF 26-051)

May I please request a status update from special counsel in the matter involving allegations made by former County employee Leo Caires, to include discussion and possible release of Mr. Caires' demand letter.

On June 2, 2025, the Government, Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee recommended adoption of Resolution 25-109, CD1, authorizing the employment of Special Counsel Marr Jones & Wang, LLLP, including partner Richard Rand, with compensation up to \$350,000. The Council adopted the resolution on June 27, 2025. At the July 22, 2025, GREAT Committee meeting, Mr. Rand provided updates.

In light of the significant legal costs authorized and the extended period since the Committee's last discussion, I am requesting that Mr. Rand provide an in-person or virtual status update. I would also like the Committee to discuss whether Mr. Caires' demand letter should be made public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alice L. Lee".

ALICE L. LEE
Chair, Maui County Council