

**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Mayor

**JOSIAH NISHITA**  
Managing Director



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COUNTY CLERK

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[Boards.commissions@mauicounty.gov](mailto:Boards.commissions@mauicounty.gov)

July 30, 2025

The Honorable Alice L. Lee,  
and Members of the Council  
200 South High Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

**SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF NIRVANA DILLINGHAM FROM THE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

Under Section 13-2(4) of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui, (1983), as amended, I am submitting a copy of the June 25, 2025, letter from Lori Tsuhako, Director of Department of Human Concerns, regarding the recommendation to remove member Nirvana Dillingham from the Commission on Children and Youth.

Mr. Dillingham was appointed by the Maui County Council on March 5, 2021, to serve on the Commission on Children and Youth. Unfortunately, Mr. Dillingham has failed to maintain a consistent appearance at the scheduled meetings, with a non-attendance record greater than 50 percent as required pursuant to Maui County Code §2.41.090, Paragraphs E and F, on attendance. Attached, is the proposed resolution to remove Mr. Dillingham from the Commission on Children and Youth.

Sincerely,

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

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

Enclosures

cc: Alice Lee, Council Chair, Maui County Council (w/encl)  
David Raatz, Office of Council Services (w/encl)  
Yukari Murakami, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
Heidi Drahn Balthazar, Chair, Commission on Children and Youth (w/encl)  
Ryssa Tam Ho, Boards and Commissions Liaison

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.  
Mayor

LORI TSUHAKE  
Director

JESSICA CROUSE  
Deputy Director



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN CONCERNS  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
2200 MAIN STREET, SUITE 546  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
PHONE: (808) 270-7805

June 25, 2025

Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.  
Mayor, County of Maui  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mayor Bissen:

**SUBJECT: NONATTENDANCE OF MEMBER NIRVANA DILLINGHAM OF  
THE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

On behalf of the Commission on Children and Youth, I am writing pursuant to Chapter 2.41.090 of the Maui County Code:

"E. In a six-month period, once a board, commission, or committee record reflects a member's nonattendance of fifty percent or more meetings, or absences of at least twenty-five percent of meetings, within thirty days of the member's last excused or unexcused absence, the chairperson of the board, commission or committee must send a letter to the mayor, with a copy to the council, informing of the member's attendance record.

F. If any board, commission, or committee chairperson fails to submit the letter to the mayor as set forth in subsection, departmental staff will submit the letter on the board, commission, or committee's behalf."

Currently, the Commission on Children and Youth conducts hybrid meetings on the third or fourth Friday of every month. Commission Member Dillingham has been absent without excuse from all meetings from January 2025 to present. Despite numerous attempts to contact Mr. Dillingham, he has not responded to either emails or phone calls. I recommend Nirvana Dillingham be relieved of his duty as Commission Member and a replacement Commission Member be recommended and appointed as soon as possible.

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TO SUPPORT AND EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITY TO REACH ITS FULLEST  
POTENTIAL FOR PERSONAL WELL-BEING AND SELF-RELIANCE

Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.  
Mayor, County of Maui  
June 25, 2025  
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Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you require additional information or any documentation, please contact Commission staff secretary, Vanessa Joy Domingo, at Ext. 7481.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Tsuhako". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lori" being more prominent and the last name "Tsuhako" written in a continuous, flowing script.

LORI TSUHAKO, LSW, ACSW  
Director of Human Concerns

Attachment

CC: Honorable Alice L. Lee, Chair, Maui County Council  
Adrian Reifsnyder, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
Heidi Drahn, Chair, Commission on Children and Youth

## ATTENDANCE REPORT

FOR PERIOD: 01/27/25- 07/21/25

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE: COMMISSION ON CHILDREN & YOUTH

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: DHC/Director's Office

| CY 2024-2025              | MEETING DATES     |                   |                |                |                |                |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                           | 24-Feb<br>2025    | 17-Mar<br>2025    | 21-Apr<br>2025 | 19-May<br>2025 | 16-Jun<br>2025 | 21-Jul<br>2025 |
| MEMBERS                   |                   |                   |                |                |                |                |
| Brian McCafferty          | C                 | E                 | P              | P              | P              |                |
| Catherine "Momi" Medeiros | C                 | C                 | P              | P              | P              |                |
| Ericka Chavez             | C                 | E                 | P              | P              | P              |                |
| Heidi Drahn               | C                 | C                 | P              | P              | P              |                |
| Monique Bolo              | C                 | E                 | P              | P              | E              |                |
| Nirvana Dillingham        | NR/A              | NR/A              | NR/A           | NR/A           | NR/A           |                |
| Tonata Lolesio            | C                 | C                 | E              | A              | P              |                |
| Paul Tonnessen            | cxd due to        | cxd due to        | P              | P              | P              |                |
| Vacant                    | lack of<br>quorum | lack of<br>quorum |                |                |                |                |

**P**-Present   **E**-Excused   **A**-Absent   **C**-Canceled

**R**-Resigned   **NR**-No Response