



PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

www.MauiCounty.us/GREAT

Committee Chair
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins

Committee Vice-Chair
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Voting Members:
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Keani N.W.
Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE (2023-2025)

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

1:30 p.m.

MEETING SITE:

Online via Teams: <http://tinyurl.com/2s9hsuhk>

Phone testimony: 1-808-977-4067, code 423 765 169#

In-person testimony and viewing: Council Chamber, Kalana O
Maui Building, 8th Flr., 200 South High St., Wailuku, Hawai'i

AGENDA

**LITIGATION MATTERS: RESOLUTION 24-13, RELATING TO
AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR SPECIAL
COUNSEL KOBAYASHI SUGITA & GODA, LLP, IN CHRISTOPHER
SALEM V. COUNTY OF MAUI, ET AL., CASE 2CCV-21-0000048
(GREAT-11(38))**

Description: The Committee is in receipt of Resolution 24-13, entitled "AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION RELATED TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL KOBAYASHI SUGITA & GODA, LLP, IN CHRISTOPHER SALEM V. COUNTY OF MAUI, ET AL., CIVIL NO. 2CCV-21-0000048." Resolution 24-13's purpose is to authorize additional compensation, in the amount of \$75,000, to Kobayashi Sugita & Goda, LLP, as special counsel to represent the County of Maui, Richard T. Bissen, Jr. in his official capacity, and Kathleen Aoki in her official capacity, in Christopher Salem v. County of Maui, et al., Case 2CCV-21-0000048.

Status: The Committee may consider whether to recommend adoption of Resolution 24-13, with or without revisions. The Committee may also consider the filing of Resolution 24-13 and other related action.

Note: With reference to this agenda item, one or more executive meetings are anticipated in accordance with Section 92-5(a)(4), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to consult with legal counsel on questions and issues pertaining

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to the powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities of the County, the Council, and the Committee; and Section 92-5(a)(8), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to deliberate or make a decision upon a matter that requires the consideration of information that must be kept confidential under a State or Federal law, or a court order.

[Resolution 24-13](#)

LITIGATION MATTERS: RESOLUTIONS 24-16 AND 24-17, RELATING TO ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL IN LITIGATION MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AUGUST 2023 WILDFIRES (GREAT-11(31))

Description: The Committee is in receipt of the following:

1. Resolution 24-16, entitled "AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION RELATED TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL MCCORRISTON MILLER MUKAI MACKINNON, LLP IN LITIGATION MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AUGUST 2023 WILDFIRES ON THE ISLAND OF MAUI." Resolution 24-16's purpose is to authorize additional compensation, in the amount of \$250,000, to McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon, LLP, as special counsel to represent the County of Maui in current and anticipated litigation matters relating to the August 2023 wildfires on the island of Maui.
2. Resolution 24-17, entitled "AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION RELATED TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL MEYERS NAVE IN LITIGATION MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AUGUST 2023 WILDFIRES ON THE ISLAND OF MAUI." Resolution 24-17's purpose is to authorize additional compensation, in the amount of \$250,000, to Meyers Nave as special counsel to represent the County of Maui in current and anticipated litigation matters relating to the August 2023 wildfires on the island of Maui.

Status: The Committee may consider whether to recommend adoption of Resolutions 24-16 and 24-17, with or without revisions. The Committee may also consider the filing of Resolutions 24-16 and 24-17 and other related action.

Note: With reference to this agenda item, one or more executive meetings are anticipated in accordance with Section 92-5(a)(4), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to consult with legal counsel on questions and issues pertaining to the powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities of the County, the Council, and the Committee; and Section 92-5(a)(8), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to deliberate or make a decision upon a matter that requires the consideration of information that must be kept confidential under a State or Federal law, or a court order.

[Resolution 24-16](#)

[Resolution 24-17](#)

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LITIGATION MATTERS: RESOLUTION 23-248, RELATING TO SPECIAL COUNSEL AUTHORIZATION: RONALD T. OGOMORI TO REPRESENT HERMAN ANDAYA IN AMIR HOSSEIN SHEIKHAN, ETC., ET AL., V. HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, ETC., ET AL., CASE 2CCV-23-0000260 (GREAT-11(37))

Description: The Committee is in receipt of the following:

1. Resolution 23-248, entitled "AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL RONALD T. OGOMORI, ATTORNEY AT LAW, A LAW CORPORATION, TO REPRESENT HERMAN ANDAYA IN AMIR HOSSEIN SHEIKHAN, ETC., ET AL. V. HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, ETC., ET AL., CIVIL NO. 2CCV-23-0000260." Resolution 23-248's purpose is to authorize the employment of Ronald T. Ogomori, Attorney at Law, a Law Corporation, as special counsel to represent Herman Andaya, in Amir Hossein Sheikhan, Etc., et al. v. Hawaiian Electric Industries, Etc., et al., Case 2CCV-23-0000260, for a total compensation amount not to exceed \$150,000.
2. Correspondence dated December 21, 2023, from the Department of the Corporation Counsel, with a copy of the claim.

Status: The Committee may consider whether to recommend adoption of Resolution 23-248, with or without revisions. The Committee may also consider the filing of Resolution 23-248 and other related action.

Note: With reference to this agenda item, one or more executive meetings are anticipated in accordance with Section 92-5(a)(4), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to consult with legal counsel on questions and issues pertaining to the powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities of the County, the Council, and the Committee; and Section 92-5(a)(8), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to deliberate or make a decision upon a matter that requires the consideration of information that must be kept confidential under a State or Federal law, or a court order.

[Resolution 23-248](#)

[Correspondence from Corporation Counsel 12-21-2023](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office of Council Services, 200 South High Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
Tel: (808) 270-7838

COMMITTEE STAFF

Kasie Apo Takayama, Clarissa MacDonald, Pauline Martins, and Richard E. Mitchell

BOARD PACKETS

Board Packets, as defined in Section 92-7.5, HRS, will be electronically posted as soon as practicable.

CONNECTIVITY

This meeting is being conducted in accordance with Section 92-3.7, HRS. Nothing said in the meeting or included in the agenda is intended to create obligations in excess of those required under Section 92-3.7, HRS.

If Teams connectivity affecting quorum is lost, the Committee will be in recess. It will not be considered a loss of quorum unless connectivity cannot be restored within 30 minutes. If the Teams connection is prematurely terminated, for whatever reason, please log back into the same link.

If connectivity affecting quorum cannot be restored within 30 minutes, the meeting will automatically reconvene the following Tuesday at 9 a.m., using the same virtual connections, unless the Committee announces a different date and time.

OFFICIAL LOCATIONS AND TESTIMONY

Video testimony via Teams link: <http://tinyurl.com/2s9hsuhk>

Oral testimony via phone by dialing: 1-808-977-4067 and entering meeting code 423 765 169#

In-person testimony and viewing: Council Chamber, Kalana O Maui Building, 8th Floor, 200 South High Street, Wailuku, Hawaii

If audiovisual connection is lost at the official location for in-person testimony and viewing, the committee will be in recess for up to 30 minutes to restore connectivity. If connectivity cannot be restored within 30 minutes, the meeting will automatically reconvene the following Tuesday at 9 a.m., at the same official location for in-person testimony and viewing, unless the Committee announces a different date, time, and location.

If a meeting participant wishes to testify anonymously, they should log in to the meeting with an appropriate anonymous name and virtually raise their hand. If a testifier connects to the meeting by phone, the Chair will call the last four digits of the testifier's phone number.

The Chair may mute or remove testifiers from the meeting who violate the Council's Standards of Decorum.

Written testimony will be accepted via eComment. Search for the meeting date on mauicounty.us/agendas, click on the eComment link, then select the agenda item to submit comments on.

For more information on testifying, please visit www.mauicounty.us or contact the Office of Council Services.

COURTESY TESTIMONY SITES - COUNCIL RESIDENCY AREA OFFICES

South Maui	Lāna'i
MEDB Building	Lāna'i District Office
1305 North Holopono, Suite 9, Kihei	814 Fraser Avenue, Lāna'i City
(808) 793-0012	(808) 565-7094

Molokai	East Maui	Makawao-Ha'ikū-Pā'ia
Molokai District Complex	Hāna Cultural Center & Museum	Heritage Hall
100 Ainoa Street, Kaunakakai	4974 Uakea Road, Hāna	401 Baldwin Avenue, Suite 102, Pā'ia
(808) 553-3888	(808) 248-7513	(808) 793-0099

Councilmembers may or may not participate from Courtesy Testimony Sites. If any Courtesy Testimony Site loses its audio connection to the meeting, the meeting will continue without that location, irrespective of whether a Councilmember is

participating from there.

Subject to change and staffing availability without notice. Visit mauicounty.us for more information.

COURTESY LIVE CABLECAST AND WEBCAST VIEWING

Akaku: Maui Community Media, Channel 53.

mauicounty.us/agendas to access meeting videos

Subject to change without notice. Visit mauicounty.us for more information.

If Akaku prematurely ceases broadcasting the meeting, the meeting will continue via interactive conference technology and a recording will be sent to Akaku to be included with archived meeting videos.

DISABILITY ACCESS

Anyone requesting an auxiliary aid or service or an accommodation due to a disability should contact the Office of Council Services at least three working days prior to the meeting date at (808) 270-7838 or county.council@mauicounty.us.

Agenda items are subject to cancellation.