RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH NISHITA
Managing Director

RECEIVED
2025 JUL 31 PM 1:15
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAI'I 96793
Boards.commissions@mauicounty.gov

July 30, 2025

The Honorable Alice L. Lee,
and Members of the Council
200 South High Street, 8th 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,

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 TSUHAKO
Director

JESSICA CROUSE
Deputy Director

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN CONCERNS
COUNTY OF MAUI
2200 MAIN STREET, SUITE 546
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAI'I 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.

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,

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					
MEMBERS	24-Feb 2025	17-Mar 2025	21-Apr 2025	19-May 2025	16-Jun 2025	21-Jul 2025
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	cxld due to lack of quorum	cxld due to lack of quorum	P	P	P	
Vacant						

P-Present **E**-Excused **A**-Absent **C**-Canceled
R-Resigned **NR**-No Response