

**MICHAEL P. VICTORINO**  
Mayor

**SANANDA K. BAZ**  
Managing Director



COUNTY OF MAUI  
**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

RECEIVED  
2021 JUN 28 PM 2:09

OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY CLERK

June 28, 2021

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

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

SUBJECT: **NON-ATTENDANCE OF JOHN COPELAND FROM THE MAUI  
COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES  
("COMMISSION")**

Pursuant to Section 2.41.090.E, Maui County Code, I am submitting a copy of a letter from the Chair of the Commission regarding the non-attendance of Mr. John Copeland to scheduled meetings for the past six months.

Mr. Copeland was appointed by the Maui County Council on January 22, 2020 to the Commission. For the period January 2021 through June 2021, Mr. Copeland's non-attendance record was in excess of fifty percent of the scheduled meetings nor did he request to be excused from these meetings. Numerous attempts via telephone calls and emails were made to him with no response.

Furthermore, I have attached a proposed resolution entitled "REMOVAL OF JOHN COPELAND FROM THE COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES" for your consideration and action.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ipo Mossman, Community Liaison at the Office of the Mayor at (808) 270-8211.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael P. Victorino".

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO  
Mayor

Attachments

cc: Jennifer Oana, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
Ipo Mossman, Community Liaison

COUNTY COMMUNICATION NO. 21-359

# Resolution

No. \_\_\_\_\_

## REMOVAL OF JOHN COPELAND FROM THE COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

WHEREAS, by letter dated June 28, 2021, Mayor Michael P. Victorino recommended the removal of member John Copeland from the Commission on Persons with Disabilities due to his non-attendance at any meetings this year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Copeland was asked by staff to confirm whether he could continue on the commission, and to date, staff has not heard from Mr. Copeland, attached hereto as Exhibit "1" ; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Copeland was appointed to the Commission on Person with Disabilities by Resolution 20-39, adopted on January 22, 2020, for a term expiring on March 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Section 13-2(5) of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, provides that members of boards and commissions appointed by the Mayor, with the approval of the Council may be removed for cause upon recommendation of such removal by the Mayor and the approval of two-thirds of the entire membership of the Council; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it hereby approves the removal of John Copeland from the Commission on Persons with Disabilities;

2. That such removal shall be effective upon adoption of this resolution; and

**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_**

3. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, and the Corporation Counsel.

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGALITY:

/s/ Mimi Desjardins

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MIMI DESJARDINS  
Deputy Corporation Counsel  
County of Maui

2021-0029

2021-06-28 CPWD Copeland Removal



# MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

J. W. CAMERON CENTER 95 MAHALANI ST., ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX 270-7935

June 1, 2021

**Chair:**

Evalina 'Nani'  
Watanabe

**Vice-Chair:**

Kimberly West

The Honorable Michael P. Victorino  
Mayor, County of Maui  
200 South High Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

**Members:**

Sarah Collins

John Copeland

Joseph D'Alessandro

Susan Lussier

Ricky Sanches

Beverly Stanich

Melody Uchimura

Dear Mayor Victorino,

On behalf of the County of Maui Commission on Persons with Disabilities (the "Commission"), and as Chair of the Commission, I am writing to you regarding the lack of meeting attendance by Commissioner John Copeland.

**Pursuant to Chapter 2.41.090 of the Maui County Code; "Attendance at board, commission, and committee meetings by appointed members", appointed members of the commission are responsible to "fully and faithfully serve and attend all duly noticed, regularly scheduled meetings of their respective boards, commissions, and committees".**

Unfortunately, Mr. Copeland has not been fulfilling his responsibility to the Commission, to you as your appointee, or the citizens of Maui County. Since February until now, Commissioner Copeland has been absent without excuse from all meetings.

Despite numerous attempts to contact Mr. Copeland, he has not responded to either emails or phone calls. Therefore, as Chair of the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, I am recommending that John Copeland be relieved of his duties as a Commissioner and a replacement Commissioner be recommended and appointed as soon as possible.

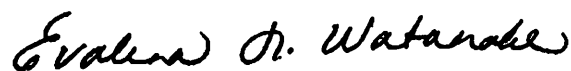
On behalf of the Commission, I appreciate your consideration of this request and hope that a replacement can be found expeditiously during what I am sure is a very busy time for all due to COVID-19.

Mayor Michael P. Victorino  
Page 2  
June 1, 2021

If you require further information or any documentation regarding this letter, please contact either myself or Deborah Stone-Walls, Executive on Aging for the Maui County Office on Aging. I can be reached at 249-2990 ext. 362 or [evalina.watanabe@meoinc.org](mailto:evalina.watanabe@meoinc.org). Deborah can be reached at 270-7350 or [deborah.stone-walls@co.maui.hi.us](mailto:deborah.stone-walls@co.maui.hi.us).

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,



Evalina 'Nani' Watanabe, Chair  
Commission on Persons with Disabilities  
County of Maui

cc: DHHC Director Lori Tsuhako  
DHHC Deputy Director Linda Munsell  
Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana  
Executive on Aging Deborah Stone-Walls  
Executive Assistant Ipo Mossman