

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



MARK PATTERSON
CHAIR

CHRISTIN M. JOHNSON
OVERSIGHT COORDINATOR

COMMISSIONERS
HON. R. MARK BROWNING (ret.)

HON. RONALD IBARRA (ret.)

MARTHA TORNEY

HON. MICHAEL A. TOWN (ret.)

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
E HUIKALA A MA'EMA'E NŌ
235 S. Beretania Street, 16th Floor
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
(808) 587-4160

Meeting Minutes

The monthly Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission meeting is offered as a hybrid meeting where Commissioners and members of the public can participate in person, or via teleconference. Details for both options are noted below.

Time: Thursday, June 26, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Location: University of Hawai'i Maui College
310 W. Ka'ahumanu Ave, Room: Noii 206
Kahului, Hawaii 96732

Teleconference: Microsoft Teams
Meeting ID: 262 078 474 943
Passcode: vU3UL6mG

Or Livestream on Facebook or YouTube.

Items to be Discussed:

I. **Call to Order (0:00:10)**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Patterson at 9:01 a.m. on Thursday, June 26, 2025. The meeting was conducted in accordance with Hawai'i Revised Statutes. Chapter 92.

II. **Roll Call (0:00:15)**

- **Chair Mark Patterson**
- **Commissioner R. Mark Browning**
- **Commissioner Ronald Ibarra**
- **Commissioner Martha Torney**
- **Christin Johnson, Oversight Coordinator**

Quorum was established with four members present. Also present via Microsoft Teams was Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Candace Park. Special Assistant George Choe and Reentry Specialist Kimmy Takata was present at the physical meeting location, at the University of Hawai'i Maui College, 310 W. Ka'ahumanu Ave, Room: Noii 206, Kahului, Hawaii 96732.

III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2025 (0:01:05)**

- Review of minutes by members. Motion by Chair Patterson to approve May 8, 2025, Open Session Meeting Minutes.
- Motion moved by Commissioner Torney and seconded by Commissioner Ibarra.
- Vote: Unanimous approval, motion passed, minutes approved.

IV. **Monthly Update from Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR)**

Deputy Director of Rehabilitation Sanna Munoz (Dep-R), designee for Director Tommy Johnson (0:02:30)

- Discussion on reasons, frequency, and public knowledge of lockdowns
 - i. Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC)
 - 1. No changes currently
 - 2. Received \$30M to continue planning and design to include the RFQ and RFP process for new jail.
 - a. DCR will receive \$15M on July 1, 2025 (FY26)
 - b. DCR will receive \$15M on July 1, 2026 (FY27)
 - ii. Provide more information on lockdowns in the facility:
 - 1. Facility searches for contraband, use of K9 units
 - 2. Lockdowns after a serious incident to include housing unit, housing modules or entire facility temporarily to ensure that the situation is stable and safe before returning to normal operations.
 - 3. Staffing shortages can result in temporary lockdowns and some programs, visitations, and recreations.
 - iii. Shared information that Director Johnson has a meeting with UPW on July 7, 2025, to reach a memorandum of understanding regarding ACO work attendance.
 - iv. DCR recognizes majority of staff are hardworking and dedicated ACOs
 - v. As a result of vacancies, overtime costs have reached unsustainable levels, example: OCCC (2024) - \$7.75M, which equates to \$21,232 per day.
 - 1. To address shortages, increasing recruiting classes
 - a. 2023: 4 classes
 - b. 2024: 6 classes
 - c. 2025: 8 classes
 - 2. Also discussing ACO incentive programs with UPW and DHRD.

Public Testimony

- Oral Testimony: None
- Written Testimony: No previously submitted written testimony was received.
- Commission:
 - i. Commissioner Torney asked the question if DCR is getting the applicants to be in those classes that DCR is holding?
 - 1. *Dep-R responds that DCR hired 56 ACOs in 2024, 136 in 2024, and year-to-date for 2025, DCR has hired 60 ACOs. DCR has had a lot of interest and is slowly reducing vacancy rates.*
 - ii. Commissioner Browning asks the question regarding the recent lockdown at OCCC, how long did it last? (last month reported by the media)

1. *Dep-R will check in with the facility and provide a response*
- iii. Commissioner Browning asks a second question with request with follow up in writing regarding reason for lockdown?
 1. *Dep-R will provide that answer in writing.*
- iv. Chair Patterson shares his statement on his experience with lockdowns.

V. Connecting Families Campaign Presentation by Worth Rises (0:14:40)

Public Testimony

- Oral Testimony:
 - i. Community member asks the question if this is already and FCC passed regulation, why is DCR not in compliance?
 1. *Dep-R responds with the comment, DCR will be reviewing contract and discussed with AG's office and has until December 31, 2025, to be in compliance and currently is compliance with telephone calls. DCR charges \$5.054 cents per minute, and video calls will be changed from \$0.25 to \$0.16 to meet federal regulations. Every inmate does get five free minutes of phone call every week.*
 - ii. ACLU provides comment regarding clarification charging less than what is mandated but the goal of legislation is to make calls free? Also asks if the Commission is willing to take a position in support of this legislation for the next session and what can lawmakers do to advance this in the next legislation?
 1. *Worth Rises clarifies that this legislation is to make calls free.*
 - iii. Kat Brady (Community Alliance on Prisons) provides comments.
- Written Testimony: No previously submitted written testimony was received.
- Commission:
 1. *HCSOC does not have the answer.*
 2. *Commissioner Browning comments and states his support for this legislation along with other commissioners. Oversight Coordinator states that the Commission has supported this bill and will continue to support this bill.*
 3. *Chair Patterson provides his comments and experience with regards to calls.*

VI. **Discussion on Senate Bill 104 – Governor's Intent to Veto (GM1301) (0:38:10)**

- *Beginning 7/1/2026, restricts the use of restrictive housing in state-operated and state-contracted correctional facilities, with certain specified exceptions. Establishes a restrictive housing legislative working group to develop and recommend more comprehensive laws, policies, and procedures regarding restrictive housing for members of vulnerable populations by 1/8/2027. Requires the Hawai'i Correctional System Oversight Commission to review restrictive housing placements on an annual basis. Authorizes the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, by 12/1/2027, to implement policies and procedures recommended by the restrictive housing working group related to*

committed persons. Requires interim and final reports to the Legislature and Hawai'i Correctional System Oversight Commission. (CD1)

Public Testimony

- Oral Testimony:
 - i. Kat Brady (CAP) provides comments on bill.
 - ii. ACLU strongly supports SB104 and has reached out to the Governor to not veto this measure and provides comments.
 - iii. Public member Della Au Belatti and provides comments and support for Senate Bill 104 and passage of this bill.
 - iv. Community member Carolyn Eaton provides comments.
- Written Testimony: No previously submitted written testimony was received.
- Commission:
 - i. Commissioner Torney provides comments.
 - ii. Commissioner Browning agrees with Commissioner Torney and provides comments.
 - iii. Commissioner Ibarra supports and provides comments.
 - iv. Chair Patterson provides comments.
 - v. Oversight Coordinator provides comments and how the Commission was involved.

VII. **Overview of Oversight Coordinator Report (1:00:40)**

- Death in custody
 - i. April 12, 2025 (late notice)
 - ii. May 17, 2025
 - iii. May 29, 2025
- Tours
 - i. OCCC tour with DC Information Council
- Events attended
 - i. Reentry Simulation: Addressing Barriers to Life After Incarceration
 - ii. Nothing About Us Without Us
 - iii. Pathways to Meaningful Work Symposium: Expanding Education-to-Employment Opportunities for Justice-Impacted Individuals
- Projects
 - i. Complaint Management
- Published Reports
 - i. Kauai Community Correctional Center (KCCC) Site Visit Observations
- Past meetings
 - i. June 26, 2025, monthly commission meeting

Public Testimony

- Oral Testimony: None
- Written Testimony: No previously submitted written testimony was received.
- Commission: None

VIII. **Overview of the Kauai Community Correctional Center Tour & Report (1:07:45)**

- Oversight Coordinator Christin Johnson provides information on the Commission's tour to the Kauai Community Correctional Center (KCCC) on May 8, 2025.

Public Testimony

- Oral Testimony: None
- Written Testimony: No previously submitted written testimony was received.
- Commission: Commissioner Torney provides comments.

IX. **Public Comment (1:22:25)**

- Public comment on issues not on the agenda, for consideration for Commission's agenda at the next meeting.
 - i. Community member Ronald Fujiyoshi (Ohana Ho'opakele) regarding lifers and how to get the elderly out of prison.
 - ii. Kat Brady (CAP) provides comments on Saguaro's Contract Manager.

X. **Announcements and Scheduling of the Next Meeting (1:36:05)**

- Next meeting Thursday, July 10, 2025, 9:00 a.m.
 - i. Leiopapa A. Kamehameha Building
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 204
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
 - ii. Facility Tour: Oahu Community Correctional Center

XI. **Adjournment (1:37:35)**

Respectfully submitted,
George Choe, Special Assistant to Oversight Coordinator
Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission

If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Special Assistant George Choe (george.choe@hawaii.gov) as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.