

**Request for the Office of Information Practices' Concurrence  
for a Limited Meeting**  
(HRS § 92-3.1)

Date: July 24, 2025

Name of Board: Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission (HCSOC)  
Contact Person: George Choe Tel: 808-587-4160  
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Board's Attorney: Candace Park Tel: 808-586-0618  
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Date of Proposed Limited Meeting: Thursday, August 14, 2025  
Place/Location of Proposed Limited Meeting: Hawaii State Hospital  
45-710 Kealahala Road, Kaneohe, HI 96744

1. Type of Limited Meeting:

- ☐ location is dangerous to health or safety; OR  
☒ public attendance is impracticable

2. (Attach relevant portion of draft or adopted minutes showing board's deliberation and vote to adopt the determination, including applicable timestamps if minutes were recorded.) After sufficient public deliberation at a prior regular meeting, and by vote of two-thirds of all members to which it is entitled, the Board has adopted a determination that:

- ☐ the limited meeting is necessary and the location would be dangerous to health or safety; OR  
☒ the on-site inspection is necessary and public attendance is impracticable.

As shown in its minutes, the Board has made this determination based upon the following reasons:

Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission Meeting  
On Thursday, July 24, 2025, The HCSOC held a meeting to discuss and vote on holding a  
a limited meeting at the Hawaii State Hospital.  
Please see supplemental attachment for further details for said Limited Meeting.

3. Notice of the Limited Meeting under HRS § 92-7 (attach agenda):

- ☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_; OR  
☒ will be filed by Friday, August 8, 2025.

4. Required Videotape of the Limited Meeting:

- ☐ will be made; OR  
☒ Board requests a waiver of this requirement because:  
Please see supplemental attachment for further details regarding Boards request  
for waiver of required videotaping requirement of the Limited Meeting.

## CONCURRENCE

The Director of the Office of Information Practices concurs with the request made for a Limited Meeting and:

☐ does not waive the videotape requirement; OR

☒ waives the videotape requirement, with the following conditions:

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If concurrence is granted, the Board must:

1. provide notice of the Limited Meeting in accordance with HRS § 92-7;
2. make no decisions at the Limited Meeting;
3. comply with all requirements of HRS § 92-9; and
4. videotape the Limited Meeting and make the videotape available at its next regular meeting, unless this requirement is fully waived above.



for

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carlotta Amerino  
Director

July 25, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

2. (Attach relevant portion of draft or adopted minutes.) Board has, after sufficient public deliberation at a prior regular meeting, determined by vote of two-thirds of all voting members that:

- ☐ the limited meeting is necessary and the location would be dangerous to the health or safety of the attending public, or
- ☒ the on-site inspection is necessary and public attendance is impracticable

The Board has made this determination based upon the following reasons:

On Thursday, July 24, 2025, the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission (HCSOC) held a special meeting to discuss and vote on holding a limited meeting at the Hawaii State Hospital (0:00:15 in recording) and noted in the minutes and transcript (see attached). The Commission stated that the "on-site inspection is necessary and public attendance is impracticable".

As the Commission discussed, the onsite inspection is necessary to get an idea of those people that may be initially "housed at the detention facilities who are under our oversight jurisdiction and sent to the state hospital for examination, mental exams or fit to proceed and some of them may be returned to the facilities which we have oversight on. And so certainly. I think we should go and look for ourselves."

It is vital that the Commission be able to visit the Hawaii State Hospital and the Commission's role to help redefine, reform, and redevelop the mental health journey of those incarcerated in our jail and prison system. The Judiciary and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) send individuals into the hospital for assessment, evaluation and to be monitored. It has been brought to the attention of the Commission that DCR has been overwhelmed from the courts, which is limiting DCR's ability to manage their community mental health issues. The Commission must tour collectively together so they can discuss their findings as a group, publicly. This will allow all Commissioners to use their unique perspectives and backgrounds while facilitating a correctional system transition to a rehabilitative and therapeutic model. Also to better understand what changes are needed within DCR to manage their own mental health population to relieve the department of health's population so to better serve and focus on the community.

3. Required Videotape of the Limited Meeting:

- ☐ will be made
- ☒ Board requests a waiver of this requirement because:

Videotaping would be prohibited because of confidentiality and keeping individuals who are incarcerated from being seen on camera, likewise with the patients and the staff. Also, there are HIPAA and various laws that cover medical issues which are confidential under many federal and state laws. We must abide by patient privacy interests as well as the staff. We want to be conscious of federal regulations and laws regarding this type of videotaping as well as policies and procedures of the department of health.

**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 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, July 24, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Leiopapa A. Kamehameha Building  
235 S Beretania Street, Room 204  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Recording: [YouTube](https://youtu.be/3cjQhm3EA-A?si=EqYOQZpjKecQQK35)  
<https://youtu.be/3cjQhm3EA-A?si=EqYOQZpjKecQQK35>

### Items to be Discussed:

- I. Call to Order  
The meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Patterson at 9:07 a.m. on Thursday, July 24, 2025. The meeting was conducted in accordance with Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Chapter 92.
- II. Roll Call (0:00:55)  
The following members were present in-person or virtually:
  - **Chair Mark Patterson**
  - **Commissioner Ronald Ibarra**
  - **Commissioner Mike Town**

Quorum was established with three members present. Special Assistant George Choe was present at the physical meeting location, at Leiopapa A. Kamehameha Building, 235 S. Beretania Street, Room 204, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. Also present via Microsoft Teams was Oversight Coordinator Christin Johnson (later joined)

III. Discussion and vote on the necessity for holding a Limited Meeting at the Hawaii State Hospital on Thursday, August 14, 2025. **(0:01:20)**

- The first motion, I move to determine that it is necessary to hold a “limited meeting” at the Hawaii State Hospital, because the onsite inspection is necessary, and public attendance is impracticable due to it being a locked and secured facility. Also, public attendance is not allowed without an official reason due to facility specific policies and procedures.

1. First motion

- a. Moved by Commissioner Town
- b. Seconded by Commissioner Ibarra
- c. Motion passed

Discussion is opened by Commissioner Town followed by Commissioner Ibarra on the purpose of visiting the Hawaii State Hospital. People that may be initially housed at the detention facilities are under “our oversight jurisdictions and sent to the state hospital for examination, mental exams or fit to proceed and things like that, and some of them may be returned to the facilities which we have oversight on. And so certainly. I think we should go and look for ourselves, how they are being treated and what kind of resources they have there.”

- The second motion for the Hawaii State Hospital is that we waive the videotaping requirement because of confidentiality and privacy laws that are covered by federal and state regulations for those in the adult mental health hospital.

2. Second motion

- a. Moved by Commissioner Town
- b. Seconded by Commissioner Ibarra
- c. Motion passed

Discussion is opened by Chair Patterson noting the importance of confidentiality and keeping individuals who are incarcerated from being seen on camera, likewise with the patients and the staff. Also, there are HIPAA and various laws that cover medical issues which are confidential under many federal and state laws. We must abide by patient privacy interests as well as the staff. We want to be conscious of federal regulations and laws regarding this type of videotaping as well as policies and procedures of the department of health.

IV. Public Comment **(0:08:50)**

- Public comment on issues not on the agenda, for consideration for Commission's agenda at the next meeting
  - i. Note that there was no presence of public members in person or virtually via Microsoft Teams.

V. Announcements and Scheduling of the Next Meeting **(0:09:30)**

- Next meeting Thursday, August 14, 2025, 9:00 a.m.
  - i. Windward Community College  
45-720 Keaahala Road, Room: Hale A‘o 102  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

VI. Adjournment **(0:09:50)**

- Meeting was adjourned by Chair Patterson at 9:17 a.m.

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**Respectfully submitted,**

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

# Transcript

July 24, 2025, 7:07PM

**CG** **Choe, George** 0:10  
OK, you guys are good.

**WP** **warden patterson** 0:15  
Good morning, fellow commissioners.  
This is a special meeting that we put together in order to discuss and vote on a request to.  
Hold a hold.  
The name, the thing the term you use, George.

**CG** **Choe, George** 0:36  
Limited meeting.

**TM** **Town, Mike** 0:36  
Limited.

**WP** **warden patterson** 0:37  
Limited meeting at the.  
Hawaii State Hospital.  
On August, give me a date.

**CG** **Choe, George** 0:48  
August 14th, so right after the monthly Commission meeting.

**WP** **warden patterson** 0:50  
I was working.  
Right after the.  
Monthly Commission meeting. Thank you guys.  
Let's do a roll call real quick.  
We need 3 for quorum, so Mike Town.

**TM Town, Mike** 1:04  
Here.

**WP warden patterson** 1:05  
Ronald Ibarra.

And Mark Patterson chair is here.

This particular time to discuss.

The topic at hand?

So.

To begin the discussion, I like to open up with the first motion and I just need someone to move and then someone to 2nd. The 1st motion will read.

I move to determine that it is necessary to hold a limited meeting at the Hawaii State Hospital because the on site inspection is necessary and public attendance is impractical due to it being a locked and secured facility.

Also, public attendance is not allowed without.

Any official reason due to facility specific policies?

And procedures.

**TM Town, Mike** 1:54  
So move rock if that's OK.

**WP warden patterson** 1:56  
OK.

**IR Ibarra, Ronald** 1:58  
2nd.

**WP warden patterson** 1:59  
Been moved by my town and seconded by Ronald Ibarra.  
Any discussion?

**TM Town, Mike** 2:08  
It speaks for itself.  
It's locked and semi medical, semi incarceration facility and and it's there's a need to



go within our purview or cooliana our jurisdiction and it's high time we go.  
So unless there's specific questions, I think, I think it.  
What do they say in Latin race if some locator the thing speaks for itself.  
Ron.

IR

**Ibarra, Ronald** 2:34

Yeah, I I agree with Commissioner Town that certainly the people that maybe initially housed at.

The detention facilities that are under over under our oversight jurisdictions maybe sent to the state hospital for examination, mental exams or fit to proceed and things like that, and some of them may be returned to the facilities which we have oversight on. And so certainly.

I think we should go and look for ourselves, how they are being treated and what kind of resources they have there.

WP

**warden patterson** 3:14

I think it even goes deeper than that, gentlemen, as you folks are looking at from the judicial perspective that you bring to the Commission, for me it's really understanding the oversights Commission's role in really helping to redefine reform, redevelop the the mental health journey of those Inc.

In our, in our jails and in our prison system, you know the state hospital is under the Department of Health.

However, the judiciary and DCR send individuals into the hospital for assessments and for evaluation and to be monitored and it's come to our attention that they have been overwhelmed with what they refer to as the forensic population that's coming from the courts in DCR, which is limiting their.

Ability to manage the community mental health issues.

So it's really upon ourselves to go there and see and hear from the line of the mental health staff what they are going through and really come to terms and advocate at a higher systemic level in the legislature as well.

To what kind of changes are needed within DCR to manage their own mental health population to relieve the department health of that specific population so they can focus on the community we need?

To really look and be systemic about how to manage the mental health issues throughout the state of Hawaii, yeah, and whether or not we can support the

Department of Health in their advocacy to say, hey, we're overwhelmed with forensic population that's coming from the courts and from the.

Prison system.

Yeah. When we talk about and we discuss a \$1 billion jail.

What's the mental health plan?

Yeah. Where are we going?

We're at a point in our systems like in other major cities across the nation or states where they have a mental health and medical facilities.

Yeah, our facilities.

I mean, halal was probably the only one that had was suited enough to have housing that could house them at various levels and various classifications.

Our jails don't have anything for mental health.

None of our jails, that's that's significant for the their treatment and their well-being, yeah.

So we really need to begin to look and assess from the oversights perspective.

The state hospital.

What it's doing and how can we be an advocate for their needs to be better services to the community?

And how can we recommend the DCR and the judiciary find other means for their forensic population?

That's my take on all of this, gentlemen.

**TM** **Town, Mike** 6:08  
I agree.

**IR** **Ibarra, Ronald** 6:10  
Babe.

**WP** **warden patterson** 6:11  
So hearing no further discussion.  
All in favor say aye.

**TM** **Town, Mike** 6:19  
Aye.

**IR** **Ibarra, Ronald** 6:20

I.

**WP** **warden patterson** 6:21

Alright, all the polls say same.

Or any abstention motion carried.

Thank you, gentlemen.

That was that was the much needed discussion that needed to take place.

I know it was brief, but I think we got hit all the points.

That needed to be said. The second motion that I wanna present right now and again.

I just need someone to.

Move on it and a second is for the Hawaii State Hospital.

Is that we move to waive the fee waiving requirement because of confidentiality and privacy laws that are covered by federal and state regulations.

Hold on for those in the adult mental health hospital.

**TM** **Town, Mike** 7:04

I so moved.

**IR** **Ibarra, Ronald** 7:06

2nd.

**WP** **warden patterson** 7:07

Get moved by Mike Town, seconded by Ronald Ibarra.

Any discussion I don't.

I it's common sense.

We're not gonna go in there and film the patients.

Yeah, and and and and their confidences important we do.

We do the same thing when we go into the jails just bringing video equipment in there. We wanna keep the individuals who are incarcerated from being seen on camera, likewise with the.

The patients.

And the staff who are at the hospital at this time.  
Mike.

**TM Town, Mike** 7:42

No, I think the same.

The same reason we have HIPAA and various laws and we need to get in there, but we need to get in there in a way that makes sense and videotaping to me is not the way.

**WP warden patterson** 7:56

Ronald.

**IR Ibarra, Ronald** 7:57

I agree.

Generally, medical issues are confidential.

Under many federal and state laws, and certainly.

We need to get in there, but certainly abide by the patients privacy.

Interests as well as the staff.

**WP warden patterson** 8:18

Thank you. We wanna be conscious of federal.

Regulations and law regarding these type of videotaping as well as the policies and procedures of the Department of Health gentleman, with no further discussion.

All in favor say aye.

All opposed same.

Any abstinence?

Hearing none, motion passed.

George, as far as our agenda, do we need to discuss anything else?

**CG Choe, George** 8:50

No, I don't believe there's anybody here that's from the public.

So the only thing you would just address is the next meeting, which is our monthly Commission meeting on August 14th and followed by the facility visit to the state hospital. Once OIP approves. And then you guys can adjourn.

**WP** warden patterson 9:07

So George, just real quick, there is no one on the except us that's on this.

**CG** Choe, George 9:16

That is correct.

Yep. So nobody in the room for public comment.

**WP** warden patterson 9:17

OK.

OK.

**TM** Town, Mike 9:22

Kristen's here I think.

**WP** warden patterson 9:24

Make sure you make sure you make a note of that. OK, George.

**CG** Choe, George 9:27

Yes.

**WP** warden patterson 9:27

There was one present from the public.

**CG** Choe, George 9:29

I'll put that in the Minutes.

**WP** warden patterson 9:31

So August 14 gentlemen will be our next meeting at the whole actually at the Weiner Community College.

For the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission.

And then soon after that, we'll be going into the hospital, the state hospital for a tour of that facility.

Thank you very much for your time today, gentlemen.

We'll see you guys soon.

Meeting adjourned.

**TM** **Town, Mike** 9:53

Thank you.

Thank you everybody.

**IR** **Ibarra, Ronald** 9:54

Thank you.

**WP** **warden patterson** 9:54

Big.

**CG** **Choe, George** 9:55

Thank you everyone.

**JM** **Johnson, Christin M** 9:55

Thanks everyone.

Have a great day.

**CG** **Choe, George** 9:58

Bye.

**IR** **Ibarra, Ronald** 9:58

Kristen has soon.

**TM** **Town, Mike** 9:58

Yeah.

□ **Choe, George** stopped transcription