



**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, November 13, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Hawai'i Community College  
1175 Manono Street, Building 388 (Rooms 101 & 102)  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Recording: [YouTube](https://youtu.be/RBVUcXuu7Xw?si=1IfgtFq-9W5UE4gJ)  
<https://youtu.be/RBVUcXuu7Xw?si=1IfgtFq-9W5UE4gJ>

Transcript: [Meeting Transcript](https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/2025.11.13-HCSOC-Transcript.pdf)  
<https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/2025.11.13-HCSOC-Transcript.pdf>

### Items to be Discussed:

**I. Call to Order**

- II. The meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Patterson on Thursday, November 11, 2025. The meeting was conducted in accordance with Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Chapter 92.

**III. Roll Call**

- **Chair Mark Patterson** (joined virtually)
- **Commissioner R. Mark Browning** (joined virtually)
- **Commissioner Ronald Ibarra**
- **Commissioner Martha Torney**
- **Commissioner Mike Town** (later joined virtually)

Quorum was established with four members present. Reentry Oversight Specialist Kimmy Takata and Jail Oversight Specialist Alec Jamerson were present at the physical meeting location.

**IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2025.**

- Review of minutes by members. Motion by Chair Patterson to approve November 13, 2025, Open Session Meeting Minutes.
  - i. Motion moved by Commissioner Browning and seconded by Commissioner Ibarra.
  - ii. Vote: Unanimous approval, motion passed, minutes approved.

**V. (0:22:30) Monthly Update from Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Director Tommy Johnson**

- Interstate Compacts
  - i. Director Johnson was not available at this time and so Chair Patterson moved to agenda item VI.
  - ii. Director Johnson joined the meeting and discusses interstate compacts.
    - 1. There are three ways/methods:
      - a. Inmates can apply voluntarily to transfer to another state. This is a non-refundable application fee of \$200 that goes to the judiciary. There is no guarantee that they would be accepted by the receiving state. There is a criteria:
        - i. Family member in that state or a verified employment. The receiving state would do the verification and investigate.
      - b. 1:1 exchange
        - i. Hawaii would accept a high-profile case or management issue from another jurisdiction, then DCR would send one person in exchange for the other. There is no cost associated with this type of transfer. No application is needed.
      - c. Involuntary prisoner transfer which means that Hawaii sends someone to another state, then Hawaii will pay the daily rate to house that individual. This is usually done for high-profile cases for the person's own good or poses some type of management, safety risk to the facilities in Hawaii. No application is needed.
    - 2. No changes to Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC)
    - 3. Did speak with Hawaii Department of Transportation (DOT) Director regarding relocation of Kauai Community Correctional Center (KCCC). Funding has been granted to purchase the land but still needs funding for building the facility. They are projected to start the highway widening project in about two years.
    - 4. Discussions are still being had regarding OCCC project.
    - 5. No updates for Hawaii Community Correctional Center (HCCC)
    - 6. No updates for Maui Community Correctional Center (MCCC)
      - a. Dorm project is underway to build 48 new beds for the male dorm.
    - 7. No updates for Waiawa Correctional Facility (WCF)
    - 8. Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC)

- a. Held a mental health wellness fair for patients in care or custody.

### **Public Testimony**

- Oral Testimony:
  - i. Public member speaks regarding a shot caller and involuntary transfer, is direct proof needed or is the state going based on what others say.
  - ii. Public member asks a question regarding her husband and how housing is determined when transferred through interstate compact.
  - iii. Public member speaks about involuntary transfer under an interstate compact but carry the Security Threat Group (STG) label. Which classification prevails, protective custody or the STG. DCR does not have a policy regarding removing or renouncing the STG tag and DCR does not provide tattoo removal.
    - 1. Commissioner Ibarra asks the question as how is the STG determination made? Would the inmate have the opportunity to present all of those evidences that he or she is not a member of the gang, but was at one point?
- Written Testimony: No previously submitted written testimony was received.
- Commission:
  - i. Commissioner Ibarra asks Director Johnson if the interstate compact application fee is waivable. Director Johnson responds “no” because it is paid to the judiciary for the interstate compact process. Judiciary does not receive additional funding from the legislature to fund the interstate compact process.
  - ii. Commissioner Torney addresses that many of the testimonies received earlier were regards to involuntary interstate compacts and asks for additional explanation from Director Johnson.
    - 1. Involuntary circumstances where the state would ask if DCR believes someone is in danger and unable to keep them safe. Another reason is if they pose some type of threat to the facility, such as a shot caller in a gang, or management problem with continuous assaults to staff or other inmates.

## **VI. (0:05:30) Overview of Oversight Coordinator Report**

- Deaths in Custody
  - i. November 6, 2025 – two separate deaths
- Tours
  - i. WCCC Transforming Animal and Incarcerated Individuals’ Lives (TAIL) Pilot Program
- Events Attended
  - i. House Committee on Public Safety Information Briefing on Compassionate Release
  - ii. Restrictive Housing Legislative Working Group
- Conferences
  - i. National Reentry Workforce Collaborative 2025 Conference

- ii. National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) 2025 Conference
- Reports
  - i. Women's Community Correctional Center Site Observations
  - ii. Oahu Community Correctional Center Site Observations
- Projects
  - i. Complaint Management
- Past Meetings
  - i. October 9, 2025, Monthly Commission Meeting

#### **Public Testimony**

- Oral Testimony:
  - i. Public member speaks regarding her family member who is her grandpa and has been incarcerated for over 55 years.
  - ii. Public member speaks regarding her incarcerated partner and thanks the Commission for their assistance. She explains the situation of her partner being in Saguaro and held in segregation for 29 days, then transferred to South Carolina and held in segregation for 35 days. He has been moved to a work line that he doesn't get paid or any compensation. He also does not have any resources to Hawaii. States that she's been working with DCR and HPA. Commissioner Torney reminds that testimony should be related to the agenda topic.
- Written Testimony: No previously submitted written testimony was received.
- Commission: None

### **VII. (0:48:40) Overview and Discussion of the Halawa Correctional Facility (HCF) Tour and Report**

#### **Public Testimony**

- Oral Testimony:
  - i. Public member speaks about her partner being targeted for an old affiliation.
    - 1. Commissioner Torney responds that the Commission can bring this to the warden's attention regarding programming for those that are in segregation.
  - ii. Public member speaks and thanks the commission for their work.
  - iii. Public member speaks about religion in Saguaro and requests the commission to investigate the case of this.
    - 1. Chair Patterson responds to public member
- Written Testimony: No previously submitted written testimony was received.
- Commission: Commissioners speak

### **VIII. Public Comment**

- Public comment on issues not on the agenda, for consideration for Commission's agenda at the next meeting.

**IX. (1:18:40) Announcements and Scheduling of the Next Meeting**

- Thursday, December 11, 2025, 9:00 a.m.
  - i. Facility Tour: Waiawa Correctional Facility

**X. Adjournment**

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