



# Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission

Monthly Oversight Coordinator Report – January 2026

## Contents

Introduction.....	3
Deaths in Custody.....	3
Events Attended.....	3
Projects.....	5
Past Meetings.....	5
Expenses for the Preceding Month – January.....	6
General Office Information.....	7
Monthly Meetings.....	7

## Introduction

In accordance with Chapter §353L-6, the Oversight Coordinator shall submit a monthly report to the Commission, the Governor, and the Legislature. The monthly report shall include actions taken by the Commission and expenses for the preceding month. In addition to the mandated parties this report must be shared with, the Oversight Coordinator publicly posts the monthly report to increase transparency and accountability. This report will also be shared with each individual who has the responsibility of appointing members of the Commission. This includes:

- 1) Governor of Hawaii
- 2) President of the Hawaii Senate
- 3) Speaker of the Hawaii House of Representatives
- 4) Hawaii Supreme Court Chief Justice
- 5) Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

The Oversight Coordinator monthly reports are released on the first Friday of each month, covering the previous month, and will be discussed on the second Thursday of each month at the monthly Commission meetings.

## Deaths in Custody

1. On December 30, 2025, a 67-year-old white male was transferred to the hospital after experiencing a medical event at the Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC). On January 11, 2026, at 7:57am, the individual was pronounced deceased. The circumstances leading to the death and cause of death are still being investigated by the Department. An autopsy will determine the official cause of death.
2. On Saturday, January 24, 2026, at approximately 7:38pm, a Hawaiian male in custody, 29 years old, at Halawa Correctional Facility (HCF) was found unresponsive in his cell. Security personnel immediately responded, conducted CPR, and alerted 911 emergency services. EMS arrived on scene at approximately 7:56pm. At approximately 8:45pm, the individual was pronounced deceased. The death appears to be a suicide. An autopsy will determine the official cause of death.
3. On January 26, 2026, a 53-year-old Asian male in custody was reportedly transported to the hospital from OCCC after feeling chest pains. The individual was pronounced deceased on January 27, 2026, at 12:35am while hospitalized. An autopsy will determine the official cause of death.

## Events Attended

### *Restrictive Housing Working Group Meeting and Presentation*

On January 13, 2026, the Commission participated in the [Act 292 Restrictive Housing Legislative Working Group](#). This group was established by the Legislature and enacted into law by Governor Josh Green on July 3, 2025, to develop and recommend more comprehensive laws, policies, and procedures regarding restrictive housing for members

of vulnerable populations. The group has expanded its role to provide feedback on any amendments needed to Act 292 of 2025.

On January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026, the Commission presented to the Working Group to give an overview of the jail and prison system, help clarify terms as defined by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) and by Act 292, highlight why Act 292 matters, encourage members to center the focus and conversations around the human beings impacted by restrictive housing, highlight lived experiences, and note potential solutions that DCR could take on right now to alleviate challenges behind implementing Act 292, including focusing on system movement. The presentation is available on the working group's webpage and attached to this report.

#### *Waiawa Correctional Facility - InsideOut Dad/7 Habits on the Inside*

On Friday, January 16, 2026, HCSOC staff attended a graduation ceremony at the Waiawa Correctional Facility recognizing 10 participants from the InsideOut Dad parenting program and 14 participants from 7 Habits on the Inside personal development program run by KOKA (Keiki O Ka 'Āina). These programs support rehabilitation by strengthening family relationships, promoting personal accountability, and improving reentry readiness. Participants received certificates and shared reflections on personal growth, with several expressing emotions during the ceremony. The event underscored the value of structured programming in supporting positive behavior and rehabilitation.

#### *Women's Community Correctional Center – Makahiki Season of Peace*

On Monday, January 26, 2026, HCSOC staff attended a Makahiki Season of Peace event at the Women's Community Correctional Center. The program was facilitated by Dr. Kaleo Patterson through the Pacific Justice and Reconciliation Center and Native Hawaiian Church. There were 20 women who participated in this event held in the chapel. Participants learned about the cultural significance of Makahiki. More information regarding this and other Makahiki events that the Commission has attended will be posted in a later report.

#### *House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee Informational Briefing: Hawaii's Pretrial System*

On Thursday, January 29, 2026, HCSOC staff attended an informational briefing focused on Hawai'i's current pretrial systems and national pretrial reform efforts. The purpose of the briefing was to provide an overview of how pretrial decision-making operates in Hawai'i, including the roles of involved agencies and the range of outcomes for individuals following arrest. The briefing also examined national trends and reforms being implemented in other states and jurisdictions, with attention to the importance of incorporating victim rights perspectives into discussions of pretrial reform.

The briefing featured presentations from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) Intake Service Centers Team, the Kentucky Pretrial Services Unit of the Kentucky Court of Justice, the R Street Institute, the Judiciary, and the Sex Abuse Treatment Center at Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children.

### *Women's Community Correctional Center- Mental Health Technician Graduation*

On Friday, January 30, 2026, HCSOC staff attended a Mental Health Technician graduation ceremony held at the Women's Community Correctional Center. The program, provided through Windward Community College's Pu'uohonua Academic Center, recognized 10 women who successfully completed the training and received their certificates. The program supports rehabilitation by building workforce skills, increasing mental health awareness, and preparing participants for continued education and employment opportunities upon release. The ceremony highlighted the importance of educational pathways in supporting successful reentry and long-term stability.

## Projects

### *Complaint Management*

After receiving dedicated funding for a case management system from the legislature, the Commission secured a vendor to ensure a smooth and efficient system for the office. Commission staff completed a 15-week systems integration process, which involved integrating the case tracking system developed by Commission staff with the newly developed case management system. As staff finalize the project, the Commission will be better equipped for tracking, monitoring, investigating, and responding to incoming complaints.

## Past Meetings

### *Monthly Commission Meeting*

On January 8, 2026, the Commission hosted its monthly public meeting. All past meeting agendas, video recordings, meeting minutes, and testimonies can be found on our website here: <https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov/2026-meetings>. All meetings are live streamed on our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube channel](#).

### Expenses for the Preceding Month – January

Item	Cost	Qty	Total	Description
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			<b>\$685.68</b>	
TELEPHONE	\$262.33	1	\$262.33	NOVEMBER
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$109.27	1	\$109.27	B&H PHOTO
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$314.08	1	\$314.08	B&H PHOTO
<b>Inter-Island Travel</b>			<b>\$660.33</b>	
AIRFARE-KRT	\$161.36	1	\$161.36	12/18 - ALASKA
AIRFARE-CMJ	\$151.86	1	\$151.86	12/18 - ALASKA
AIRFARE-ANJ	\$156.61	1	\$156.61	12/13 - ALASKA
CAR RENTAL-ANJ	\$76.50	1	\$76.50	11/13 - ENTERPRISE
P. DIEM MEAL-CMJ	\$20.00	1	\$20.00	11/13 - PER DIEM
PARKING	\$27.00	1	\$27.00	11/13 - TRAVEL PARKING
P. DIEM MEAL-KRT	\$20.00	1	\$20.00	11/13 - PER DIEM
P. DIEM MEAL-MTT	\$20.00	1	\$20.00	11/13 - PER DIEM
PARKING	\$27.00	1	\$27.00	11/13 - TRAVEL PARKING
<b>Mainland Travel</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>	
<b>Conferences</b>			<b>\$25.00</b>	
NACOLE WEBINAR-ANJ	\$25.00	1	\$25.00	12/11
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$1,371.01</b>	

*\* All expenses reflect posted transactions procured*

## General Office Information

Mailing Address: Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission  
235 S. Beretania Street, 16<sup>th</sup> floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Website: <https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov>

Submit Testimony: <https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov/submit-testimony>

Email: [hcsoc@hawaii.gov](mailto:hcsoc@hawaii.gov)

Social Media: [YouTube](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Facebook](#)  
[Instagram](#)

## Monthly Meetings

This report will be discussed at the monthly Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission meeting on February 12, 2026. The next monthly meeting is scheduled to occur on March 12, 2026, at Leiopapa A. Kamehameha Building, 235 S. Beretania Street, Room 204, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 or online via teleconference. More information can be found on the Commission's webpage here: <https://hcsoc.hawaii.gov/information>.