

# State Commission on Fatherhood

**Meeting Minutes**, Tuesday, November 28, 2006  
Lt. Governor's Meeting Room, Hawai'i State Capitol

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandy Baz, Merton Chinen, Mike Dias, Greg Farstrup, Loretta Fuddy, Dennis Kajikawa, Myrna Murdoch, Marika Ripke

MEMBERS ABSENT: Barrett Awai, Bernard Carvalho, Henry Oliva, Russell Suzuki, Tom Read, Sylvia Yuen,

GUESTS: Tom Marzec

1. **MEETING CONVENED** - The meeting was called to order by Chair Greg Farstrup at 11:15 a.m. WITH a quorum (5-of-9 voting members underlined).
2. **SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER 2006 SCF MINUTES**  
The September 26, 2006 meeting minutes were approved (Ripke/Murdoch: unanimous). The October 24, 2006 meeting notes were reviewed.
3. **SCF MEMBERSHIP**  
Michael Kramer's position (Hawai'i) is the only current vacancy. Dias will check if Larry Ursua has applied. Murdoch offered to serve as SCF Membership Coordinator.
4. **SCF BUDGET AND FUNDING**  
DHS/SCF \$50,000 TANF grants—Henry, Merton, and Scott have met and reviewed the submitted proposals. ACTION: The SCF decided that the DHS Grant Review Committee will deliberate and select the proposals to be awarded and will report their decision to SCF at the next SCF meeting (Ripke/Murdoch: unanimous).
5. **COMMITTEES:**
  - a. Policy and Practices (Farstrup, Kramer, Murdoch, Oliva, Ripke, Suzuki)
    - 1) Legislative Issues:
      - a) 2007 Legislative SCF bills:
        - i) SCF sunset repeal or extension—sponsoring Legislators need to be identified and a bill needs to be drafted.
        - ii) SCF staffing funding did not make it into the Governor's budget. Sponsoring Legislators need to be identified and a bill needs to be drafted. Murdoch will coordinate getting SCF's bills included in the Keiki Caucus' Legislative package.
        - iii) Presumption of Joint Custody Legislative proposal—Tom and Myrna updated us on the legislation. It defines "best interest of child" and specifies criteria. The details of the bill still need to be worked out. Once the bill is "finalized", SCF will determine whether or not it wants to officially support.
        - iv) SCR 52 Task Force re: Family Friendly Court—We will keep informed of legislative proposals from this Task Force.
      - 2) Father Court—No discussion.
      - 3) Agency Surveys—Ripke and Baz will check with DHS regarding the status of the survey.
    - b. Events/ Recognition (Chinen and Oliva)
      - 1) SCF conference (Baz, Dias, Farstrup, Kajikawa, Murdoch, Ripke)—We discussed the conference logistics. June was proposed as a possibility since it is Father's Month. Mid-to late May was also suggested. Different venues were proposed (UH E/West Center, however parking there is very limited). The benefits of having it at a hotel again are ample parking and catering.

Possible speakers include Warren Farrell, Rev. Wayne Cordeiro, and Margot Bean. We estimate 250-400 attendees. Farstrup will check with Warren Farrell about his availability and we will go from there.

2) Legislative Breakfast—Murdoch and Tom Marzec from the Children’s Rights Council are hosting a legislative breakfast. They offered to have it be a joint effort with SCF. The tentative date is January 9, 2007 at the Pacific Club. We will have our SCF meeting after the breakfast. Murdoch will invite SCF members to attend.

c. Public Information & Education (Dias, Ripke, Yuen)

1) SCF on DHS’s website ([hawaii.gov.dhs/fatherhood](http://hawaii.gov.dhs/fatherhood))—Farstrup said that the approved SCF minutes and the Hawai`i Coalition for Dads’ *Hawai`i Dads* newsletters are now on SCF’s website.

d. Public Relations and Promotion (Carvalho, Dias)—No report.

**6. FUTURE MEETINGS**—The December SCF meeting was cancelled. The next SCF meeting will be Tuesday, January 9th 11 am – 2 pm. at the Lt. Governor’s. The SCF meetings will return to the regular schedule of last Tuesday of each month.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**8. ADJOURNMENT:** Ended about 1:20 p.m.

**Submitted by:** Marika Ripke, Secretary/Treasurer  
November 15, 2006

**Approved by:** State Commission on Fatherhood

**Date Approved:** February 13, 2007