



# HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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## NEWS RELEASE

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For Additional Information

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### **HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION APPOINTS LESLIE H. KONDO AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Hawaii State Ethics Commission has unanimously selected Leslie H. Kondo as its new Executive Director, effective January 11, 2011. The State Ethics Commission administers the State Ethics Code for state government officials and employees, and the State Lobbyist Law. As Executive Director, Mr. Kondo will serve as the administrator and chief legal counsel for the Commission. “We are excited to have Mr. Kondo join the Commission as the Executive Director. He has demonstrated his commitment to public service and has been a respected leader in state government,” said Commission Chairperson Maria Sullivan. “Mr. Kondo previously led a ‘good government’ office, and from that experience, he understands the unique challenges and satisfaction of helping to foster public confidence in government.”

Since 2007, Mr. Kondo has served as a member of the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission. As a commissioner, Mr. Kondo participated in decisions regulating the state’s public utilities and helped guide the state’s ambitious efforts to transition to a cleaner energy future.

Mr. Kondo served as the Director of the State Office of Information Practices (OIP) from 2003 to 2007, where he was responsible for administering Hawaii's open meetings law (also known as the Sunshine Law) and public records law. As OIP Director, Mr. Kondo provided guidance and training to government officials and employees, members of state and county boards, and the public regarding the state's open government laws. He also issued legal opinions regarding public board meetings and access to government records.

Prior to his government service, Mr. Kondo worked as a litigation attorney in private practice, most recently as a partner with the law firm of Chun and Nagatani. Mr. Kondo also worked as an associate attorney at Tom & Petrus, and at McCorriston Miho Miller Mukai.

Mr. Kondo has a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering from Northwestern University, and a Juris Doctor degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii, where he was a member of the University of Hawaii Law Review. After graduation, Mr. Kondo was a law clerk to Chief Justice Herman T. F. Lum of the Supreme Court of Hawaii. Mr. Kondo is a member of the Hawaii State Bar Association and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). He has also been a member of the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL) and was previously a director for Make-A-Wish Hawaii.

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