



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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**JOB COACH GETS JAIL FOR ENDANGERING
THE WELFARE OF AN INCOMPETENT PERSON**

(HONOLULU) – On July 2, 2007, Family Court Judge Patrick Border sentenced 62-year old John Billam-Walker to 120 days in jail after a jury found him guilty of the misdemeanor offense of endangering the welfare of an incompetent person. The jury deliberated for under 3 hours on June 29, 2007 before delivering its guilty verdict after a 4-day jury trial. In addition to this jail time, Billam-Walker's was also sentenced to pay a fine of \$2000, to get a mental health assessment, and to receive counseling if deemed necessary.

The offenses occurred while Billam-Walker performed job coaching and community based services for developmentally and mentally disabled adults. The 34-year old victim received services and worked as a janitor. Billam-Walker psychologically and physically abused the victim over the course of five months in 2005. The abuse included yelling and pushing while the victim performed his job. The defendant also slapped the victim while the victim was with friends at a community dance.

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