



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

**News Release**

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
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For Immediate Release: July 18, 2013

News Release 2013-10

**JAMES PFLUEGER PLEADS NO CONTEST TO RECKLESS ENDANGERING IN THE FIRST DEGREE AND PFLUEGER COMPANY, PACIFIC 808 PROPERTIES, LP, AGREES TO PAY \$350,000 FINE**

HONOLULU – Today, Judge Randal Valenciano accepted a change of plea from James Pflueger that was made pursuant to a plea agreement between the State of Hawaii and Pflueger, in which Pflueger pled no contest to Reckless Endangering in the First Degree, a class C felony, related to the March 14, 2006 breach of the Ka Loko Dam. Judge Valenciano has set sentencing for Pflueger for January 23, 2014. According to the terms of the plea agreement, Pflueger will serve five years probation. In addition, at the sentencing hearing, the State can seek to have the Court impose any legally allowable conditions of probation, including community service, a fine and imprisonment for up to one year.

Judge Valenciano also accepted a change of plea from Pacific 808 Properties, LP made pursuant to the same plea agreement, in which the company pled no contest to seven counts of Manslaughter. Pflueger is a general partner in that company. According to the terms of the plea agreement, Pacific 808 Properties, LP agreed to pay a fine of \$50,000 for each manslaughter count totaling \$350,000. The proceeds from the fine are intended to be used to enhance the dam inspection and safety program administered by the Department of Land and Natural Resources under the Hawaii Dam and Reservoir Safety Act of 2007, enacted after the tragic Ka Loko Dam breach.

Attorney General David Louie stated “I am satisfied that by entering into this plea agreement Pflueger has accepted responsibility for his part in this tragedy. It is my hope that the events of today can provide a degree of closure for the families and community affected by the Ka Loko Dam breach.” Attorney General Louie added that he is pleased that the State will have an additional \$350,000 to inspect Hawaii’s dams and to try and prevent future tragedies of this nature.

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