

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

## **News Release**

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## FORMER HEAD OF HAWAII TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY CHARGED WITH THEFT IN THE FIRST AND SECOND DEGREES

HONOLULU – Acting Attorney General Russell A. Suzuki announced today that Jeffrey Piontek (47) was arrested in Los Angeles, California on Monday, October 21, 2013 based on an arrest warrant issued in Hawaii for two counts of Theft in the First Degree (value of theft exceeds \$20,000) and three counts of Theft in the Second Degree (value of theft exceeds \$300). The U.S. Marshals Service, along with the Los Angeles Police Department Fugitive Detail and the New York City Police Department Fugitive Detail, assisted in the arrest. Mr. Piontek is now being held in the Los Angeles County Jail and is awaiting extradition proceedings for his return to Hawaii.

On October 11, 2013, the Department of the Attorney General filed a five-count felony information charging Mr. Piontek, the former Head of School of the Hawaii Technology Academy, a Public Charter School, with theft of over \$100,000.00 of the school's funds. The felony information alleges theft of funds from various school accounts.

The felony information filed against Mr. Piontek is merely an allegation filed by the State and he is presumed innocent of the charges unless and until he is proven guilty in a court of law.

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