



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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Welfare Fraud Crackdown Continues

Attorney General Earl I. Anzai announced today that:

On August 9, 2001, First Circuit Court Judge Gail C. Nakatani sentenced Honolulu resident Suani Faafia, 56, for one count of theft in the first degree and one count of theft in the second degree. Mr. Faafia was placed on probation for a period of five years, ordered to pay restitution to the State of Hawaii in the amount \$120,671.00 and ordered to spend five months in jail as special conditions of his probation.

Between 1989 and 1999, Mr. Faafia concealed from welfare authorities that his wife was in his household and employed. Between 1999 and May 1, 2000, he concealed from welfare authorities that his child was no longer living with him. A mitigating factor at sentencing was Mr. Faafia's poor health.

The Department of the Attorney General has a zero tolerance policy regarding welfare fraud. Anyone having information concerning possible welfare fraud should call the Welfare Fraud Hotline at (808) 587-8444. You can remain anonymous and help your community.
