



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

Mark J. Bennett, Attorney General
Phone: (808) 586-1500
Fax: (808) 586-1239

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DEFENDANT SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR FITNESS CLUB THEFTS

(HONOLULU) Attorney General Mark Bennett announced that Clifford Mau, an attorney who practiced law in California, was sentenced on August 15, 2005 by Judge Steven Alm to five years imprisonment for thefts from lockers at several 24 Hour Fitness Centers and for possessing and using stolen credit cards.

Mau committed a series of crimes during the period from April 7, 2004 to April 23, 2004. He had gained access to fitness centers on Oahu and had broken into lockers to steal members' belongings. He also obtained and used stolen credit cards unrelated to the fitness center break-ins.

He was sentenced, pursuant to a plea agreement with the State Attorney General's Office, on six class C felonies and two petty misdemeanor offenses, including Theft in the Second Degree, Burglary in the Second Degree, three counts of Credit Card Theft, Identity Theft in the Third Degree, and two counts of Theft in the Fourth Degree. He received five-year terms for the class C felonies and thirty-day jail terms for the two petty misdemeanors. All terms were ordered to run concurrently.

Mau admitted that the offenses were the result of drug abuse. In addition to being an attorney, Mau was also a substance abuse counselor.

Attorney General Bennett said, "This case highlights the serious problem of substance abuse. An educated attorney, who was also trained to understand the problems of abuse and help others with their problems, chose to let drugs control his own life. And thereby, he hurt many other innocent people. We all must be vigilant and protect ourselves against drug abuse."

The Court allowed Mau to turn himself in on August 23, 2005 to give him time to address other legal matters. Sentencing for Larry Mantanona, Mau's co-defendant, was continued for medical reasons, to October 3, 2005.

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For more information, contact:
Lance M. Goto
Deputy Attorney General
Criminal Justice Division
(808) 586-1160

hawaiiaq@hawaii.gov

www.hawaii.gov/ag