



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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**HAWAII SUPREME COURT RULES IN STATE'S FAVOR
IN CEDED LANDS LITIGATION**

HONOLULU – The Hawaii Supreme Court today ordered the dismissal of the claims of the one remaining plaintiff (Jonathan Osorio) in the ceded lands litigation decided earlier this year in the State's favor by the United States Supreme Court.

The dismissal of the claims will be without prejudice, which is the precise relief requested by the State in its motion to dismiss filed in the Hawaii Supreme Court.

As all other plaintiffs, including the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, had already agreed to the dismissal of their appeal and dismissal of their claims, also without prejudice, this ruling will shortly result in the final termination by the Hawaii circuit court of this fifteen-year-old case.

"I am pleased that the Hawaii Supreme Court granted the State's motion to order the dismissal of the claims of the one remaining plaintiff in this case, and thus terminate this lawsuit," Attorney General Mark Bennett said. "I believe this procedural ruling of the Hawaii Supreme Court is appropriate, given the substantive ruling by the United States Supreme Court earlier this year, and given the Legislature's adoption of Act 176 of 2009, relating to Hawaii's public lands."

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