

DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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ATTORNEY GENERAL DOUG CHIN QUESTIONS PRESIDENT TRUMP IN D.C. ABOUT TRAVEL BAN

HONOLULU – During a question and answer session at the White House today with President Donald Trump and state attorneys general from across the country, Hawaii Attorney General Doug Chin asked the President about the travel ban that prompted lawsuits across the country challenging the ban's constitutionality, including one filed by Chin on behalf of the State of Hawaii on February 3, 2017.

Attorney General Chin told President Trump he understood a new executive order might be released this week relating to a ban on travel from seven Muslim-majority nations. Chin asked the President to explain the President's thinking behind the executive order and what the President wanted to accomplish.

Attorney General Chin stated, "President Trump asked if my state had sued him and I said, 'we did.' The President then answered my question by saying that his goal was to make America safe again and extreme vetting was part of achieving that goal."

Attorney General Chin added, "The security and safety of our nation is a universal goal. I firmly believe you don't have to target people based on national origin or religion to get there – in fact, doing so *harms* our nation's security. Our Constitution does not allow such discrimination. The State of Hawaii will review future executive orders from the federal government with this in mind and will sue if we have to."

After the question and answer session, which Vice President Mike Pence and Chief of Staff Reince Priebus also attended, the Vice President spoke with Attorney General Chin and, according to Chin, told Chin that the administration cared about Hawaii's concerns.

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