

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



HOLLY T. SHIKADA
ATTORNEY GENERAL

VALERIE M. KATO
FIRST DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
Ka 'Oihana O Ka Loio Kuhina
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November 29, 2022

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the Department of the Attorney General's Second Report on the State's Efforts to Address the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. In accordance with section 93-16, HRS, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at <http://ag.hawaii.gov/publications/reports/reports-to-the-legislature/>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at (808) 586-1500.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Holly T. Shikada".

Holly T. Shikada
Attorney General

c: David Y. Ige, Governor
Josh Green, Lieutenant Governor
Legislative Reference Bureau (Attn: Karen Mau)
Leslie H. Kondo, State Auditor
Craig K. Hirai, Director of Finance, Department of Budget and Finance
Stacey A. Aldrich, State Librarian, Hawaii State Public Library System
David Lassner, Ph.D., President, University of Hawaii

Enclosure

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SECOND REPORT ON THE STATE'S EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

Requested by House Resolution No. 83, H.D. 1
Regular Session of 2021

Submitted to the Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023

I. Introduction

House Resolution No. 83, H.D. 1 (2021) requested that the Department of the Attorney General (Department) submit an initial report and a second report to the Legislature. On December 1, 2021, the Department submitted its initial report, which assessed the State's efforts to address the commercial exploitation of children and provided plans and recommendations, including prevention strategies, victim assistance programs, law enforcement efforts, data collection, and public outreach and education programs. This is the Department's second report regarding its efforts to combat human trafficking. Because the landscape is largely unchanged since the initial report, the Department is providing a brief update regarding the creation of a division within the Department that will be responsible for combatting human trafficking in the State.

II. Creation of the Special Prosecution and Investigation Division

During the 2022 legislative session, the Legislature budgetarily created the Special Investigation and Prosecution Division (SIPD) of the Department. The SIPD consists of two sections: the Corruption, Fraud, and Economic Crimes Section and the Human Trafficking Abatement Section. The SIPD's mission is to vigorously investigate and prosecute public corruption and human trafficking cases.

The SIPD will be supervised by Supervising Deputy Attorney General David Van Acker, and will be composed of the following additional positions: five deputy attorneys general (three primarily dedicated to public corruption and two primarily dedicated to human trafficking); three forensic analysts; seven investigators (five primarily dedicated to public corruption and two primarily dedicated to human trafficking); human trafficking abatement coordinator; human services professional; two legal assistants; and two legal clerks. The Department is in the hiring process and the goal for the division is to achieve full staffing by the end of 2022.

III. The SIPD's Human Trafficking Abatement Section

The SIPD's Human Trafficking Abatement Section employs personnel that specialize in human trafficking so they can collaboratively create and implement investigative strategies unique to human trafficking. Having dedicated and experienced personnel in staff positions should lead to greater statewide human trafficking prosecution. The Human Trafficking Abatement Section will have the capability to provide substantial investigative and prosecutorial outreach, support, and expertise to neighbor island law enforcement entities (*e.g.*, local police departments and prosecutor's offices). The Human Trafficking Abatement Section will strengthen the state's ability to protect victims and hold offenders accountable.

In November 2022, the Department hired Lindsey Amina as the Statewide Human Trafficking Abatement Coordinator. As the State's Human Trafficking Abatement Coordinator, Lindsey will develop a multifaceted action plan aimed at improving services and outcomes for victims and survivors, prevention efforts, policy development, and prosecutions. Lindsey will also develop a plan to provide increased support and assistance for victims of child sexual exploitation, which will include collaborating on law enforcement efforts among local, state, and federal agencies as well as promoting public awareness of the availability of resources and services for victims and their families.