



**STATE OF HAWAI'I  
KA MOKU 'ĀINA O HAWAI'I**

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA**

**ANNE LOPEZ  
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**STATE INITIATES INVESTIGATION FOLLOWING AGREEMENT BY  
FEDERAL AUTHORITIES TO SHARE EVIDENCE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 20, 2026

HONOLULU – The state of Hawai'i has initiated an investigation following an agreement with federal authorities to share evidence with state authorities related to an ongoing federal matter.

On January 16, 2026, federal authorities informed state officials that they would provide to the Attorney General evidence concerning an alleged incident involving an unnamed "influential state legislator" who is alleged to have accepted approximately \$35,000 in funds.

Governor Josh Green and Attorney General Anne Lopez jointly determined that a state investigation into this matter is in the public interest.

Governor Green has consistently emphasized the importance of individuals coming forward voluntarily when concerns arise, expressing his hope that matters can be resolved in a way that maintains public trust in government. In recent weeks, Hawai'i state legislative leadership, while deferring to the Attorney General's previous

recommendations to hold on investigating this matter, have also strongly urged that the matter be formally reviewed to ensure accountability and transparency. The January 16 decision by federal authorities to share evidence provided a clear path for the Attorney General to proceed without jeopardizing the ongoing federal investigation.

Pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes § 28-2.5, the Attorney General has determined that an investigation into the alleged conduct is in the public interest. The Department of the Attorney General's Special Investigation and Prosecution Division will lead the investigation.

To preserve the integrity of the investigation, neither the Governor nor the Attorney General will comment further on this matter.

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