



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
E HUIKALA A MA'EMA'E NŌ
235 S. Beretania Street, 16th Floor
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
(808) 587-4160

Meeting Minutes

The monthly Hawai'i Correctional System Oversight Commission meeting is offered as a hybrid meeting where Commissioners and members of the public can participate in person, or via teleconference. Details for both options are noted below.

Time: Thursday, September 10, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Leiopapa A. Kamehameha Building
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 204
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Recording: [YouTube](https://youtu.be/7Suk1db5yOg)
<https://youtu.be/7Suk1db5yOg>

Transcript: [Meeting Transcript](#)

Items to be Discussed:

I. (0:01:40) **Call to Order**

II. (0:01:45) **Roll Call**

- **Chair Mark Patterson**
- **Commissioner R. Mark Browning**
- **Commissioner Martha Torney**
- **Commissioner Mike Town (virtual)**

Quorum was established with all members present. Also present in person are Oversight Coordinator Christin Johnson and Special Assistant George Choe. Excused was Commissioner Ibarra

III. (0:02:00) **Approval of Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2026**

- Review of minutes by members. Motion by Chair Patterson to approve July 9, 2026, Open Session Meeting Minutes.
 - i. Motion moved by Commissioner Browning and seconded by Commissioner Town.
 - ii. Vote: Unanimous approval, motion passed, minutes approve

IV. **(0:02:45) Monthly Update from Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Director Tommy Johnson**

- Updates Commission on a disturbance that occurred at the Arizona facility while he was there and where staff was not allowed to come in to provide medical aid to an inmate who was awake, unresponsive to staff instructions and orders and gave staff that he may have been under the influence of some type of drug or chemical influence. This inmate did not have to go to hospital and was fine.
- Inmates caused approximately \$30,000 in damage to computers, office equipment, etc.
- Staff were able to regain access and get inmates complaints after speaking with them and locked everyone down and conducted drug testing and cell searches. They found numerous homemade weapons and other drug paraphernalia.
- Currently looking for a new contract monitor and will have someone there 1-2 times per week. Contract monitor decided not to renew her contract and left at the end of July 2026.
- Currently have 787 inmates at Saguaro Correctional Facility and 38 inmates in Mississippi.
- Goal is to consolidate the Mississippi population with Saguaro. Mississippi is temporary housing currently.
- Gives update of unfortunate motor vehicle accident and ACO was killed, William Simao, and second ACO in critical condition.
- Provides update on Waiawa Correctional Facility escapee and was caught the next day at a bus stop in the Waipio area.
- Provided facility visit to OCCC with the Director and Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.
- Funding for new OCCC presentation to the Gov's office and seeking initial funding for OCCC this coming budget cycle.
- Renaming the current Laumaka furlough center and suggesting ideas.
- Signed updated Act 292 policy.

Public Testimony

- Oral Testimony: None
- Written Testimony: None
- Commission: Commissioners ask questions

V. **(0:43:10) [Overview of Oversight Coordinator Report](#)**

- Deaths in Custody
 - i. August 4, 2026
 - ii. August 5, 2026
 - iii. August 13, 2026
 - iv. August 23, 2026
- Events Attended
 - i. Council of State Governments Statewide Correctional Initiatives: Supporting Children with Incarcerated Parents

ii. 2026 Webinar Series: Civilian Oversight of Jail Healthcare: Issues & Approaches

- Complaints Received by the Commission
- Findings on Lack of Movement Throughout the Prison System
- Past Meetings

Public Testimony

- Oral Testimony: None
- Written Testimony: None
- Commission: None

VI. (0:49:05) Coordinator Presentation

- Current policies and practices regarding the housing and treatment of transgender individuals in custody of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Public Testimony

- Oral Testimony:
 - Ron Fujiyoshi
 - Ola Jenkins
- Written Testimony: None
- Commission: Commissioners make comments

VII. Public Comment

- Public comment on issues not on the agenda, for consideration for Commission's agenda at the next meeting.

VIII. Announcements and Scheduling of the Next Meeting

- Thursday, October 8, 2026, 9:00 a.m.
 - i. Commission Meeting
 - ii. Facility Visit: Halawa Correctional Facility

IX. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
George Choe, Special Assistant to Oversight Coordinator
Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813