

Cy O'Brien

Kauai Fire Department

EMSAC Questionnaire Information

1. Why do you wish to be a member of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee.

- I wish to be a member of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee so that I may hopefully be a contributing member to the State of Hawaii and the Emergency Medical Services that we provide. As a member of the Kauai Fire Department, I have been blessed with the opportunity to fill the role as our EMS cadre director (In charge of department training for medical services.) I would like to take all the information and knowledge of the people who are also passionate to providing for the State of Hawaii and use that to continually improve the services that Kauai Fire Department may offer to the community.

2. What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee.

-My perception of the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee is that members participate in the conversations and events/actions that will help push the services that we provide in a positive and progressive direction. Another role is to share any discoveries and statistics that may assist in guiding our decisions on how to better improve our medical services.

3. Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities as a member of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the board.

-Being a member of Kauai Fire Department, I would be able to offer any experience or findings on the first responder level in a prehospital setting as an EMT. I've been with the department for 8 years and will hopefully be able to share any of the experiences I've had to contribute to the committee.

4. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

-During my term of service, I am hoping to improve the medical services provided by KFD and to contribute to the board in any way possible. I am hoping to make a difference that will lead to being able to better save lives and serve the community.

5. Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee.

-I would say that my biggest qualities that best describe who I am and how they may contribute to the advisory committee are:

1: Positive - I try to hit everything with a positive attitude, and I am more than excited to work with and learn from all the members of the committee if granted the position.

2: Passionate - EMS is something that I truly care about. The opportunity to learn and provide absolutely excites me and ignites my drive further to being able to make a difference for our State and the County of Kauai. The fact that the board will be full of other members who share the same care for people is something that I am looking forward to.

3: Flexible - For the most part, the only way to see if something truly works is to give it our best shot. I am flexible in the sense of being willing to try something new if studies show they may be more beneficial and changing back to previous techniques if the new ones don't seem to work as well. If something new comes up, there is no need to resist before giving it a shot unless there are other experiences that prove otherwise.

6. Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a member.

-Experiences I've had that may be beneficial as a member would be the calls that I've responded to with KFD. I've also been fortunate to have learned from Dr. Char and being able to share her information with the community and put her teachings into practice. If I am fortunate enough to become a member, being able to share knowledge with the community, KFD, and other agencies we work with will be a benefit that I may hopefully provide as a member.

7. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee. How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

-Thankfully, I've no conflicts of interests that may arise in the foreseeable future. If any conflicts were to arise, I would reach out to a few of the board members in hopes of their advice and guidance.

I would sincerely like to thank you for your time and consideration during this process of selecting a new EMSAC board member. Hopefully, I will have the opportunity to work with and learn from everyone.

Thank you,

-FF Cy O'Brien



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**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM0525
Gubernatorial Nominee, Cy O'Brien for Emergency Medical Services Advisory
Committee**

SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: February 28, 2025

Room Number: 225

1 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (Department) support this measure and offers
2 comments.

3 **Department Testimony:** The Emergency Medical Services & Injury Prevention System Branch
4 (EMSIPSB) submits this testimony on behalf of the Department in strong support of the
5 confirmation of Cy K. O'Brien as a member of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory
6 Committee (EMSAC).

7 Cy K. O'Brien is a dedicated public servant with extensive experience in emergency response,
8 fire prevention, and medical services. He has been a valuable member of the Kauai Fire
9 Department since 2018, where he currently serves as a Firefighter. In this role, Cy has proven
10 himself as a capable first responder to a wide variety of emergency situations, including fire
11 suppression, medical emergencies, HazMat incidents, rescues, and traffic collisions. His ability
12 to maintain and operate emergency apparatus, alongside his responsibility for ensuring the
13 readiness of fire stations and equipment, highlights his commitment to safety and preparedness.

14 Cy holds several advanced certifications that further demonstrate his qualifications, including
15 EMT-B certification, HazMat Technician, ARS Technician, and Health and Safety Management
16 training. As the Kauai Fire Department's Medical Director of Training, he has played a crucial
17 role in the training and education of fellow responders, ensuring that high standards of care are
18 maintained across all levels of emergency response. Additionally, Cy is an AHA CPR Certified

1 Instructor, a Stop the Bleed Instructor, and a Handtevy Instructor, contributing to the ongoing
2 development of lifesaving skills in his community.

3 We urge your support for Cy K. O'Brien's confirmation as a member of the Emergency Medical
4 Services Advisory Committee. His broad experience in emergency medical services, training,
5 and leadership will be a valuable asset to the continued development of emergency medical
6 services in Hawaii.

7 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure, and for your consideration of Cy K.
8 O'Brien's nomination.

GM-525

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:07:19 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/28/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Char	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Cy Obrien will be an asset to serve on EMSAC as an allied health member from Kauai! Kudos to him for stepping up to share his mana'o in this volunteer capacity

Hearing Scheduled for
Friday, February 28, 2025 at 1:00 pm
Before the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference
Hawaii State Capitol

TO: Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and Members of the
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

FROM: Marilyn A. Matsunaga, Chair
Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: **GM 525 Cy O'Brien** to the
Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee

It is an honor to offer this testimony in **STRONGEST SUPPORT** of the appointment of Cy O'Brien to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC).

Cy's mix of experience, dedication to his community, and his frontline expertise of emergency services make him a great member for the Committee.

For over five years, Cy has been a dedicated member of the Kauai Fire Department, serving as a Firefighter I and also as the EMS training lead for the department. This highlights not only his emergency response expertise but also his leadership in educating and preparing his peers. He holds a range of certifications—from EMT-B and AHA CPR instructor to Stop the Bleed and Handtevy instructor. This wide range of additional credentials emphasize his professional goal to be able to contribute wherever he is needed. His qualifications as a HAZMAT Technician and Air Rescue Specialist add even more depth to his skill set.

One of Cy's standout qualities is his commitment to continuous improvement. He's the kind of person who doesn't just respond to emergencies—he thinks ahead, looks for ways to improve safety and efficiency, and shares his knowledge with others. His involvement in training first responders and paramedics ensures that his colleagues are well-prepared to handle medical emergencies with confidence and skill.

Cy cares deeply about making Kauai a safer place for everyone and approaches his work with utmost professionalism and personal investment.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Cy O'Brien as a member of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee. Thank you.