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March 22, 2008

Testimony on S.C.R. 192, requesting Kaua'i Community College to explore the development of an A.S. degree in Criminal Justice

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I am a social science faculty member at Kaua'i Community College and teach courses in Introductory Sociology, Introductory Political Science, Intro Macroeconomics, Cultural Anthropology, and Social Problems. I have had early discussions with Kaua'i Police Chief Perry about cooperating in the development of an Associate of Science degree in Criminal Justice or, at least, a certificate in criminal justice. We would like to widen the pool of interested people who might be recruited to the police force, to give police department personnel opportunities for professional development, and to introduce criminal justice-related issues to students who may be interested in related fields, such as social work. Kaua'i Community College's, as well as my, commitment to curriculum development for a criminal justice degree is evidenced by the fact that I have reassigned time in the Fall 2008 semester to work on this program, and to produce a report to the legislature before it convenes its Regular Session of 2009. The Dean of Instruction, Chuck Ramsey, is fully in support of this initiative.

Thank you for considering our request to explore the development of this Criminal Justice degree.