

# **GM 636**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to  
the Crime Victim Compensation Commission,

Gubernatorial Nominee: MARTHA ROSS,

for a term to expire 6-30-2018

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION  
COMMISSION**

1136 Union Mall, Suite 600  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Telephone: 808 587-1143  
FAX 808 587-1146

MARI MCCAIG  
Chair

MARTHA ROSS  
Interim Commissioner

ABELINA SHAW  
Commissioner

PAMELA FERGUSON-BREY  
Executive Director

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 636  
Consideration and Confirmation of Martha Ross  
to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission  
by

Pamela Ferguson-Brey, Executive Director  
Crime Victim Compensation Commission

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice-Chair

Thursday, April 16, 2015, 1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Espero, Vice-Chair Baker and Members:

Thank you for providing the Crime Victim Compensation Commission ("Commission") with the opportunity to testify before you today. The Commission strongly supports the appointment of Martha Ross to serve as a Commissioner, for a term to expire on June 30, 2018.

Ms. Ross has over twenty (20) years of experience in policy, administration, research, advocacy, counseling, and writings relating to violence prevention, victim-witness assistance, and crime victimization.

The Commission is a quasi-judicial body that assists victims of violent crime by providing compensation for crime-related expenses. The Commission also administers a Restitution Recovery Project to collect restitution from inmates and parolees and disburse the collected funds to crime victims. Commissioners hear appeals from administrative decisions ordering or denying compensation and set policy for the determination of claims submitted to the Commission. Special areas of concern in the past have been the treatment of sexual assault and domestic abuse victims and enhancing the delivery of compensation services to underserved victim populations while an ongoing concern remains the sustainable fiscal self-sufficiency to the Commission. The Commission's core mission is solely funded through special funds and federal matching VOCA funds.

Commissioners must be knowledgeable about the impact of violent crime on individuals and be sensitive and compassionate in dealing with these individuals.

Ms. Ross has been serving as an Interim Commissioner since 2014. She is a very knowledgeable, experienced, and compassionate advocate for crime victims with specialized expertise in advocacy, counseling, research and policy with victim populations, and treatment services of sexual assault and domestic abuse survivors.

Ms. Ross has a wealth of experience and deep understanding of victim advocacy, government and of our community. In 1987, Ms. Ross established and coordinated the Victim-Witness Assistance Volunteer Program, and served as an effective advocate and counselor for victims and witnesses of violent crimes with the Victim/Witness Kokua Services of the Department of Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu.

As an accomplished researcher, trainer and instructor (adjunct faculty for the University of Hawai'i School of Social Work and lecturer for Chaminade University), Ms. Ross has authored numerous publications relating to violence and victims, violence prevention, restraining orders, access to justice, bias in social work intervention with battered women, and school-based violence prevention. Ms. Ross co-founded and co-facilitated, Maluhia O'Wahine, the first counseling-educational/support groups for battered women on O'ahu. She served as Executive Director of the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women, Violence Prevention Consortium, and as President of the Awareness Foundation. While at the Sex Abuse Treatment Center as Administrative Coordinator, Ms. Ross was responsible for community and government relations, medical-legal services and interdisciplinary team management, policy and grant writing.

During her 16 years with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) championing Native Hawaiian empowerment, Ms. Ross was appointed the first Bureau Chief and led OHA's Washington, D.C. Bureau. She successfully helped found Ke Ali'i Maka'ainana Hawaiian Civic Club, the first such club in the Washington, D.C., Virginia, and Maryland areas.

After a stint as Vice President of Programs with Hawai'i Community Foundation, Ms. Ross immersed herself by giving back to the community where she lives by co-creating and setting up the Waimanalo Market Co-op and serves as General Manager and Vice President. The co-op is a community-driven Waimanalo consumer cooperative and entrepreneur incubator.

Ms. Ross' background, training, and experience are invaluable to the Commission's efforts to provide high quality services to Hawai'i's violent crime victims.

The Commission strongly urges you to confirm Ms. Ross' appointment to the Commission.



**GM636**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE CRIME VICTIM  
COMPENSATION COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MARTHA ROSS, FOR  
A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2018.**

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

April 16, 2015

1:15 p.m.

Room 229

---

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Administration will recommend that the Board of Trustees **SUPPORTS** GM636, which confirms Martha Ross as a Governor-appointed Commissioner on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

Ms. Ross has dedicated a significant portion of her life to alleviating the societal, communal, and intrapersonal trauma domestic and sexual violence can cause. After obtaining her B.A. in Social Welfare from Pennsylvania State University and her Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Hawai'i, Ms. Ross committed much of her professional career to understanding and helping allay the unique strain experienced by victims of violent crime. She has researched, published, and taught college courses on issues of sexual assault, domestic violence, and crime victims and the justice system. She has served at the Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children's Sex Abuse Treatment Center, as a witness and counselor for the Honolulu Prosecutor; in addition, she has led coalitions on social justice policy, helped to establish victim support groups, and conducted trainings for volunteers and justice system professionals. Ms. Ross' experience working directly with victims of violence crimes, advocating on their behalf, and training future leaders to multiply her impact will doubtlessly make her a great asset to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

For these reasons, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM636. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**GM 636  
SUPPORT FOR GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE MARTHA ROSS  
CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION COMMISSION**

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY  
AFFAIRS**

Aloha Senator Espero, Senator Baker and Committee Members:

I support your action to advise and consent that Martha Ross, MSW, LSW, serve through June 30, 2018 as a member of the Crime Victim Compensation Committee.

Ms. Ross' education and work experience, as outlined in her resume, provides reliable insight about her commitment toward people, advancing the greater good for Hawai'i, our special home.

I have no doubt that Martha will diligently work for justice and fair play in her role to achieve the goals and objectives of the Compensation Committee. I am equally confident that she will exercise wise discernment and prudent judgment in her decision-making.

In my 16 years of service as an OHA Trustee and 10 years as the OHA Board Chairperson, it's my observation and experience that Martha Ross is trustworthy and ethical, a person of her word, and a compassionate human being. She will bring those same standards to the work of the Crime Victim Compensation Committee and the beneficiaries of her work will be blessed.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "S. Haunani Apoliona".

S. Haunani Apoliona, Trustee  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs



# THE SEX ABUSE TREATMENT CENTER

*A Program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children*

*Executive Director*  
Adriana Ramelli

*Advisory Board*

*President*  
Mimi Beams

*Vice President*  
Peter Van Zile

Joanne H. Arizumi

Mark J. Bennett

Andre Bisquera

Marilyn Carlsmith

*Senator*  
Suzanne Chun Oakland

Monica Cobb-Adams

Donne Dawson

Dennis Dunn

*Councilmember*  
Carol Fukunaga

David I. Haverly

Linda Jameson

Michael P. Matsumoto

Robert H. Pantell, MD

Gidget Ruscetta

Joshua A. Wisch

**DATE:** April 16, 2015

**TO:** The Honorable Will Espero, Chair  
The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

**FROM:** Adriana Ramelli, Executive Director  
The Sex Abuse Treatment Center

**RE:** Governor's Message 636 – Martha Ross  
Testimony in Strong Support of Confirmation

I would like to thank the Committee for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of The Sex Abuse Treatment Center (the SATC), a program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, in strong support of the confirmation of Martha Ross as a Member of the Crime Victim Compensation Commission (the Commission).

The Commission's purpose is to mitigate the financial impact suffered by survivors of violent crime as a result of physical or emotional injury, or death. Every year the Commission manages more than \$1 million in collected assessments against convicted criminals and matching federal funds, and processes approximately a thousand victim compensation payments.

The Commission also engages in ongoing programs that materially improve how survivors are treated in Hawai'i by reducing the cost of medical expenses; holding convicted offenders accountable for making compensation payments; and ensuring that our criminal justice system remains mindful of survivors' needs for adequate safety planning and notification of offender status changes.

Therefore, it is critically important that each Commissioner be an experienced and talented administrator, and have a keen understanding of the challenges that face survivors of crime and their loved ones.

Ms. Ross is exactly this sort of person. She is a considerate, thoughtful and responsible decision maker and problem solver, with an unparalleled professional understanding of the needs of victims and what they face as they recover from violent crime.

During her years as the SATC's Administrative Coordinator and Manager of Medical-Legal Services, Ms. Ross was crucial to ensuring the success of our mission to provide crisis intervention and mental health care for survivors of sexual assault, and was instrumental in handling the SATC's relationships with our many government and community partners.

As Executive Director of the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women, Ms. Ross continued to be an untiring advocate for survivors. In that role, we witnessed Ms. Ross bridging the interconnected statewide policies addressing sexual violence and other, often related issues facing local women.

It is further our belief that Ms. Ross's long tenure with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, including representing that agency on a national stage, has uniquely qualified her to address many important and sensitive issues that are encountered when ensuring that victims of crime in our diverse, multicultural State receive needed care.

Given Ms. Ross's superb credentials as an administrator and as an expert regarding crime victimization and social justice, it is the SATC's privilege to strongly support her confirmation to serve as a Member of the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

Testimony in Support of Martha Ross to Serve On  
The Crime Victim Compensation Commission  
GM636

I would like to testify in support of Martha Ross to serve on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission for the following reasons:

Ms. Ross has solid training as a social worker and worked for many years in this field.

She has demonstrated her ability to work and partner with others to negotiate and develop successful resolutions of problems/challenges. This is amply demonstrated by her extensive work experience as a social worker, but also by her years of work at OHA in the many positions that she held.

Additionally over the past 2 years Ms. Ross has worked ceaselessly to nurture and launch the Waimanalo Market Co-op. In her capacity, as a volunteer steering committee member, board member and presently, acting General Manager she has partnered with many individuals and groups in the Waimanalo community – from farmers and NGOs, to residents and consumers, to artists and artisans, attorneys to landlords, not to mention the Board itself. She has worked tirelessly, always looking for win-win solutions.

Martha is smart, experienced, hardworking and absolutely honest and ethical. In short she is what our state needs more of. Please confirm her as a member of the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

Thank you.

Marlee Breese  
Box 108  
Waimanalo, HI 96795

**Testimony on Behalf of GM 636** -- Consideration and confirmation to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARTHA ROSS, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

April 9, 2015

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Michael G. Buck. I am the former State Forester and Wildlife Director for the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) from 1989-2004 and worked for the agency for 28 years. I am currently serving on the State Water Commission.

I have known and worked with Martha for many years. You will not find a more dedicated and honest person to serve on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission. Her background and experience include:

- 4 years as Administrative Coordinator/Manager of Medical-Legal Services with The Sex Abuse Treatment Center, Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children;
- 5 years as a lecturer, teaching college courses about the criminal justice system, dynamics of crime victimization, sexual assault and domestic violence, and 10 years as a practicum instructor for student interns; and
- 9 years as a Victim Witness Advocate with Victim Witness Kokua, City & County of Honolulu, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney.

Ms. Ross also has a Masters in Social Work from the University of Hawai'i, and a Bachelors in Social Welfare from The Pennsylvania State University.

Please take this opportunity to allow Martha to serve the people of Hawai'i.

DATE: Thursday, April 16, 2015  
TIME: 1:15 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 229  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

GM 636

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARTHA ROSS, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

Testimony in favor of GM 636

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter. My name is Gregory Field, a resident of Waimanalo.

I have known Martha Ross for over twenty years, and can attest to her thoughtful and concise deliberation, ability to collaborate, and willingness to serve the public.

She has provided assistance to victims of domestic violence by securing domestic violence restraining orders and through the organization of a battered women's support group. She has counseled crime victims and witnesses while with the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney.

As a lecturer, she has instructed on the criminal justice system, sexual assault, and domestic violence.

Her background with the Washington Bureau of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs illustrates her organizational and administrative skills while operating in a politically unreceptive environment.

I strongly advise the members of this committee to confirm Martha Ross to the Crime Victim Compensation board.

Sincerely,

Gregory Field

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2015 10:58 AM  
**To:** PSMTestimony  
**Cc:** tasakaa002@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM636 on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM\*

**GM636**

Submitted on: 4/13/2015

Testimony for PSM on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Allicyn Tasaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**TO:** Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
The Honorable Will Espero, Chair  
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

**FROM:** Paula Chun  
Independent Consultant/Private Citizen

**DATE:** April 11, 2015

**RE:** GM 636, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARTHA ROSS, for a term to expire 6-30-2018

**Hearing Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015, 1:15 p.m.

I have known Martha Ross both professionally and personally for over twenty years. Her background in working on behalf of crime victims and Hawaii's underserved communities is extensive.

Martha Ross brings to this position her broad knowledge and experience in the fields of sexual violence, domestic violence, and crime victims in general. Her prior work at the Hawaii Community Foundation and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs also deepened her perspective of Hawaii's vulnerable populations who are often victims of crime. Additionally, her work with the Waimanalo community to develop a co-op demonstrates her skills in building relationships, listening and working with them to bring the concept of a Waimanalo Market Co-op to fruition. These are skills which will enhance her contributions on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to confirm her nomination.

GM636

This testimony is in support of the appointment of Ms. Martha Ross to serve as a Crime Victim Compensation Commissioner for the state. I have known Martha for more than 20 years.

Martha's professional competence and service are impressive indeed. Throughout her entire professional career, Martha has shown an ability to deal with community professionals at both the local and national levels. Though I have some knowledge of her work for OHA and the Hawai'i Community Foundation, I have more direct knowledge of her most recent work with the Waimanalo Market Co-op. Quite simply, in the latter capacity, it is quite possible that the Co-op would be never have been established or would be floundering without her constant leadership, encouragement, and effort.

As noteworthy as her professional background has been, her personal characteristics are even more compelling as an argument for selection. In the entire time I have known Martha and watched her interact with others, I have *never* known anyone to speak negatively of Martha and many people who have pointed out her excellent listening skills and sensitive perspectives on a wide range of situations.

Martha's roots in community and personal understanding are strong indeed. I support her selection wholeheartedly and without reservation.

Sincerely,

Fred Bail,

**Pamela Menter  
41-665 Kumuhau Street  
Waimanalo, HI 96795**

**Testimony IN SUPPORT OF G.M. No. 636 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Martha Ross, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.**

Before the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs.

Date of Hearing April 16, 2015, 1:15 p.m.

Aloha Chair Espero and Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs. My name is Pamela Menter, and I am a long-term Public Safety advocate as a behavioral health provider and administrator since 1976.

I am submitting my strong support for confirming Martha Ross, MSW, LSW as Crime Victim Compensation Commissioner. Ms. Ross has served impressively in a variety of roles to administrate, educate, and advocate for social justice in Hawaii.

Below is a summary of Ms. Ross's background and experience demonstrating her qualifications to serve Hawai'i well as a Crime Victim Compensation Commissioner.

- 4 years as Administrative Coordinator/Manager of Medical-Legal Services with The Sex Abuse Treatment Center, Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children.
- 5 years as a lecturer, teaching college courses about the criminal justice system, dynamics of crime victimization, sexual assault and domestic violence, and 10 years as a practicum instructor for student interns.
- 9 years as a Victim Witness Advocate with Victim Witness Kokua, City & County of Honolulu, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney.
- Masters in Social Work from the University of Hawai'i, and a Bachelors in Social Welfare from The Pennsylvania State University.

It would be an honor and true benefit for all of us to have Ms. Ross serve as a Crime Victim Compensation Commissioner. Therefore, I urge the committee to support Ms. Ross's confirmation in this role.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Pamela Menter*



# JOY GOLD UNLIMITED

*Working with you to achieve your organization's mission and public policy goals*

GM 636  
Martha Ross  
Gubernatorial Nominee  
Crime Victim Compensation Commission  
Senate PSM Hearing  
Thursday, April 16, 2015  
1:15pm – Room 229

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Senate Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee:

I am testifying as a private citizen and in support of Martha Ross's appointment to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission. I have known Martha Ross for many years, and have found her to be thoughtful and objective in her approach of things professional and personal.

Her leadership and capacity to be sensitive and caring while taking on difficult situations are evidenced in her professional career with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, locally as well as in Washington, DC, and the Sex Abuse Treatment Center. She was one of the founders of the first support group for battered women on Oahu, and as a counselor with the Honolulu Prosecutor's office, assisted with obtaining domestic abuse protective orders and advocated for crime victims and witnesses.

Martha Ross will be a strong advocate for providing crime victims the services due to them under Hawaii law in an equitable and efficient manner, treating victims and survivors with dignity and respect.

Your support and consideration of Martha Ross' nomination to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission is urged.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Union Plaza  
1136 Union Mall, Ste. 403  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

P.O. Box 88555  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
96830-8555

Phone: 808-368-1146  
Email: [joy@joygoldunlimited.com](mailto:joy@joygoldunlimited.com)  
Visit: [www.joygoldunlimited.com](http://www.joygoldunlimited.com)

**Crime Victim Compensation Committee  
Hearing Scheduled: April 16, 2015 1:15 pm  
Testimony in Favor of Martha Ross**

**To: Senator Espero, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn, Vice Chair  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military  
Affairs**

**From: Diana Buckley, MSW**

**Subject: MARTHA ROSS Confirmation to the Crime Victim  
Compensation Committee – GM636**

**Date: April 15, 2015**

I am writing in strong support of **Martha Ross** for the Crime Victim Compensation Committee. Based on my experience as a former Executive Director of Parents and Children Together (PACT) a long-term consultant to organizations focused on families, children, and communities, and a legal guardian for a child removed from her parent for neglect and abuse, I believe I am qualified to recommend Ms. Ross.

What is probably most important is that I have known Martha since 1980 when we both came to Hawaii to attend graduate school at the University of Hawaii School of Social Work. We have been good friends and colleagues since then. What is readily and immediately evident is Ms. Ross' professional experiences, ranging – to name a few things - from her role as a Victim Advocate in the Prosecutors Office, to Director of the Commission on the Status of Women, to a long term, many year involvement with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in various capacities, including five years as the Washington, DC Bureau Chief.

She currently serves as Manager for the Waimanalo Market Co-op, a vibrant start-up in Waimanalo located where Mel's Market was located. In addition, Martha has done consulting work with the Sex Abuse Treatment Center and other not-for-profits in Hawaii. Her work has included planning and facilitating many focus groups as well as analyzing data and statistics from a variety of sources. She knows intimately many different segments of our community. She has proven skills to listen to all different types of people and make thoughtful and sound assessments and recommendations. Her patience and attention to detail is remarkable. In addition, she is an excellent writer.

As I noted above, I have known Martha since 1980 – 35 years. In addition to her very impressive and relevant professional experiences, her personal

characteristics are a perfect fit for the Commission. She is one of the most ethical people I know in my life. Her commitment to confidentiality is a major foundation to who she is as a person. I trust her more than anyone else in my life (except perhaps my husband!).

The mission of the Crime Victim Compensation Commission (CVCC) is to equitably and efficiently provide crime victims the services due to them under Hawai'i law. In doing so, the Commission treats every victim and survivor with dignity and respect, acknowledging the tremendous impact that violent crime has upon our society.

Martha has the professional experiences and the personal characteristics to be an excellent Commissioner. I cannot think of a single person who is more qualified to serve as a member of the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to call me at 413-210-9321. Thank you.

TESTIMONY ON THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE CRIME VICTIM  
COMPENSATION COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MARTHA ROSS, FOR A TERM TO  
EXPIRE 6-30-2018

FROM DARLENE KEHAULANI BUTTS

April 16, 2015, 1:16pm; SENATE CONFERENCE ROOM 229

Aloha Kakou! It is my great honor to submit testimony in support of gubernatorial nominee Martha Ross to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission. In February 2003, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs opened the Washington D.C. Bureau signaling the strategic significance of place and access to policymakers on Capitol Hill, as was the view of Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana`ole who served from 1902 to 1922; the second Hawaiian delegate to Congress, author of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1921 and Founder of the Hawaiian Civic Club movement.

Leading OHA's advocacy in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area was Bureau Chief Martha Ross who became a mentor, community engager and friend. Her keen focus and gentle touch set her path on educating and building relationships with the U.S. Administration, Congress, Native governing entities and organizations, national organizations and embassies and representative offices of the Pacific on matters important to Native Hawaiians, supporting the enactment of the Native Hawaiian Recognition Act on Capitol Hill, educating the community on Ho`oulu Lahui Aloha – "To Raise a Beloved Nation", Kau Inoa registry, tracking and disseminating information on a range of federal policy matters directly impacting Native Hawaiians, as well as monitoring the actions by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (USCCR).

In June 2004 Martha Ross, at the request of Native Hawaiians who now call the state of Maryland, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Virginia home, facilitated the linking of local Hawaiian community leaders with the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs resulting in the chartering of the Ke Ali`i Maka`ainana Hawaiian Civic Club in the same year.

Under the tutelage of Martha Ross, community advocates matured and freely shared their knowledge, networks, community concerns and time via a multitude of media end points. Collaboration of local events to include Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian Native Hawaiian programs in Washington, D.C., Kamehameha Lei Draping Ceremony, Pacific Night, Halau and Hui celebrations and Hula and Oli Workshops continue today. Sparked by her passionate finesse, a Native Hawaiian grassroots "nation" is building around Capitol Hill.

Nominee Ross's professional knowledge, skills, abilities and successes in organizations focused on equity and efficiency delivered to a victimized population requiring service with dignity, respect and leadership are well documented in applications, resumes and Resolution 08-15 "CONGRATULATE AND COMMEND THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS AND ITS WASHINGTON D.C. BUREAU CHIEF MARTHA ROSS FOR FAR REACHING ADVOCACY IN THE WASHINGTON D.C. COMMUNITY"; passed unanimously on October 23, 2008 by the assembly of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention at Nukoli`i, Kua`i, HI.

RECOMMEND immediate confirmation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Contact: Darlene Kehaulani Butts at 540-903-7283 or by email at [dbutts@makakoaenterprises.com](mailto:dbutts@makakoaenterprises.com).

Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
Hearing on Gubernatorial Appointments - April 16, 2015 in Conference Room 229

I am Winona Kealamapuana Ellis Rubin, a retired state administrator, who wishes to testify in support of agenda item **GM 636** for the confirmation to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission of gubernatorial nominee Martha Ross.

Martha Ross has been a professional associate in state agencies, fellow community leader and friend for twenty (20) years during which time I gained a deep appreciation and respect for her expertise and commitment evident in her outstanding services to Hawai'i nei.

Her brief three-paragraph bio is a humble abbreviated summary of an extensive impressive resume of experience in the public and private sector exhibiting a breadth of skills and knowledge in research/writing/teaching/policy advocacy/community leadership/counseling/social work/human services which qualify her perfectly for her duties on the Commission.

When applying the Gallup Organization's "*The Seven Demands of Leadership*" statement, she meets all the described criteria, especially that of "Making Sense of Experience" – providing confidence for all constituents through clarity and dealing with challenges appropriately.

When applying the Gallup Organization's more than 30 categories of Strengthfinder Themes to highlight her value to the State, among many listed criteria she merits the following descriptive terms: Deliberative – anticipates obstacles and takes serious care in making decisions; Analytical – searches for core reasons and causes; Restorative – adept at dealing with solving problems; Strategic – quickly spots relevant patterns and issues and creates alternative solutions.

Martha Ross is an honest, passionate, caring, ethical, intelligent, well-qualified public servant who deserves your unanimous support. I strongly support her confirmation without reservation. The State of Hawai'i and its citizens will receive a positive impact through Martha Ross's service on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my comments with you.

  
Winona Ellis Rubin

1501 Ala Aolani Street; Honolulu, HI 96819

---

**From:** mona.bernardino@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 15, 2015 12:33 PM  
**To:** PSMTestimony  
**Subject:** GM 636 Crime Victim Compensation Commission - Martha Ross

Dear Senator Will Espero and Committee Members:

I am writing to provide support for the Governor's nomination of Martha Ross to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

I have known and worked with Ms. Ross in various capacities for more than 10 years. She is very professional as well as knowledgeable on legal matters relating to victim compensation. Her 18 years of experience teaching and working within the criminal justice system qualifies her for this appointment.

In addition, Ms. Ross is a person of integrity who has great passion for social justice. She will use her experience and knowledge to help make fair decisions. Ms. Ross' combination of skills and "heart" would serve the Commission well.

Mahalo for your consideration of Ms. Ross.

Pamela W. Bunn  
41-027 Hilu Street  
Waimanalo, HI 96795

April 15, 2015

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental  
and Military Affairs  
State Capital  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Support of GM 636, Nomination of Martha Ross to the Crime Victim Compensation  
Commission; to be heard on April 16, 2015, at 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 229

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Committee Members:

I write in strong support of the nomination of Martha Ross to the Crime Victim Compensation  
Commission.

I have known Martha for twenty five years. As her resume demonstrates, she is well qualified for this  
position. It is not only her background and education, however, that will make Martha such a valuable  
member of the Commission. It is also her dedication, commitment, compassion, and sense of fairness. I  
have recently had the opportunity to work with Martha on the Waimanalo Market Co-op and observe  
first-hand the skills that make her so effective. Martha is not only one of the most hard-working people I  
know, she excels at communications and collaborative problem solving. I cannot think of a more well-  
suited person to serve on this Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Pamela W. Bunn

TESTIMONY ON GM 636 RELATING TO CONFIRMATION OF MARTHA ROSS TO THE  
CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION COMMISSION

April 16, 2015

1:15 pm

Conference Rm. 229

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice-Chair Baker, and members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, **my name is Stephen Morse. I am a resident of Waimanalo, Oahu and am writing to support the confirmation of Martha Ross to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.**

I have had the privilege of working closely with Martha on two different occasions in my life; first, when I served as the Housing Officer for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs between 1992 and 2000, and she was my immediate supervisor; and most recently, as a Board Member of the Waimanalo Market Co-op, where Martha currently serves as the General Manager.

In both instances, I have seen the knowledge, experience, and skills she possesses and brings to the table every day. I was most impressed, however, with her honesty, forthrightness, thoroughness, and attention to detail.

I believe she will bring these same attributes to the table in her role as a Commissioner, and will be a strong asset on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

Mahalo for allowing me to share my support for her nomination with the Committee.

**Testimony in Support of GM636  
Consideration and confirmation to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission, Gubernatorial  
Nominee, MARTHA ROSS  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
Thursday, April 16, 2015  
Conference Room 229  
415 South Beretania Street**

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kehaulani Lum, and it is my distinct honor to support GM636, seeking consideration and confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, Martha Ross, to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission.

I have known Ms. Ross for nearly twenty years and am confident that she will bring a wealth of experience, knowledge and sound judgment to the Commission. Martha is a long-time social justice advocate, and her entire career has been one of exemplary service to the community, in both the public and private sectors, from Hawai'i to Capitol Hill.

People who have worked closely with Martha know that she is a kind, intelligent and highly ethical practitioner whose character is impeccable.

With her profound insight and dedication to proper principles, I know that she will be a valued member of the Commission.

I respectfully request your support for this outstanding nomination.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kehaulani Lum

**Martha Ross**  
**PO Box 482**  
**Waimānalo, HI 96795**  
**E: mrosshawaii@gmail.com**

April 13, 2015

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair  
Committee on Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
The Senate  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Hearing – Thursday April 16, 2015, 1:15 pm. G.M. No. 636 Nomination to the Crime Victim Compensation Commission, gubernatorial nominee Martha Ross – Written Statement Addressing Questions to Assist the Senate with Its Confirmation Process

Dear Chair Espero:

It is an honor to be nominated to serve on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission (CVCC). Mahalo for the opportunity to address the following questions for consideration as part of the Senate confirmation process.

**1. Why do you wish to be a member of the Crime Victim Compensation Commission?**

I wish to be a member of the Crime Victim Compensation Commission to give back to our state as a public servant, and utilize my educational background, knowledge of the justice system and experience working with crime victims and their families.

The justice system depends on the participation of crime victims and witnesses, and crime victim compensation is one way our community acknowledges what crime victims go through as a result of the crime. It will be an honor to join with the Crime Victim Compensation Commission to fulfill its mission to equitably and efficiently provide crime victims the services due to them under Hawai'i law.

**2. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Crime Victim Compensation Commission, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position?**

As a CVCC Commissioner I will be asked to listen to circumstances victims or survivors experience as a result of a crime, ask questions of them, evaluate and, with the other commissioners, make a decision. In addition, I may be asked to consider policy affecting crime victims and, with the other commissioners, make recommendations. My background and experience highlighted below has prepared me for the role and responsibilities as a CVCC Commissioner:

- 4 years as Administrative Coordinator/Manager of Medical-Legal Services with The Sex Abuse Treatment Center, Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children.
- 5 years as a lecturer, teaching college courses about the criminal justice system, dynamics of crime victimization, sexual assault and domestic violence, and 10 years as a practicum instructor for student interns.
- 9 years as a Victim Witness Advocate for victims and witness of violent crimes and their families with Victim Witness Kokua, City & County of Honolulu, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney.
- Masters in Social Work from the University of Hawai'i, and a Bachelors in Social Welfare from The Pennsylvania State University.

### **3. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?**

First, uphold the standard that each and every victim and survivor addressing the Crime Victim Compensation Commission is treated with respect and dignity throughout the process.

Second, my understanding is that the Crime Victim Compensation Commission has received awards for its work, and I intend to fully support the continuation of the outstanding work of the Commission.

Initiate and support innovative procedures and policies that assist the Commission in fulfilling its mission.

### **4. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?**

I do not see any conflicts of interests that would arise during my service on the Crime Victim Compensation Commission. If something arises that may appear to be a conflict of interest, I would seek advisement from qualified persons, such as the Ethics Commission.