

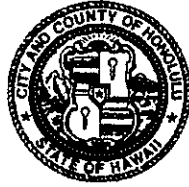
# **SCR 28 / SR 9**

**REQUESTING THE HONOLULU POLICE  
DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH A FAMILY  
VIOLENCE UNIT STAFFED WITH OFFICERS  
SPECIFICALLY TRAINED TO HANDLE ALL  
COMPLAINTS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE.**

PSM/JDL

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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OUR REFERENCE **RS-NTK**

March 18, 2015

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental  
and Military Affairs  
The Honorable Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Espero and Keith-Agaran and Members:

**SUBJECT: Senate Resolution No. 9, Requesting the Honolulu Police Department to Establish a Family Violence Unit Staffed with Officers Specifically Trained to Handle All Complaints of Family Violence**

I am Richard C. Schaab, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu.

The Honolulu Police Department opposes Senate Resolution No. 9, Requesting the Honolulu Police Department to Establish a Family Violence Unit Staffed with Officers Specifically Trained to Handle All Complaints of Family Violence.

The Honolulu Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division has a Child and Family Violence Detail that is staffed by officers who are specifically trained to handle family violence and child abuse cases. Currently, there are five female and nine male investigators assigned to the Child and Family Violence Detail.

With the limited resources that we currently have, it would not be efficient for investigators from a single unit to respond to all calls of domestic violence. Patrol officers are trained to respond to initial calls and provide service in a timely manner. Due to the dynamics and volatility of domestic violence crimes, it is imperative that we reach these victims as quickly as possible.

*Serving and Protecting With Aloha*

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental  
and Military Affairs  
The Honorable Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
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March 18, 2015

The statistics for 2014 were:

- 1,632 abuse warnings
- 4,588 domestic violence cases generated
- 7,969 argument cases were responded to by patrol officers

As a police department, all officers are all equally capable of providing excellent service to the public. We do not choose personnel based on their age, ethnicity, religion, sexual preference, or gender. For those selected for specialized units, additional training is provided, including gender-sensitive training.

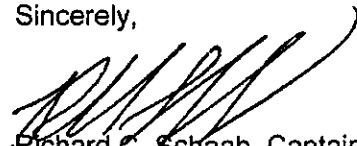
Senate Resolution No. 9 references the Houston Police Department that combined its sex crimes and family violence units and renamed it "Special Victims," who still are under the Criminal Investigations Command.

One concern is when an employee is a suspect in a domestic violence case. When employees are accused of any criminal offense, those crimes are investigated by the Professional Standards Office. In these incidents, a Professional Standards Office investigator responds to the scene and carries the investigation to prosecution.

The Honolulu Police Department urges you to oppose Senate Resolution No. 9, Requesting the Honolulu Police Department to Establish a Family Violence Unit Staffed with Officers Specifically Trained to Handle All Complaints of Family Violence.


Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Schaab, Captain  
Criminal Investigation Division

APPROVED:



Louis M. Kealoha  
Chief of Police

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:49 PM  
**To:** PSMTestimony  
**Cc:** teresa.parsons@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SR9 on Mar 18, 2015 09:30AM

**SR9**

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for PSM/JDL on Mar 18, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Domestic violence victims need educated and sensitive law enforcement officials to address the unique issues surrounding intimate partner violence. I support SSCR727. Mahalo for drafting this important resolution in support of domestic violence victims.

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.

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