



Rodney A. Maile
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

Brandon M. Kimura
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

November 7, 2023

Via electronic submission

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Honorable Scott Saiki
Speaker of the House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear President Kouchi and Speaker Saiki:

Pursuant to Section 601-3.6, Hawaii's Revised Statutes (HRS), the Judiciary is transmitting a copy of the *Report on the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account*, including an accounting of the receipts of and expenditures from the account.

In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, we are also transmitting a copy of this report to the Legislative Reference Bureau Library.

The public may view an electronic copy of this report on the Judiciary's website at the following link: https://www.courts.state.hi.us/news_and_reports/reports/reports.

Should you have any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact Karen Takahashi of the Judiciary's Legislative Coordinating Office at 808-539-4896, or via e-mail at Karen.T.Takahashi@courts.hawaii.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rodney A. Maile".

Rodney A. Maile
Administrative Director of the Courts

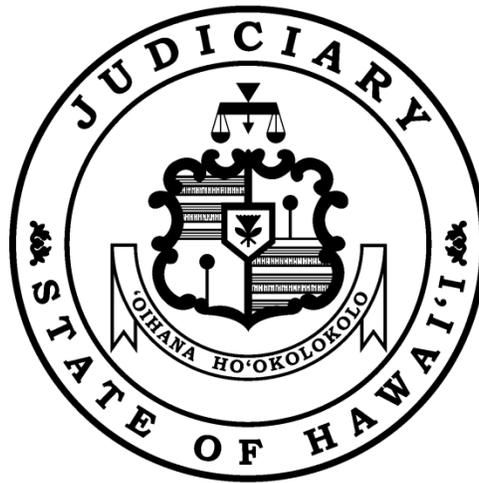
Attachment

- c: Legislative Reference Bureau Library
- Office of the Clerk, Hawaii State Senate
- Office of the Clerk, Hawaii House of Representatives

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

A Report on the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account

Pursuant to HRS § 601-3.6



Prepared by:

The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i

November 2023

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

A Report on the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account

Pursuant to HRS § 601-3.6

This report is respectfully prepared pursuant to Act 232, Session Laws of Hawai'i 1994, HRS § 601-3.6, which requests an annual report on the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account.

In 1994, the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account, placed in the Judiciary, was created by the Legislature, State of Hawai'i, for the purpose of developing and/or expanding new and existing programs. The scope of the Judiciary's Special Account may include, but is not limited to, grants or purchases of services which support or provide domestic violence or child abuse intervention or prevention, as authorized by law, as well as staff programs.

The Judiciary's Special Account is financed through a portion of the monies collected by the Department of Health from the issuance of birth, death, and marriage certificates. In addition, any fines collected pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 586-11 (Violation for an Order of Protection) and contributions from state tax refunds are deposited into the Judiciary's Special Account.

Programs and Activities Funded Through the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Fund

Monies from the Judiciary's Special Account continue to provide funding for a broad range of programs, projects and activities statewide, which address interventions in domestic violence and the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The process of determining which services, programs and activities received funding involved internal planning and collaboration within the Judiciary, as well as coordination with private and public stakeholders in the community.

The following programs, projects and activities were funded by the Judiciary's Special Account in Fiscal Year 2023:

1. Purchase of Service Programs

The following nonprofit organizations named below received funding to provide or supplement their contracted services with the Judiciary:

➤ Child and Family Service/Developing Options to Violence (O'ahu)

The Developing Options to Violence program provided specialized domestic violence intervention services, which included:

- Group/individual counseling services for adult survivors of domestic violence;
- Counseling services for children and youth who have been a victim or witness to family violence;
- Domestic violence intervention services for juveniles who have been adjudicated by the Family Court for the charge of abuse of family or household member or a related charge, such as intimate partner violence;
- Domestic violence intervention services for adults who perpetrate domestic violence.

➤ Domestic Violence Action Center (O'ahu)

The following advocacy services for victims of domestic violence we provided by the Domestic Violence Action Center:

- Advocacy and support services for victims filing temporary restraining order;
- Court outreach at Family Court in Kapolei and Circuit Court in Honolulu;
- Civil legal services;
- Hotline services (information and referrals);
- Case management.

➤ Parents and Children Together/Family Peace Center (O'ahu)

Funding was provided to the Family Peace Center on O'ahu for essential domestic violence services. The specific services provided included:

- Victim advocacy and support groups;
- Counseling and/or case management for adult survivors/victims;
- Counseling for children and youth who have been a victim or witness to family violence;
- Domestic violence intervention services for juveniles who have been adjudicated by the Family Court for the charge of abuse of family or household member or a related charge, such as intimate-partner violence; efforts also involved outreach to engage family members of the juveniles in services;
- Domestic violence intervention services for adults who perpetrate domestic violence.

➤ Parents and Children Together/Family Visitation Center (O'ahu)

Supervised child visitation and safe exchange services were provided to court-referred families on the island of O'ahu. The majority of referrals involved temporary restraining orders and orders of protection, however, other referrals involved divorce and child-custody and paternity cases. The Family Court of the First Circuit relies on the Family Visitation Center (FVC) services to provide safe supervised visits and exchanges when there is a concern of domestic violence. The FVC provides its services through a lens that specifically considers domestic

violence, safety for victims and their children, and accountability for those who have committed domestic violence. The center itself has been modified to provide safety and security for all involved. Parents and Children Together (PACT) is the only provider of this type of service on the island of O'ahu.

2. Federal Grant Projects.

Matching funds from the Judiciary's Special Account were used for the federally-funded Judiciary grant projects listed below:

➤ State Access and Visitation Program Grant

This formula grant is awarded to the Judiciary annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Support Enforcement, to provide supervised child visitation and exchange services in a safe setting. The Federal grant funds and matching funds from the Special Account were used to provide these services on the islands of O'ahu and Hawai'i. Priority was given to those cases involving domestic violence, or other high-conflict situations. The federal grant was awarded in the amount of \$100,000 and required a 10% match in funds; \$11,111 in matching funds from the Special Account were allocated to these services. PACT/FVC on O'ahu received a purchase of service contract to supplement their services.

➤ STOP Violence Against Women Act Grant, 20-WF-09 / "Domestic Violence Training for Family Court Judges"

This grant ended on May 31, 2023.

- Funds supported a three-part domestic violence training series, beginning with the 2022 Family Court Symposium which included the nature and context of domestic violence, coercive control, how domestic violence impacts children, procedural justice, and judicial leadership. The SAFeR approach was brought up during the initial session and there was enough interest to initiate further training in the approach. The framework is designed to help Family Court professionals gather, synthesize, and analyze information about the context and implications of domestic abuse in order to improve informed decision-making. This led to a virtual introduction to SAFeR that was offered statewide to Family Court judges and other domestic violence stakeholders. The third session of the series, was an in-person training on the approach that was tailored to specific stakeholders such as judges, custody investigators/evaluators, domestic violence advocates, civil legal attorneys, and court staff who have a role in cases which may include the approach.

➤ STOP Violence Against Women Act Grant, 21-WF-09 / "Strengthening Hawai'i's Coordinated Community Response to DV"

- Funds supported the 2022 annual DV 101: Fundamentals of Domestic Violence training, a collaboration between the Departments of Health, the

Attorney General, and Human Services as well as the Judiciary. Held in October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the virtual three-part series features local experts who provide insight into the complexities of intimate-partner violence to a predominantly Hawai'i audience. The array of participants included, but was not limited to social workers, probation and parole officers, child welfare professionals, domestic violence advocates, education professionals, and substance-abuse treatment professionals.

- Funds support the revision of the Hawai'i Domestic Violence Intervention Standards, which has been inclusive of an array of stakeholders including survivors and persons who participate in the domestic violence intervention (DVI) programs. The process identified values that informed the revision of the standards. DVI providers are called to align with the values in implementing the standards in their work with those who perpetrate intimate-partner violence, survivors, and other stakeholders. Grant funds are supporting a recording for two of the values: Aloha Spirit and Centering Survivor Support, Safety, and Empowerment. A launch training was also supported by the grant and although the target audience was DVI providers, it was well attended by other domestic violence stakeholders as well.
- Strengthening the coordinated community response across Hawai'i is an ongoing endeavor to support efforts across the state to end domestic violence. Through a partnership, the Department of Health and the Judiciary planned and provided two-day training sessions to the Kaua'i Domestic Violence High Risk Team, the Kaua'i Domestic Violence Taskforce, and the Hawai'i Domestic Abuse Response Team. In addition to their own tailored training, each team also received follow up technical assistance.

3. Trainings, Meetings, Other Expenses

Maintenance of an electronic database containing assessment scores of those on probation for domestic violence-related offenses and a venue for a domestic-violence training.

Special Fund Assessment (Act 34, SLH 1964)

The Special Fund Assessment fee for FY 2023 was \$22,244.

Summary

The Judiciary's Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account continues to enable the Judiciary to develop, implement and maintain a proactive stance in achieving the mission of HRS § 601-3.6, to support and provide spouse or child abuse intervention or prevention in the state of Hawai'i. One of the major strengths in the establishment of the Special Account has been the discretion given to the Judiciary, which has encouraged and allowed funding for a comprehensive range of services and activities, which would have not been possible otherwise. As a result,

services for victims of domestic violence, including children exposed to it, have been sustained, as well as appropriate and effective intervention services for persons who perpetrate domestic violence.

The funds also allow for routine statewide training for judges and other Judiciary staff provided by subject-matter experts on a wide range of important and intersecting issues relating to domestic violence and child abuse. Additionally, the ability to include other public and private domestic violence agencies in trainings increases collaboration, leading to improved coordination to close gaps and create safer communities where families thrive.

The Judiciary remains committed to the responsible use of monies from the Special Account to promote the safety and well-being of domestic violence and child abuse and neglect victims and family members, to increase accountability of persons who perpetrate domestic violence, and to taking a strong and committed stance on these important issues.

**THE JUDICIARY
SPOUSE & CHILD ABUSE SPECIAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023**

REVENUE	HRS		FY2023
CODES	SECTION		<u>201,459</u>
		FY BEGINNING CASH BALANCE	201,459
0222	§572-5	MARRIAGE LICENSES	93,721
0735	§235-105.5	TAXES COLLECTED UNDER ACT228, SLH2004	27,722
1101	§338-14.5	FEES, CERTIFIED COPIES OF HEALTH STATISTICS RECORDS	310,760
1567	§§580-10, 586-4	VIOLATION OF TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER/PROTECTIVE ORDER (ACT 172/98 & 200/99)	1,155
		SUB-TOTAL	<u>433,358</u>
0288		INVESTMENT POOL EARNINGS (ACT 119/98)	3,840
1364		REFUND/REIMBURSEMENT PRIOR PERIOD EXPENSES	<u> </u>
		TOTAL REVENUES	<u><u>437,198</u></u>
2021		IMPOSED CONTRIBUTIONS	527
2023		PER DIEM JUDGES	998
3203		PRINTED FORMS	
3209		OTHER STATIONERY/OFC SUPP	
3301		FOOD SUPPLIES	
3502		SUBSCRIPTIONS	
4201		TRANSPORTATION, INTRA-STATE - EMPLOYEES	434
4301		SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE, INTRA-STATE - EMPLOYEES	338
4302		SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE, INTRA-STATE - OTHERS	
4401		TRANS, OUT OF STATE - EMPLOYEES	

4402	TRANS, OUT OF STATE - OTHERS	
4501	SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE, OUT OF STATE - EMPLOYEES	
4502	SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE, OUT OF STATE - OTHERS	
4601	HIRE OF PASSENGER CARS - EMPLOYEES	205
4602	HIRE OF PASSENGER CARS - OTHERS	
4801	OTHER TRAVEL	
5503	OTHER RENTAL OF LAND, BLDG	
5805	BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES (REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE)	
6609	PURCHASE OF SERVICES CONTRACTS	332,870
7198	OTHER SERVICES ON FEE BASIS	10,942
7204	SPECIAL FUND ASSESSMENT (ACT 34, SLH 1964)	22,244
7205	TRAINING COSTS & REGISTRATION FEES	
7300	INTEREST ON DELIQUENT PAYMENTS	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>368,558</u>
		<u><u>368,558</u></u>
	FY ENDING CASH BALANCE	<u><u>270,099</u></u>