

From: [media@oha.org](mailto:media@oha.org)  
To: [IBC for Advocacy](#)  
Subject: New submission from Island Burial Council Application  
Date: Thursday, October 3, 2024 4:22:33 PM

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**Name**

Caroline Lavelle Makanaokekai Hartman

**Place of Birth**

Oceanside, CA

**Length of residence in Hawai'i**

42 years

**Residence Address**



**What mokupuni (island) do you represent?**

Maui/Lāna'i

**Moku (district)**

Hana

**Phone**



**Email**



**Employer**

Kihei Charter School

**Occupation**

Education

**Are you presently serving on another state board or commission?**

No

**Questions**

**1. Why would you like to serve on an Island Burial Council?**

I would like to serve on an island burial council because of the fact that many of our iwi kupuna have been displaced in the name of progress. I'd love to be able to help our people progress, but help them also be mindful of those who came before us. On one of our Ohana properties back home in Kipahulu, someone who had gotten our family land via quiet title, try to dig up our iwi kupuna that were buried there. I stopped them. Simply by educating those people, I was able to get them to leave my ancestors where they lay. I'd like to do something like that for our Lahui

**2. What is your experience or background with Hawaiian culture, history, customs, practices, and in particular, beliefs and practices relating to the care and protection of Native Hawaiian burial sites, ancestral remains, and burial items?**

My great-grandmother, my grandmother and my mom were all kahuna la'au lapa'au. So growing up, I learned all about our traditional medicines, why we do what we do, and the deep love we have for our ancestors. I was taught that our burial sites are sacred and should be cared for. That our loved ones should never leave this world forgotten and should always be remembered. I was taught that they live on through us so we respect everything that they did, that was theirs and we safeguard them.

**3. What is your connection to the geographic region you propose to represent?**

My Ohana has long lived in Hāna and I still have ohana there. Any generations of my family have lived in east Maui back to the times of the kingdom and before. I have a deep tie to the aina and her people. Yes, I live in Wailuku and I do not have any issues serving the whole island because I love this aina. But Hana will always call my heart.

**Employment and Community Experience**

**Employment history**

Employer	From (year)	To (year)
Kihei Charter School	July 2024	2024
Pacific Whale Foundation	2023	2024
Petco	2019	2023
Ross Dress for Less	2014	2019
Walmart	2004	2014

**Community Experience and Professional Organizations**

Pacific Whale Foundation  
Christ the King Church, RCIA  
Lahainaluna Boarders Association, Treasurer