

The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i
Ka ‘Oihana Ho‘okolokolo, Moku‘āina ‘o Hawai‘i

Testimony to the Thirty-Third Legislature, 2026 Regular Session

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 10:01 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

By

Dyan M. Medeiros
Senior Judge, Deputy Chief Judge
Luna Kānāwai ‘Ohana Nui
Family Court of the First Circuit
‘Aha Ho‘okolokolo ‘Ohana o ke Ka‘apuni ‘Ekahi

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 3083, Senate Draft 1, Relating to Protective Orders.

Purpose: Requires notification to the security forces of each branch of the military when a protective order is issued in a case involving a military-affiliated individual. Requires the Judiciary, Department of Law Enforcement, and county police departments to establish certain policies and procedures. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

Judiciary's Position:

Since this measure’s introduction, the Judiciary has had an opportunity to collaborate with the Military and Community Relations Office (“MACRO”) and military stakeholders with successful results. Following these discussions, we jointly request that Section 2 of this bill be amended to read as follows:



SECTION 2. Section 586-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§586-10 Copy to law enforcement [~~agency.~~] agencies and the security forces of each branch of the military. the designated military security force in cases where the respondent is alleged to be a servicemember.

(a) Any order for protection granted pursuant to this chapter shall be transmitted by the clerk of the court within twenty-four hours to the appropriate county police department~~[-]~~, the department of law enforcement, and the security forces of each branch of the military.

(b) Each county police department shall make available to other law enforcement officers in the same county, through a system for verification, information as to the existence and status of any order for protection issued pursuant to this chapter.

(c) The judiciary, the county police departments, and the department of law enforcement shall establish policies and procedures, in consultation with the security forces of each branch of the military, for interagency communications and training on the implementation of this section, [~~while~~



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~~safeguarding victim confidentiality, due process, and compliance
with applicable federal and state law. }~~ **including the
designated military security force who shall receive
notification pursuant to subsection (a).**

Together with our military stakeholders, we believe that the above amendment provides for the appropriate framework and procedure to carry out the intent of this bill while taking into consideration the needs of each agency.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB3083, SD1.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKĀ'I

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Statement of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Thursday, March 5, 2026
10:01 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

SB3083, SD1
RELATING TO PROTECTIVE ORDERS.

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

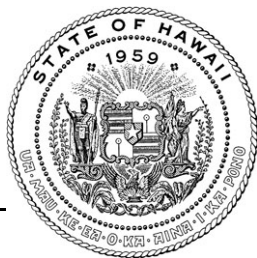
The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism supports SB3083, SD1, and concurs with the suggested amendments provided in testimony submitted by the Military and Community Relations Office.

Service members and their families are valued members of our communities who contribute economically, socially, and culturally. When domestic violence occurs within military households, victims often navigate both civilian and military systems which do not currently have a connected notification arrangement in place.

In requiring timely information notification between the local police, the Judiciary, the Department of Law Enforcement, and the military, individuals under protective orders have a greater chance for safety.

Notifying military security forces allows military commands to remain aware and ensure compliance. This system will deter escalation and reduce the risk of repeated violence.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
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Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Thursday, March 5, 2026
10:01 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB3083 SD1
RELATING TO PROTECTIVE ORDERS.

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

As Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, I respectfully submit testimony in strong **support** of this measure.

Hawai'i is home to one of the largest per-capita military populations in the nation. Active-duty service members, reservists, National Guard members, veterans, and their families are integral members of our communities. When domestic violence occurs within these households, victims often navigate both civilian and military systems that have not had an established arrangement for communicating with one another.

SB3083 SD1 requires the Judiciary, county police departments, and the Department of Law Enforcement to work in consultation with designated military security forces to establish interagency policies and procedures, while safeguarding victim confidentiality, protecting due process, and ensuring compliance with applicable federal and state laws.

By building these procedures collaboratively, this measure enhances both public safety and trust across systems that serve military and civilian populations alike. SB3083 SD1 would meaningfully improve coordination, strengthen protections, and support victims across systems rather than leaving them to navigate those systems alone.

In collaboration with the Hawai'i State Judiciary, MACRO would like to submit several amendments to HD1, described as the following:

1. Section 2 reads, "Copy to law enforcement agencies and the security forces of each branch of the military."
We request for this to be amended to read, "Copy to law enforcement agencies and **the designated military security force in cases where the respondent is alleged to be a servicemember.**"
2. Section 2, subsection (c) reads, "...for interagency communications and training on the

implementation of this section, while safeguarding victim confidentiality, due process, and compliance with applicable federal and state law.”

We request for this to be amended to read, “..for interagency communications and training on the implementation of this section, **including the designated military security force who shall receive notification pursuant to subsection (a).**”

Mahalo for your consideration and the opportunity to testify.

SB-3083-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 5:16:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

I am writing in **strong support of SB3083**, which requires notification to the security forces of each branch of the military when a protective order is issued in a case involving a military-affiliated individual. This bill closes a critical gap in communication between our state judiciary, law enforcement agencies, and the military—a gap that has left survivors vulnerable and command structures unaware of threats within their ranks.

When a protective order is issued, those who need to know should know. For military families, this includes the chain of command. Commanding officers have both authority and responsibility when it comes to service members accused of domestic violence. They can impose military protective orders, restrict access to weapons, and enforce consequences that civilian courts cannot. But they can only act if they know a problem exists. Currently, there is no consistent, reliable mechanism for ensuring that notification occurs.

SB3083 establishes that mechanism. The bill requires the Judiciary, the Department of Law Enforcement, and county police departments to establish policies and procedures ensuring that when a protective order involves a military-affiliated individual, the relevant military security forces are notified. This is not about duplication; it is about coordination. It ensures that the protective ring around a survivor extends onto the installation, into the workplace, and throughout the service member's entire chain of command.

This is especially critical given Hawai'i's large military population. Thousands of active-duty service members and their families call our islands home. When domestic violence occurs in these families, the stakes are uniquely high. Commanders need to know. Security forces need to know. And survivors need to know that every possible layer of protection is being activated on their behalf.

Notification saves lives. In too many cases, gaps in communication have allowed abusers to continue their behavior unchecked—moving between civilian and military jurisdiction, falling through cracks in both systems. SB3083 closes those cracks. It ensures that a protective order issued in a Hawai'i courthouse is not just a piece of paper, but a trigger for action across every institution with the power to protect.

I urge you to pass this bill. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

