

GM 12

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on Mental Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, LOUISE CRUM, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: State Council on Mental Health

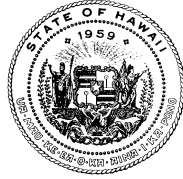
Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony SUPPORTING GM0012
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the State Council on Mental
Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, LOUISE CRUM,
for a term to expire 6-30-2020.**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2017 Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the nomination and
3 confirmation of Louise Crum to the State Council on Mental Health (SCMH). Ms. Crum
4 fills the mandated SCMH membership position of the principal state agency with respect
5 to criminal justice, pursuant to Chapter 334-10 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes and
6 Federal Law, Public Law 102-321, Section 1914(c).

7 Ms. Crum is the Mental Health Court Coordinator for the Hawaii State Judiciary
8 and has worked there since 2005. She is well respected by her colleagues, community
9 agencies and consumers of services. Working with consumers, she has helped to
10 reduce recidivism and incarceration specifically in her work with the mental health court.
11 Ms. Crum has been an active participant on the SCMH since 2013 and has served in
12 different capacities. She is currently the SCMH second vice chair.

13 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming Ms. Crum's
14 appointment to a second term on the Council.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Ms. Crum's behalf.



Circuit Court of the First Circuit — THE JUDICIARY • STATE OF HAWAII

CHAMBERS OF THE EIGHTEENTH DIVISION • 777 PUNCHBOWL STREET • KA'AHUMANU HALE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5093
TELEPHONE (808) 539-4133 • FAX (808) 539-4108

Edward H. Kubo Jr.
CIRCUIT JUDGE

August 24, 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: Letter of Strong Recommendation for Ms. Louise Crum.

Please allow me to express my strong recommendation for Ms. Louise Crum's nomination to the State Council on Mental Health.

I have known Ms. Crum for approximately 3 years. I first met Ms. Crum in her capacity as the head of the Hawaii Mental Health Court program in the First Circuit. The mission of the Mental Health Court is to improve Oahu's court system's response to the criminalization of persons with serious mental illness by redirecting offenders from incarceration to treatment. As the head of our Mental Health Court program, Ms. Crum is responsible for supervising each defendant who is before the Court with serious mental health issues. Her duties are also to supervise Probation Officers, and she counsels, monitors and directs our clients to various appropriate treatment programs with positive results.

Ms. Crum will also report to the Court during hearings about the progress made by each client. She displays a very good understanding about what was facing our mental health clients who suffers from substance abuse, compounded by their mental health disabilities. In many instances, Ms. Crum successfully advocates for rewards given by the Judge for achievements made by a client while maintaining compliance with probation. She is not only well liked by our clients being supervised by her, but she has a reputation for fairness and compassion. Finally, she is respected by members of our Judiciary and our program partners, like the State Department of Health, Poailani Treatment program, and other agencies.

Ms. Crum shows an endless supply of energy in her job for our Mental Health Court. She is a dedicated professional who works hard for the welfare of others in need. Ms. Crum was always there for the Court and the program. She was prompt in completing her tasks and she always added valuable input on how to better our program. I was so impressed with her leadership and success that I am sure that her continuing membership on the State Council on Mental Health will only add to the quality of services and treatment provided to those in need. Ms. Crum is a kind and caring individual who knows the issues in the critical area of mental health in our state, and she will definitely advocate and contribute in a positive way to the goals and vision of this important organization.

Ms. Louise Crum
August 24, 2017
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It is with all of this in mind that I give to you my strong recommendation for Ms. Crum. She will give you more than 100 percent – she will give you outstanding work. For me, she is one of the reasons why our Mental Health Court is one of the most successful court programs in the state.

Thank you for allowing me to provide you with my strong recommendation for Ms. Crum's continued membership on the State Council on Mental Health. If I can be of any further assistance, please call my Court Chambers at (808) 539-4133.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward H. Kubo, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Edward H. Kubo, Jr.
Presiding Judge
Hawaii Mental Health Court

August 24, 2017

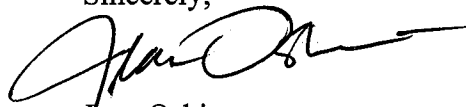
Rosalyn Baker
Chair of the Senate Committee on
Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Dear Ms. Baker,

It is my privilege to provide support for Louise Crum on her nomination to serve on the State Council on Mental Health. I have worked closely with Louise for the past five years in the Judiciary. As a Program Specialist for substance abuse contracts, she has been helpful to me by sharing her knowledge about mental disorders and the needs of co-occurring offenders. I have consulted with her on numerous complex cases involving the mentally ill. Her thinking is broad when developing case plans, as she considers not only the impact to the individual client but also what it may have on others in the community. What is impressive about Louise is her ability to be creative and explore new ideas. She also collaborates well with a variety of groups in order to secure resources that are not easily accessible to most clients in the criminal justice system. This is such an asset to the Mental Health Court program. Louise also tends to be very deliberate in making critical decisions. She will research the issue, weigh the consequences, and confer with reliable sources before committing to taking any course of action.

I have personally observed her passion to protect those who are vulnerable in her role as the Mental Health Court Coordinator. When Louise believes in a cause for the rights of others, her advocacy is remarkable. Therefore, I highly recommend that Louise be considered to serve on the State Council on Mental Health.

Sincerely,



Jean Oshiro
Judiciary Program Specialist
Adult Client Services Branch

W. Marie Vorsino, LMHC, Psy.D.
4614 Kalaniiki Place
Honolulu, Hawaii 96821
Tel: 808-729-1791; email: wmvorsino@gmail.com

August 23, 2017

Dear Sir or Madame:

It is with pleasure and confidence that I write this letter of recommendation and support for Ms. Louise Crum. I have known Ms. Crum for four years in her capacity as a member of the governor appointed State Council on Mental Health. Ms. Crum was appointed to the board in July of 2012. She has served as the Secretary of the Board and is currently the 2nd Vice Chair of the Board.

In my collaborations with Ms. Crum, it is clear to me that she brings a strong understanding of the specific needs, struggles, and challenges that consumers with emotional difficulties face in our community and in the court system to the board. Ms. Crum is able to identify the larger service needs and challenges of Hawaii's Adult and Children's mental health systems. This ability to use specific information, identify trends in service systems, and advocate for recommendations to improve treatment services for consumers in Hawaii, is a skill highly valued in her position on the board.

Ms. Crum is a dedicated and hardworking member of the state council. She actively participates in meetings and provides research-based input specific to the topic being discussed. Last year, Ms. Crum participated in a Leadership Academy technical assistance grant provided by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration. Ms. Crum was chosen by the council to represent the board members in the Leadership Academy meetings. She then provided updates and recommendations to the council to improve the business practices of the council. Additionally, Ms. Crum assisted in the block grant writing process for the state council. She met with other board members to craft language in the grant proposal as it relates to judiciary standards in mental health in Hawaii. As evidenced by these examples of Ms. Crum's work on the board, she does not hesitate to volunteer her time and efforts to advocate for the needs of the children, adults, and families that access mental health services in our state.

Ms. Crum's participation on the state council has led to effective and purposeful change in the strategic activities of the council. She has brought a skillset to the council that is experienced, competent, and adept at moving the initiatives of the state council forward with direction and intent. It has been a pleasure to serve with Ms. Crum for the past four years. If you should have any questions, I would very much like the opportunity to speak with you. Please contact me at 808-729-1791,


Sincerely,

Marie Vorsino LMHC, Psy.D.

W. Marie Vorsino, LMHC, Psy.D.
Chair, State Council on Mental Health
Vice President of Intervention Programs
Parents And Children Together

August 24, 2017

To: Rosalyn Baker
Chair of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Fr: Patti J. Cheong 
Senior Probation Officer
Mental Health Court of the First Judicial Circuit

RE: **LOUISE CRUM**
In Support of Ms. Crum's Nomination to the State Counsel on Mental Health

It is my honor to be an advocate in support of Ms. Crum's nomination to the State Counsel on Mental Health.

I have worked with Ms. Crum since 2005, when Mental Health Court was initially introduced as a "Specialty Court Program". She has been, and continues to be my immediate supervisor.

Ms. Crum has been an effective supervisor and has remained supportive throughout my years with Mental Health Court. She has patiently worked with me, and has trained me to become an "expert" in the field of Mental Health.

Because of Ms. Crum's knowledge and expertise in the field of mental health, the Mental Health Court Program has become a valuable mechanism within the Judiciary. This Program has broadened the Judiciary's understanding about the need to assess and "hear" cases involving the mentally ill, in a different light.

Ms. Crum has proven to be a valuable team player, in her collaboration with the Court and various outside agencies, such as the Adult Mental Health Division, case management agencies, the Public Defender's office and Prosecutor's office, private attorneys, and law enforcement.

As part of the State Counsel on Mental Health, Ms. Crum will continue to offer both Judiciary and mental health insight. She has worked diligently in the field of mental health for more than 17 years, and in those years, she has additionally worked with the Court.

Ms. Crum has shown that the effort she puts forth in her work, is not "just about work", but about a need to treat all individuals with respect, even those who cannot adequately speak for themselves.

I am in full support of this nomination for Ms. Crum.

Thank you for taking the time to peruse this letter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a final flourish.

August 24, 2017

Dear Senator Baker,

I would like to acknowledge Louise Crum as a steadfast advocate for the Mental Health population. I have worked with Louise Crum at the Hawaii State Judiciary for over 5 years, and have personally observed her continued and tireless enthusiasm in working with persons diagnosed with severe mental illness, often in conjunction with co-occurring substance abuse issues. I have been volunteering with Mental Health Court by facilitating a weekly peer support group for clients. Louise has provided direction and inspiration for group content and has been unconditionally supportive of clients through successes and road blocks. She is a consummate professional and is a leader in her field. She has personally inspired me to learn new tasks on the job and challenge myself to learn creative and different approaches to problem solving and clinical matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Puglese LCSW". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andrea Puglese LCSW

August 24, 2017

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce Consumer Protection and Health,

I would like to recognize Mental Health Court Supervisor Louise Crum as a dedicated and passionate supporter of the Mental Health population. I started as a student intern at Mental Health Court for my Master of Science in Counseling Psychology degree. Her dedication inspired me to continue volunteering with Mental Health Court after graduation to obtain my clinical hours for licensure. For over a decade, she has advocated for persons with persistent mental illness diagnoses, often in conjunction with other complex bio/psycho/social factors. She is an invaluable asset to the mental health field. I have personally learned how to interact with clients by modeling Louise Crum and consulting with her expertise on how to approach and treat clients. In being supervised by Louise Crum for over two years, I have been able to develop my professional therapeutic approach and grow as a person.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katrina C. Marume, MSCP". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a long horizontal stroke for the 'M'.

Katrina Marume, MSCP

Questions for State Council on Mental Health.

- (1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board?

It has been a privilege serving as a member on the State Council on Mental Health. I have learned so much working with the other members in advocating for support and resources for the mental health population in Hawaii. I would like to continue to offer my knowledge and experience of persons with mental illness in the criminal justice system, to further the goals of the State Council on Mental Health.

- (2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

I perceive the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board is to be an advocate for adults with serious mental illness and children with a severe emotional disturbance by monitoring, reviewing and evaluating decisions on policies or laws being put forth by government entities and promoting public awareness and education on mental health issues and services in the state.

- (3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?

I can help protect the consumer by making sure decisions on policies or laws being put forth by government entities always have the best interest of adults with serious mental illness and children with a severe emotional disturbance in improving their quality of life.

- (4) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.

I have seventeen years professional experience working with the mental health population, which includes twelve years working with the criminal justice population. I have worked as a case manager in a behavioral health hospital helping psychiatric patients transition to the community, including those with legal encumbrances. At the present time, I am the Coordinator for the First Circuit Mental Health Court. This position enables me to oversee all daily operations of the Mental Health Court which include responsibility for program admissions; for the administrative, financial, and contractual aspects of the program; and for public relations and collaboration with other criminal justice and community agencies. I have been in this position since it took its first participant in 2005 and I am honored to be a part of this successful court program that reduces recidivism and incarceration rates for the mentally ill. The mission of the Mental Health Court is to improve Oahu's court system's response to the criminalization of persons with serious mental illness by redirecting offenders from incarceration to

treatment. It is very important to me professionally and personally to speak out for this population, and I see my membership on the SCMHS as another avenue to further advocate for the decriminalization of the mentally ill.

(5) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

During my term of service, I hope to continue to bring awareness and education on the impact of the criminal justice system on those with a severe mental illness and, to further the goals of the State Council on Mental Health.

(6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board.

Dedication – I am dedicated to the success of the Mental Health Court and advocating for those with a severe mental illness in the criminal justice system. I bring that same dedication to my role on the Board. It is a responsibility I take seriously by attending meetings, providing input, volunteering for special projects and monitoring the access to and distribution of resources.

Positive Attitude – It's important to have a positive attitude and remain hopeful that people can change, learn, and move forward to improve their circumstances. I believe that the clients I work with in the criminal justice system want to be successful, want to follow their terms and conditions from the court, and want a better quality of life, but sometime the challenges they face from mental health issues, substance use and other factors get in the way of meeting those goals. I plan to always bring that perspective to the Board. That all of us need second chances and hope for a better future.

Empathy – The vast majority of the people I work with begin our program in a state of crisis and emotional distress. Therefore I must be able to offer a caring, understanding, and empowering environment for them. I need to understand the challenges they face and what motivates them from their perspective in order to help guide their case plan and assist them to successfully complete the program. Understanding the needs of the population the Board serves and knowing the challenges they face will assist me in being a better advocate for consumers in our state.

(7) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

As a member of the Mental Health Court team, we meet once a week just before court sessions to determine which referrals will be admitted to the program, to discuss current participants' progress and determine their individual case plans. The team also recommends to the Judge whether the person should have a sanction including jail time, be rewarded for progress or needs further treatment. It is a role that everyone on the team

takes seriously knowing any recommendations we make could impact a person's freedom. The membership of the team is made up of various state agencies with competing interest that all come together to support the participant's success in the program.

As a member of the Board, I think it is just as important for the members to take the responsibility we have been given seriously and come together in a common purpose to further the goals of the Board and continue the mission to advocate for the consumers we serve.

(8) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

No, I do not foresee any conflicts of interest. If one were to arise, I would address it immediately with the Board Chairperson and the DOH representative and proceed with the necessary course of action.