ORDER DENYING COMPLAINANT'S MOTION TO MOVE HEARING FROM HONOLULU TO HILO

On August 19, 1997, the Hawaii Labor Relations Board (Board) noticed a hearing on the Respondent UNITED PUBLIC WORKERS, AFSCME, LOCAL 646, AFL-CIO (UPW)'s motion to dismiss complaint on September 17, 1997 at the Board's offices in Honolulu, Hawaii.

On September 9, 1997, Complainant MICHAEL L. LAST (LAST) filed with the Board, inter alia, a motion to move the hearing scheduled on September 17, 1997 from Honolulu to Hilo. LAST requested the change in the hearing site because he contends that the alleged prohibited practice occurred in Hilo; Respondent UPW maintains a full-time permanent office in Hilo; an additional party maintains an office in Hilo; Complainant resides on the island of Hawaii; Complainant will not be able to travel to Honolulu on September 17, 1997; prior hearings conducted by telephone have been unsatisfactory; and the Board has conducted hearings in prior cases in Hilo.
On September 5, 1997, the Board rescheduled the hearing on September 30, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board's hearings room in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Thereafter, the UPW, by and through its attorney, indicated its objections to LAST's request to move the hearing on the UPW's motion to dismiss complaint to Hilo. The UPW submits that it would be a hardship to the UPW and a waste of public resources to hold the hearing in Hilo when the arguments can be heard by telephone.

Subsequently, LAST indicated to the Board, inter alia, that he would be available for the hearing by conference call if counsel for UPW were also contacted by telephone.

In view of the foregoing, the Board will conduct the hearing on the UPW's motion to dismiss complaint by conference call on September 30, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. The parties or their representatives will be contacted at their respective telephone numbers on file with the Board.


HAWAII LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

BERT M. TOMASU, Chairperson

RUSSELL T. HIGA, Board Member

CHESTER C. KUNITAKE, Board Member

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