

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
GOVERNOR

**JOSH GREEN**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



**ALAN HAYASHI**  
CHAIRPERSON

**ALLICYN C.H. TASAKA**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

**Workforce Development Division  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**  
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**MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Thursday, January 20, 2022**  
**1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.**  
**Online via Zoom**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES:**

Ken Loui, Chair, Vice President, Pacific Marine  
Ann Greenlee, Director, Hawaii Veterans Employment and Training Service  
Alan Hayashi, Owner, Consult 808  
Debbie Nakashima, Program Manager, Work for Warriors Hawaii  
Mani Sehgal, Hawaii Pacific University, Dean, College of Professional Studies  
Marie Calvo, Installation Volunteer Coordinator, Marine Corps Base Hawaii  
Guyland Patton, DVOP Specialist, American Job Center  
Irving Higa, DVOP Specialist, Oahu American Job Center  
Ramon Ruiz, Local Veterans' Employment Representative, Oahu American Job Center  
Keku Deponte, Maui County Kuina Program Coordinator  
Thip Lynn, Fort Shafter Transition Services Specialist  
Victoria Harvey, Hiring Our Hero's, Career Forward Senior Program Manager  
Gerald Mundy, Transition Counselor, Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam  
Chase Nomura, Maui County Fiscal & Program Specialist Workforce Development Board  
Jessica Dung, US Coast Guard Transition Relocation Ombudsman Coordinator, Pacific Rim  
Melissa Fraser, Transition Counselor, Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam  
Kimberly Graves, Vocational Rehab Specialist at Veterans Affairs  
Marie Calvo, Installation Volunteer Coordinator, Marine Corps Base Hawaii

**STAFF:**

Harrison Kuranishi, Employment Services Specialist, Workforce Development Division  
Jarret Yip, Program Officer, Workforce Development Division  
Carol Kanayama, Job Training Specialist, Workforce Development Division  
Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, Administrator, Workforce Development Division  
Mark Olds, Employment Service Specialist, Workforce Development Division  
Daven Kawamura, Job Training Program Specialist, Workforce Development Division  
Katrina Ramos, Management Information System Specialist, Workforce Development Division

**I. Call to Order.....Chair Ken Loui**

The Military & Veterans Affairs Committee (MVAC) meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Committee Chair Ken Loui.

Chair Loui recapped the November 18, 2021, WDC meeting. Governor David Ige acknowledged and expressed his appreciation for the work of the WDC. Brian Lee is the new Vice Chair of the WDC. The next WDC Meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2022.

**II. Approval of Minutes for the September 23, 2021, MVAC Meeting**

A. The approval of the meeting minutes for September 23, 2021, was differed and will be motioned for approval at the next committee meeting.

**III. Information and Updates**

A. Employment Services for National Guard

Debbie Nakashima provided an update on the Air & Army National Guard. Approximately 700 National Guard were on Federal COVID-19 orders. 300 remain on orders providing neighbor island assistance with crowd flow, testing & mapping. About 100 of the Guards called off orders are unemployed. With assistance from WDD and the Rapid Response teams statewide a virtual job fair will take place on January 28, 2022. Work for Warriors will assist Kauai with a live job fair held on February 2, 2022.

B. Military Spouse Subcommittee

There was no Military Spouse Subcommittee meeting. The last meeting was held in 2020. Neither Roman Galiki or Schoen Safotu were in attendance for today's meeting. Debbie Nakashima mentioned that Roman is working for Work for Warriors Texas. Chair Loui & WDD Staff will reach out to subcommittee co-chairs Roman Galiki and Schoen Satofu and aid the subcommittee.

C. Jarret Yip reported on workforce activities, which can be found at this link:

<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2022/01/WDD-Report-to-MVAC-Jan.20.2022.docx>

Chair Loui is interested in the upcoming job fairs. Pacific Marine needs up to 300 workers for upcoming projects.

**IV. Discussion on Committee's Short- & Long-Term Goals**

Vice-Chair Greenlee expressed the education benefits the committee provides. The sharing of information and resources benefit the different programs. Ms. Greenlee would like the committee to assist Hawaii employers in finding veterans to employ through apprenticeship & training.

Chair Loui would like to learn more about the members and organizations they represent. One or two members would present about their organization at each committee meeting. His goal is to understand each member & to provide support to achieve results & success.

Keku Deponte, Maui County Kuina Program, conveyed the neighbor islands have less resources especially in rural communities. Many veterans lack support and assistance in attaining basic needs such as housing, food, general & mental health.

Debbie Nakashima, Work for Warriors Hawaii, shared that having industry & service providers present available services allows more resources to share.

**V. Announcements**

- A. Chase Nomura shared a story of a retired veteran who was a welder. With the help of the Maui American Job Center the veteran was able to find a new job. He encouraged others by coming out of retirement and entering the workforce.
  
- B. Mani Sehgal mentioned HPU created an IT/Cyber Security Certificate with Security Plus & C Plus with AWS.

**VI. Adjournment**

Committee Chair Loui adjourned the meeting at 1:52 p.m.