

Statement of Sheila A. Ortiz

On April 5, 2007, Sheila A. Ortiz, employee of Bureau of Conveyances (BOC), Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), State of Hawaii (SOH) was contacted by Hilton J. Lui. Upon contact Ortiz was informed by Lui that he has been retained as an Investigator for the Hawaii State Ethics Commission whose Executive Director is Dan Mollway. Ortiz advised her current address is 1590 Thurston Avenue #204, Honolulu, HI 96822 and her work telephone number is 587-0120.

Ortiz advised she has been employed with the BOC since January 1991. When she was first employed she was an emergency hire at Will Call and worked at receiving, timing and numbering, and cashier. In May 1991, she became a permanent employee and became a Comparer and then a CT Writer in 1992. She then was in Indexing and in February 1998 went to Receiving as a clerk. In June 2006 she was assigned to a Special Project with Carl Watanabe as her supervisor where she currently is. Currently she works with Jolyn Kapeliela and Gina Aguilar.

Ortiz added when she was first employed at the BOC during Christmases title companies who they served brought things to the BOC. This practice had been going on for years where each Christmas they used to pull numbers at the Christmas Party and then would receive Candies. Through time she learned that the candy was from baskets that they had received from people which was then split up and distributed. Everyone received something. The last Christmas that they did that was during the Christmas of 2005.

Ortiz added because of her health condition she now only works part time, but before that when she worked full time she at times would work overtime

200560

after work. Ortiz added there were times where the title companies would deliver manapua or something from Liliha Bakery like puffs and something like that for them to have.

This Christmas those in Special Projects received a box of candy from an attorney on the big island but it was sent back. Some other stuff came but it was put in Carl Watanabe's office.

Ortiz advised she knows who Sandra Furukawa is. Ortiz guessed that Watanabe was hired in 1987 and was temporarily assigned as Acting Registrar after Furukawa left for about five years. Ortiz added because of the backlog the Special Projects formed. Ortiz thought Bob Masuda or Peter Young assigned Watanabe to the Special Projects. Ortiz advised since she has been assigned with Special Project she has no knowledge that they have been visited by Furukawa. Ortiz reiterated that she only works half day.

Ortiz advised on February 21, 2007, Carl Watanabe gave to her some paper work and asked her to bring it down because it needed a label and she recalled Watanabe told her it came from the Tax Office but part of the Conveyance Tax had been already paid and they had to re-calculate and pay the additional conveyance tax. Ortiz added in order to do this per Watanabe's instructions she gave the paper work to Kaiulani Lambert. Lambert in turn told her that Watanabe was not to do things like that. She replied to Lambert that Watanabe just gave it to her. Ortiz added that there have been several times that Watanabe has asked her to take paperwork down and have it numbered or whatever. Ortiz then was shown copies of the paperwork that Carl gave her on February 21, 2007 which she positively identified as being the paperwork that Watanabe gave her to bring down stairs and have

200561

worked on. The check for the payment was from Title Guaranty so Ortiz acknowledged the paperwork was from them. This paperwork is attached with this statement along with emails from Lambert to Dennis Ihara which Lui received from Lambert on March 14, 2007. Ortiz who works with Kapeliela and Aguilar was unaware if they were asked by Watanabe to do things like she just did for him.

Ortiz advised that there are a lot of people who call Watanabe and he answers a lot of questions.

200562