

Statement of Susana De Jesus

On April 18, 2007, Susan De Jesus, 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 De Jesus was informed by Lui that he has been retained as an Investigator for the Hawaii State Ethics Commission whose Executive Director is Dan Mollway. De Jesus advised her current address is 1808 Waiola Street, Apartment 4, Honolulu, HI 96826 and her work telephone number is 587-0128 or 587-0314.

De Jesus advised she was initially hired on October 3, 1988. About almost eleven years ago, June 1996 she became an Assistant Registrar (AR). Prior to becoming an AR she filed a grievance through her union, the HGEA that she was never given an opportunity to turn in her application. The BOC then had to re-open the application process. De Jesus just found out recently that her anniversary as an AR is June 1996 and in fact it should be earlier. She also found out that another employee, Susan Okimoto who turned in her application at the same time she did, and got interviewed at the same time had her starting date the same date as Carol Ching another AR which is somewhere in 1994. Okimoto was part of De Jesus' grievance. Something has since been filed in her behalf and they are working with personnel to resolve the issue of starting dates for her AR position.

De Jesus advised she observed Carl Watanabe leaving his old office this morning a little after 8:00 AM.

De Jesus did not have any knowledge about the Title Guaranty computer and it being located within the BOC space.

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De Jesus advised when she came to work in 1988, there were already the situation where there were given gift baskets during Christmas. The gift baskets were raffled or given out during their Christmas party. The type of gifts were fruit baskets, candy baskets, wine, coffee, jellies, gourmet baskets and Long's gift certificates. At one time De Jesus added if the basket was addressed to you, you could keep it, but then people at the BOC started to complain so after it was decided that all the baskets get donated to the Christmas party and if there were enough each employee would get one basket by raffle. De Jesus did not hear of anyone receiving any trips.

When she started in 1988 Sandra Furukawa was the Registrar. After two or three years after she started Carl Watanabe was hired as the Deputy Registrar. Furukawa quit after the strike in 1994 and Watanabe was temporarily assigned as Registrar for a "long time."

De Jesus advised while at the BOC she was assigned to work overtime on the special projects for some title companies on weekends and was one along with other BOC employees who were the recipients of the breakfasts and lunches provided by the companies.

When asked, "Who were the people at the BOC that outside interest like a title company would contact when they did not want to go through the normal process of having documents changed?" De Jesus advised it all depended on who they figured would do it for them. De Jesus advised that basically all AR's and the Supervisor (Nicolene Gega-Chang) have helped those companies. De Jesus added there were times when De Jesus have refused but then these individuals contacted Gega-Chang,

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Gega-Chang ordered her to do it. De Jesus added, and this work was for Title Guaranty. De Jesus added only "once in a blue moon" would she do work for another title company or lawyer's office."

De Jesus added after Sandra Furukawa left the BOC there were times that they went to lunch with her at Palomino's and also a Restaurant with a Ship at Ward Avenue a couple of years ago which is no longer in existence. Once when she went with Furukawa, Hannah Domingo was also present and the other time, once with Rex Davis, both of whom are also ARs. Furukawa paid for their lunches.

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