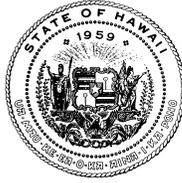


GM586

Measure Title:	Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators, Gubernatorial Nominee, ERIC OKAZAKI, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.
Report Title:	Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators
Current Referral:	CPH



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

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

Testimony in SUPPORT of GM0586
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO
THE BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM OPERATORS,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ERIC OKAZAKI,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2021

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: 04-12-2019 Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the nomination of
3 Mr. Eric A. Okazaki to the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators (Board) for
4 a second consecutive term.

5 Mr. Okazaki has 37 years of overall experience in the water industry including 20 years
6 of experience in the management of operations of water systems as the Vice President of
7 Operations at Pural Water Specialty Company, Inc. and 10 years of experience as the Water
8 System Manager for County of Maui, Department of Water Supply where he was responsible for
9 managing all potable water from wells and surface water sources. After retiring from Pural
10 Water Specialty Company, Inc. at the end of 2018, Mr. Okazaki returned to the County of Maui,
11 Department of Water Supply as an Assistant to the Field Operations Division Chief.

12 In addition to his extensive public and private drinking water experience, Mr. Okazaki
13 possesses both a Distribution System Operator and a Water Treatment Plant Operator
14 certification, both at the highest grade level 4. Therefore, he understands the value of a
15 certification program. His knowledge will bring valuable insight to the Board, and his
16 willingness to serve a second term demonstrates his commitment to his profession and the
17 certification of drinking water system operators.

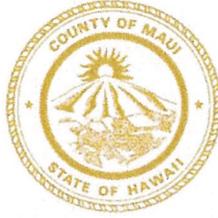
18 **Offered Amendments:** None

19 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
Mayor

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
Director

HELENE KAU
Deputy Director



DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauiwater.org

April 4, 2019

Board of Certification of Public
Water System Operators
Hawaii Department of Health
Safe Drinking Water Branch
2385 Waimano Home Road
Uluakupu Building 4
Pearl City, HI 96782-1400

SUBJECT: Eric Okazaki

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in reference to Eric Okazaki who is interested in serving on the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators. As the Deputy Director of the Department of Water Supply, County of Maui, I am pleased to provide this letter of recommendation.

Mr. Okazaki is a truly valuable asset to any team. He is honest, dependable, and incredibly hard-working. Beyond that, he is a strong leader who always tries to manage fairly and equitably. In addition, Mr. Okazaki's practical and technical knowledge of water systems and expertise in training is a huge advantage to the Department of Water Supply. He has put his unique skillset to work in order to improve work process efficiencies and effectiveness.

Along with Mr. Okazaki's talent, he continues to be an absolute joy to work with. Mr. Okazaki is a team player, and he always manages to foster positive discussions by bringing the best out of fellow employees.

"By Water All Things Find Life"

Board of Certification of Public
Water System Operators
Hawaii Department of Health
Safe Drinking Water Branch
April 4, 2019
Page 2

I confidently recommend Mr. Okazaki to join the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators. As a dedicated and knowledgeable employee and an all-around great person, I know that he will be a beneficial addition to your organization.

Please feel free to contact me at 808-270-7514 should you like to discuss his qualifications and expertise further.

Sincerely,



Helene Kau
Deputy Director

HK:ikk

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"By Water All Things Find Life"