

**TESTIMONY
TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Assistant Secretary
John Berry
C/o the Document Management Unit
Department of the Interior
1894 C St., N.W.
Mail Stop -7229
Washington DC 20240
Jan. 7, 2000
VIA FAX 1-202-208-5230
Mahealani L. Ventura-Oliver
584 Haiki Pl
Waiehu, HI 96793**

Aloha!

I submit for the last time in writing; this document and the facts herein to uphold, be included in, properly recorded and to support the evidentiary process that you must utilize in determining what form of reconciliation is the best to correct human right issues affecting the people of Hawaii at this time.

Of course you know how imperative this matter is to the welfare of the people of Hawaii, I simply want to let you know as representative of my Ohana, *Family*; these changes that we want to make happen in the current policies in regards to:

The reconciliation bill; my family and I have determined after further discussion that our suggestions were too fundamental at this point and though pertinent to this polity, we agree that we would like to have a reconciliation bill drawn up similarly to that of the Alaskan Natives with the United States Government.

Hawaiian People are defined in the legal and for practical definition in polity language; as Natives with a governing body of a Tribe. We agree that the settlement made by the Alaskan Natives with U.S.A, is where Hawaii should start; similarly.

There are approximately 1200 Hawaiians in my Ohana.

The names and surnames are:

Kahaula, Hana, Range, A'a, Lindsey, Huaka, Kamaka, Kamoalan, Karwe, Kalili, Kalilikane, Birch, Kaahiana, Kawaakauakahi, Uuhane, Kamakea, Schmitt, Lonoanahulu, Moikeha, Kamahualele, Mookini, Kekau A'I, Kaaukai, Keaunui, Wahineaukai, Mc Guire, Kekuawela, Kealaualakapulaiki, Kanoena, Wahineopio, Kekuamanoha, Haalou, Kila, Kamahualele, Vierra, Ventura, Oliver, Kaulahea I, II, Kaillaloha, Kaillihewalani, Kamahukilani, Fay, Kainapou, Schmidt, Kaleahano, Nahuina, Kumumu, Kalanikini, Kahikina, and then some.

On this last day of testimonial, may I say that we as Hawaiians deserve to have compensation for genocide, stolen lands and the illegal overthrow of our government.

Please deeply consider initiating a bill similar to the one made with the Alaskan Natives with every native right and compensatory description included with the option to amend every year.

Mahealani



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TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

Assistant Secretary

John Berry

C/o the Document Management Unit

Department of the Interior

1894 C St., N.W.

Mall Stop -7229

Washington DC 20240

Jan. 4, 2000

WA FAX: 1-202-208-3220

Mahealani L. Ventura-Oliver

584 Haiki Pl.

Waiehu, HI 96793

Aloha!

I submit for the third time in writing; this document and the facts herein to uphold, be included in, properly recorded and to support the evidentiary process that you must utilize in determining what form of reconciliation is the best to correct human right issues affecting the people of Hawaii at this time.

Of course you know how imperative this matter is to the welfare of the people of Hawaii, I simply want to let you know as representative of my Ohana, *Family*; these changes that we want to make happen in the current policies in regards to:

- 1) **HAWAIIAN HOMELANDS**
 - a) **Direct appropriation of funds to this department for specific purpose of building infrastructure to support the development of Hawaiian Communities.**
 - b) **Mandate amount of time (like any development project) to install basic infrastructure on-grid or as an alternative: Ex: Agriculture lots in Keokea; 11 yrs dormant, with out any basic development.**
 - c) **Provide solar power paneling, composting toilets and water sources, such as solar-photovoltaic energy air -wells that produce water from atmospheric temperature changes; humidity "Star" is the company and the info is on-line. Believe me, we won't produce a void in our economy by being off-grid communities, we'll only be cleaner, produce less waste and the investment in our economy will simply shift.**
- 2) **FUNDS FROM RENT OR LEASES; as current with property values on market to be paid into the DHHL infrastructure building fund and not to Office of Hawaiian Affairs; for as long as lands are occupied by State, County, Federal and private businesses operating on particular ceded lands and Hawaiian Homelands. For ex: Kona airport, Waikiki hotels, Makua, etc.**
- 3) **BLOOD QUANTUM: on Hawaiian People should be dissolved or at least 10% proven ancestry.**
 - a) **Mandate amount of time allowed to process Hawaiian Homelands awards: from application approval to awarding. Ex: Hawaiians dying while on the list.**
 - b) **My family of about 1200, from both sides agree with this and have appointed me to write to you in their and my favor the above stipulations that we put forth to you by this instrument.**

We are the families of : Kahaula, Range and Hana from Huelo, Birch, Huaka, Kamaka, Ka'alaina, Kawa'akanakahi, Uluhane, Kailialoha, Kamakea, Kamoalau, Kahikina, Kalanikini from Waiehu, Kailii, Kailikane, Nahuina, Kaleohano from Kapooua, Kaleohano, Kealahakapulaiki, Kaurwe, A'a, Lindsey, Ka'aukai, Kekuaawela, Moikeha, Kekuananoha, Fay, Keaweopala, Mo'okini, Ke kuu A'I, I from Hawaii, Schmitt from Paia, Maui, Kealiikanaka'olekekniapo'I, Manuia, Alapa'imui, Lononahulu from South Kohala, Hawaii, Ventura from Kailua, O'ahu and Oliver from San Diego, California.

We all agree that this is a good place to start for the reconciliation process.



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TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Assistant Secretary
John Berry
C/o the Document Management Unit
Department of the Interior
1894 C St., N.W.
Mall Stop -7229
Washington DC 20240
Jan. 3, 2000
VIA FAX: 202-208-3230
Mahealani L. Ventura-Oliver
584 Haiki Pl
Waichu, HI 96793**

Aloha!

I submit for the second time in writing; this document and the facts herein to uphold, be included in, properly recorded and to support the evidentiary process that you must utilize in determining what form of reconciliation is the best to correct human right issues affecting the people of Hawaii at this time.

Of course you know how imperative this matter is to the welfare of the people of Hawaii, I simply want to let you know as representative of my Ohana, *Family*; these changes that we want to make happen in the current policies in regards to:

- 1) **Hawaiian Homelands**
 - a) **Direct appropriation of funds to this department for specific purpose of building infrastructure to support the development of Hawaiian Communities.**
 - b) **Mandate amount of time (like any development project) to install basic infrastructure on-grid or as an alternative:**
 - c) **provide solar power paneling, composting toilets and water sources, such as solar-photovoltaic energy air-wells that produce water from atmospheric temperature changes "Star" is the company and the info is on-line. Believe me, we won't produce a void in our economy by being off-grid communities, we'll only be cleaner, produce less waste and the investment in our economy will simply shift.**
- 2) **FUNDS FROM RENT OR LEASES;** as current with property values on market to be paid into the DHHL infrastructure building fund and not to Office of Hawaiian Affairs; for as long as lands are occupied by State, County, Federal and private businesses of particular ceded lands and Hawaiian Homelands. For ex: Kona airport.
- 3) **BLOOD QUANTUM:** on Hawaiian People should be dissolved or reduced to at least 10%.
 - a) **Mandate amount of time allowed to process Hawaiian Homelands awards; from application approval to awarding.**
 - b) **My family of about 1200, from both sides agree with this and have appointed me to write to you in their and my favor the above stipulations that we put forth to you by this instrument.**

We are the families of : Kahaula, Range and Hans from Huulo, Birch, Huaka, Kamaka, Ka'alaina, Kawa'akaauakahi, Uluhane, Kailialoha, Kamakea, Kamoakau, Kahikina, Kalanikini from Waichu, Kahi, Kahikane, Nahuina, Kaleohano from Kapoia, Kaleohano, Keaulakapulaiki, Kauwe, A'a, Lindsey, Ka'aukai, Kekuawela, Moikeba, Kekuamanoha, Fay, Keaweopala, Mo'okini, Ke kau A'I, I from Hawaii, Schmitt from Paia, Maui, Kealiikanaka'olekekuiapo'I, Manuia, Alapa'imui, Lomonahuku from South Kohala, Hawaii, Ventura from Kailua, O'ahu and Oliver from San Diego, California.

We all agree that this is a good place to start for the reconciliation process.



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TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Assistant Secretary
John Berry
C/o the Document Management Unit
Department of the Interior
1894 C St., N.W.
Mail Stop -7229
Washington DC 20240
Dec. 30, 1999**

**Mahealani L. Ventura-Oliver
584 Haiki Pl
Waichu, HI 96793**

Aloha!

I submit this document and the facts herein to uphold, be included in, properly recorded and to support the evidentiary process that you must utilize in determining what form of reconciliation is the best to correct human right issues affecting the people of Hawaii at this time.

You were unable to hear my verbal testimony; I was quite busy working at my job as I always am scheduled to do during normal business hours on any given week-day. Please take note; with due consideration of the poor planning that resulted in your not being able to address the whole and complete community of Hawaiians on Maui. This grievous error has caused an incompleteness in the testimonial portion of the reconciliation process.

First point: Land; it must be returned in order to re-vive the economic land base that was once the thriving force of our economy:

- a) Hawaiian families produce income from their land and investment collateral
- b) Provide local dollar circulation and strengthens the local economy
- c) Hawaiian families produce income from fishponds designed to maximize seafood production uniquely adapted to our environment (these are in place)
- d) Replace the Hawaiian Community and reduce government support for impoverished families who have no economic land base. Displacement is a crime; it breeds social-economical poverty. Hawaiians have been displaced.

Small pocket agriculture; aquaculture, can supplement the tourism diver to our economy, while maintaining the integrity of Hawaii's natural pristine environment.

Without access and cultural practices being written into this plan it will fail. Please consult cultural experts to help define cultural practices and explain.

Next point: Water; the rights of which must accompany any and all land returns; not to adversely affect the community usage at all. May require addendum to present laws.

You must and cannot continue without doing this first:

- a) Research and confirm by evidentiary process; the genocide effect on the Hawaiian people from 1800's to present day. This will clarify the human rights violations against the Hawaiian people when taken over and the inhumane effects that have resulted from this.
- b) Research and confirm the deliberate stripping of land deeds and rights of ownership and thereby forced adverse displacement of the Hawaiian people by the Republic, by The Territory of Hawaii, by business tycoons and the United States Government during the 1800's to present day. Particularly from 1845 to 1899; during the Great Mahele to the formation of the illegal Republic of Hawaii.

Third point: This is my personal experience and I am including this because you don't know me, you don't know my life and least of all you don't know my struggle to find my self amongst the remains of my culture.

I think that you realize now that we are a servitude society, producing generations of servants to provide the axis of our tourist driven economy and that this is a cultural transfer phenomena that happens in every over taken country.

I grew up fortunately with a family rich with culture and Aloha. I unfortunately witnessed the deaths of both grandparents as they rotted in cancerous-enveloped, drug-induced suspensions of existence. My grandfather went first. He was a third generation marine and he was Hawaiian-German. He trusted woefully that his wife would be taken care of by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands and his children would carry-on. On the day of my grandmothers death, or the evening rather...we, the grandchildren and our parents were receiving people and the usual, when my oldest brother brought in the mail. My mother sat down at the dining room table and proceeded to open the mail and read, she let out a wail and flew the paper and started crying.

We all wondered what that piece of paper could have contained to make my mother cry, the adults moved away from the children, speaking in Hawaiian and English- my grandmother had a rule; speak either proper Hawaiian or proper English, there was no in between. The rest of it became a blur, but many years later when my eldest sister mentioned applying for Hawaiian Homelands to my mother and promptly received a verbal beating damning that hellish institution, I happened to be near and being the youngest and bravest, asked "Why do you hate them so much Mommy?" She re-counted the day of my grandmother's funeral, voice brimming with anger, eyes squelching hot tears... my grandmother was awarded her Hawaiian Homelands the day of her death!

That was the mysterious message on that ill-gotten piece of paper. I felt like I had been plowed over and left to be picked at by crows. I vowed that I would make my own and never accept a thread of assistance from the DHHL. I made it. Went to school, air force, travel, came home worked three jobs and saved nearly \$8,000.00 to put down on my own home and piece of land. I have that much. Now, I want what my father has waited for and trusts that it shall be given to his children; Hawaiian Homelands. I have faced ineptness, apathy and attitude from the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. I innately feel protective of my father, when dealing with DHHL. They have yet to give him his land and then allow him to work it. He is nearly sixty -six years old. Apparently the DHHL has credible evidence of longevity in my family and clear facts to state how we peak in tireless strength when over fifty years of age! I am thirty years old, I have five siblings they are all older and I have been given the responsibility of taking care of this. Isn't it ironic?

Perhaps it was better that I write then speak, in my case. I would like to add one more thing, although I am eligible for Hawaiian Homelands under the current blood quantum; I do not agree with it. This criteria must be changed to reflect direct Hawaiian ancestry. We must compensate for the genocide. Now you have a bit of me, an understanding hopefully of why it is important to me to write you this. I want you also to know that I will never give up. I am preparing to fight in court for my family land soon. I know what I am up against, that great impossible beast I must wrestle the control of our water and land from, lives now in the form of A&B Properties, Inc. Here is a perfect example of over extending leases to their own gain and inevitably the cruel displacement of my family.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,


Mabealani Ventura-Oliver