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SCHHA Governing Council
Robin Puanani Danner, Chairman, Kauai
Sybil Lopez, Vice Chairman, Molokai
Richard Soo, Councilman, Oahu
Kekoa Enomoto, Councilman, Maui
Ron Kodani, Councilman, Hawaii Island

Date: February 21, 2020

To: Department of Interior, Office of Native Hawaiian Relations
Washington DC

Fr: Robin Puanani Danner, Chairman
Sybil Lopez, Vice Chairman
Richard Soo, Councilman
Kekoa Enomoto, Councilman
Ron Kodani, Councilman

Re: Registration as an HBA under 43CFR 47/48

Founded in 1987, the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations (SCHHA), is the oldest and largest self-governing organization dedicated to the trust lands of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920. SCHHA is a Statewide Homestead Association and Beneficiary Association as defined under 43CFR 47/48.

Our elected statewide Governing Council presents our registration to the Department of Interior as follows:

- 1. Governance.** SCHHA is controlled and governed by beneficiaries as defined under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. Every four years, representatives from five moku (island regions of Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Maui/Lanai and Hawaii Island) are elected to a 5-member SCHHA Governing Council.

Voting members of the SCHHA consist of individual homestead associations, and effective in the year 2023, will include individuals meeting the definition of HHCA beneficiaries of at least 18 years of age. The SCHHA also has enrolled members that are not eligible under the HHCA definition, however, such members do not hold voting rights in the SCHHA, but can serve in various positions within the SCHHA.

- 2. Purpose.** SCHHA is both a Homestead Association and an HHCA Beneficiary Association serving homestead communities statewide where HHCA trust lands are located and serving beneficiaries with submitted applications for a homestead land award or assignment.

The SCHHA primary purpose and mission is *the representation of the interests of and provision of services to homestead communities on trust lands in the State of Hawaii, and HHCA beneficiaries awaiting a homestead land award.*

- 3. Programs & Services.** SCHHA Governing Council schedules and meets regularly with all enrolled members of the SCHHA, conducting business on a regular basis on the needs of its homestead communities and waitlist beneficiaries.

SCHHA operates programs and services to support the exercise of sovereignty by native Hawaiians on our trust lands, development of affordable housing, building trust land economies, creating access to capital for homes, farms, ranches and mercantile purposes, and policy advocacy to improve the administration of our land trust. The SCHHA conducts seminars on a regular basis to educate homestead lessees and individuals on the waitlist, on the rights and responsibilities of a homestead land award.

Mahalo for your consideration to register the SCHHA as a statewide Homestead Association and Beneficiary Association serving native Hawaiians that are lessees of trust lands, and those awaiting an award to become a lessee. Please contact our SCHHA Chairman, Robin Puanani Danner at robin@hawaiianhomesteads.org or at 808-652-0140 should any additional information be required.

Attachments: SCHHA Constitution Updated & Adopted August 2019

Founded in 1987, SCHHA is the oldest and largest self-governing Hawaiian Homestead Association serving native Hawaiians exercising sovereignty on the trust lands enacted by Congress under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920