

Electronically Filed
Supreme Court
SCPW-24-0000464
29-OCT-2025
02:51 PM
Dkt. 61 OT

NO. SCPW-24-0000464

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

PUBLIC FIRST LAW CENTER,	)	ORIGINAL PROCEEDING
	)	1FFM-24-0000018
Petitioner,	)	1FFM-24-0000019
	)	
vs.	)	PETITION FOR WRIT OF PROHIBITION
	)	AND WRIT OF MANDAMUS
THE HONORABLE MATTHEW J. VIOLA,	)	
Senior Judge of the Family Court of the First	)	FAMILY COURT OF THE FIRST
Circuit, State of Hawai'i, Respondent Judge,	)	CIRCUIT, STATE OF HAWAI'I
	)	
and	)	
	)	
THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN	)	
SERVICES, STATE OF HAWAI'I, et. al.,	)	The Honorable Matthew J. Viola,
	)	Family Court of the First Circuit,
Respondents.	)	State of Hawai'i
	)	
	)	

**RESPONDENT DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, STATE OF HAWAI'I'S
STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED REDACTIONS**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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RESPONDENT DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, STATE OF HAWAII'S
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I. REFERENCE TO SIBLING

There is an unredacted reference to a sibling at Docket 43, PDF page 276, the top paragraph. This appears to be inadvertent because the same paragraph is redacted at Docket 57, PDF page 277.

II. ALLEGATIONS REGARDING NON-PARTY

After Isabella P. Kalua, formerly known as Ariel Sellers (Ariel) and her sisters were taken into foster custody, Ariel's older sister made an allegation that she was [REDACTED] [REDACTED] prior to being taken into foster custody. See the unredacted version of Docket 51, PDF page 46; Docket 53, PDF page 16; Docket 53, PDF page 44. The older sister's allegation resulted in a separate Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services Branch (CWS) investigation, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Because information about the older sister is redacted, consistent with the Court's opinion, the context for the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] is redacted. The decision to redact the context for the allegations, but not the fact of the allegations and Ariel's involvement with them, gives the misleading impression that the allegations are against a person whose name is unredacted in the rest of the record. The lack of context also gives the misleading impression that the allegations may be directly related to Ariel's disappearance and judicially declared death.

CWS does not believe that the context was purposely eliminated. The context exists in the narrative about the older sister and that context was not repeated as part of the narrative about Ariel because none of the drafters of those documents understood that their documents would not

be read as a whole. CWS requests that the Court either unredact portions of the sister's information to provide the necessary context for the allegations [REDACTED] or redact references to those allegations altogether in the following parts of the record: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. If the Court believes that the allegations should remain a part of the public record, then CWS requests that portions of the sibling's record be carefully unredacted to make clear that the allegations relate to conduct that occurred prior to Ariel's entry into foster custody and are against a person whose name does not appear in the unredacted record. If the Court believes that the context must remain confidential for the protection of the sibling, then CWS requests that all references to the allegations be redacted.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawai'i, October 29, 2025.

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/s/ Lynne M. Youmans
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STATE OF HAWAI'I

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	)	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was duly served this date by JEFS/electronic filing to the following at the address listed below:

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