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Attorney for Plaintiff

FIRST CIRCUIT COURT  
STATE OF HAWAII  
FILED

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H. CHING  
CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

STATE OF HAWAII

STATE OF HAWAII, by its Office of  
Consumer Protection,  
  
Plaintiff,

vs.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
CHRISTIAN CLINICAL COUNSELORS,  
a California nonprofit religious  
corporation dba Golden Pacific  
University and EDWARD N.  
MICHAELSON,  
  
Defendants.

CIVIL NO. 02-1-1774-07  
(Other Civil Action)

COMPLAINT AND SUMMONS

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, for a cause of action against the above-named Defendants, avers  
and alleges that:

JEFFREY E. BRUNTON #2833  
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2419  
Telephone: (808) 586-2636

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

STATE OF HAWAII

STATE OF HAWAII, by its Office of	)	CIVIL NO. _____
Consumer Protection,	)	(Other Civil Action)
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	COMPLAINT AND SUMMONS
	)	
	)	
vs.	)	
	)	
	)	
THE FIRST CHURCH OF	)	
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF	)	
CHRISTIAN CLINICAL COUNSELORS,	)	
a California nonprofit religious	)	
corporation dba Golden Pacific	)	
University and EDWARD N.	)	
MICHAELSON,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
_____	)	

**COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, for a cause of action against the above-named Defendants,  
avers and alleges that:

## ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

1. This is an action brought by the Office of Consumer Protection of the State of Hawaii pursuant to Hawaii Rev. Stat. Chaps. 446E, 480 and 487 seeking to enjoin the Defendants from engaging in certain acts or practices in violation of Hawaii's consumer protection laws and to obtain other and additional relief.

2. This court has subject matter jurisdiction over this case pursuant to Hawaii Rev. Stat. §§ 480-21 and 603-21.5.

3. Defendant The First Church of International Association of Christian Clinical Counselors is a California nonprofit religious corporation doing business as Golden Pacific University ("GPU").

4. Upon information and belief, Defendant Edward N. Michaelson ("Michaelson") is a resident of the State of California.

5. Defendant GPU is not now and never has been accredited by a recognized accrediting agency or association recognized by the United States Secretary of Education.

6. Defendant Michaelson is not now and never has been accredited by a recognized accrediting agency or association recognized by the United States Secretary of Education.

7. GPU is an "degree granting institution" as that phrase is defined in Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-1.

8. GPU is an "unaccredited institution" as that phrase is defined in Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-1.

9. GPU has a “presence” in the State of Hawaii as that term is used in Haw. Rev. Stat. §446E-1.

10. GPU is not a school or educational program conducted solely for religious instruction.

11. GPU offers its educational programs and services to the public at large and not solely for the instruction of its members.

**COUNT I**  
**FAILURE TO CONTINUOUSLY MAINTAIN AN AGENT IN HAWAII**

12. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 11 as though fully set forth herein.

13. GPU has failed to continuously maintain an agent for service of process within the State of Hawaii as required by Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-4(a).

**COUNT II**  
**FAILURE TO MAKE STATUTORY DISCLOSURES**

14. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 13 as though fully set forth herein.

15. GPU failed to properly and adequately disclose in all catalogs, promotional materials, including its website, and/or written contracts for instruction the fact that it is not fully accredited by any nationally recognized accrediting agency or association listed by the United States Secretary of Education in violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-2(a).

16. Each and every catalog, promotional material and/or written contract for instruction that failed to properly and adequately disclose the fact that

GPU is and was not fully accredited by any nationally recognized accrediting agency or association listed by the United States Secretary of Education constitutes a separate and independent violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-2(a).

17. Violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-2(a) constitute *per se* violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 480-2(a).

**COUNT III**  
**FAILURE TO HAVE AN OFFICE LOCATED IN HAWAII**

18. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 17 as though fully set forth herein.

19. GPU has failed to have an office located in Hawaii in violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. §446E-5(d).

20. Violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(d) constitute *per se* violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 480-2(a).

**COUNT IV**  
**FAILURE TO HAVE AN EMPLOYEE LOCATED IN HAWAII**

21. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 20 as though fully set forth herein.

22. GPU has failed to have an employee located in Hawaii in violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(d).

23. Violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(d) constitute *per se* violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 480-2(a).

**COUNT V**  
**FAILURE TO HAVE TWENTY-FIVE HAWAII STUDENTS ENROLLED**

24. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully set forth herein.

25. GPU has failed to have twenty-five enrolled students in Hawaii in violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(d).

26. Violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(d) constitute *per se* violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 480-2(a).

**COUNT VI**  
**SUGGESTIONS OF STATE LICENSING, APPROVAL OR REGULATION**

27. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 26 as though fully set forth herein.

28. GPU has, in its catalogs and/or promotional materials indicated or suggested that the State of Hawaii licenses, approves of or regulates its operations. violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. §446E-5(a).

29. Each and every catalog, promotional material and/or written contract for instruction that contains such a suggestion or indication constitutes a separate and independent violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(a).

30. Violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(a) constitute *per se* violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 480-2(a).

**COUNT VII**  
**ILLEGAL ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENTS**

31. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 30 as though fully set forth herein.

32. GPU has had a continual “presence” in the State of Hawaii as that phrase is used in Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-1 and § 446E-5 since at least July 1, 1999.

33. GPU has accepted or received tuition payments or other fees on behalf of students despite not being in compliance with all of the requirements of Hawaii Rev. Stat. Chap. 446E.

34. The acceptance of such payment(s) or fee(s) from each student constitutes a separate and independent violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. §446E-5(e).

35. Violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(e) constitute *per se* violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 480-2(a).

**COUNT VIII**  
**DEFENDANT MICHAELSON’S INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY**

36. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 35 as though fully set forth herein.

37. Defendant Michaelson actively or passively participated in the illegal activity and/or formulated, directed, supervised, participated in, benefited from, facilitated, controlled, knew and approved of, and committed or caused the commission of the various acts and practices described herein.

**COUNT IX**  
**INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

38. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 37 as though fully set forth herein.

39. Unless Defendants are restrained and enjoined by this court from continuing to violate Hawaii Rev. Stat. Chap. 446E and § 480-2(a) in the manner described herein, they will continue to do so, irreparably harming and injuring the consuming public of the State of Hawaii.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that this court:

1. Find, order, adjudge and declare that Defendants' conduct, as alleged herein, violates the statutory provisions set forth above.

2. Issue a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction and permanent injunction directing the Business Registration Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii to dissolve, terminate, revoke and/or cancel all trade names, trademarks, corporate registrations (including that for The First Church of International Association of Christian Clinical Counselors, Golden Pacific University and/or Edward N. Michaelson, and certificates of authority held by or for the Defendants.

3. Issue a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction and permanent injunction enjoining the Defendants, their agents, employees, successors and assigns, directly or indirectly, individually or in concert with others, or through any corporate or other device from any of the following:

- a. Providing any post-secondary instructional programs or courses leading to a degree;
- b. Acting as or holding themselves out as a "college, academy, institute, institution, university" or anything similar



thereto;

- c. Failing to comply with Hawaii Rev. Stat. Chap. 446E or § 480-2(a) in any particulars; and
- d. Owning or operating any business in the State of Hawaii, claiming to operate under the laws of the State of Hawaii, or having a presence in Hawaii until all restitution, civil penalties and costs entered herein are fully satisfied.

4. Assess appropriate civil penalties against the Defendants individually pursuant to Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 480-3.1 and enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff accordingly.

5. Award any consumers injured by the aforementioned violations full restitution, including pre and post judgment interest, against the Defendants, jointly and severally, pursuant to Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 487-14 and the court's inherent authority and enter judgment accordingly.

6. Assess and award judgment in favor of Plaintiff and against the Defendants, for attorneys' fees, costs, costs of investigation, interest, and other expenses.

7. Award Plaintiff such other relief as the court may deem just and equitable under the circumstances.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, July 24, 2002.

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JEFFREY E. BRUNTON  
Attorney for Plaintiff

Civil No. \_\_\_\_\_; State of Hawaii vs. The First Church of International Association  
of Christian Clinical Counselors, et al; COMPLAINT AND SUMMONS.

d. Owning or operating any business in the State of Hawaii, claiming to operate under the laws of the State of Hawaii, or having a presence in Hawaii until all restitution, civil penalties and costs entered herein are fully satisfied.


4. Assess appropriate civil penalties against the Defendants individually pursuant to Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 480-3.1 and enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff accordingly.

5. Award any consumers injured by the aforementioned violations full restitution, including pre and post judgment interest, against the Defendants, jointly and severally, pursuant to Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 487-14 and the court's inherent authority and enter judgment accordingly.

6. Assess and award judgment in favor of Plaintiff and against the Defendants, for attorneys' fees, costs, costs of investigation, interest, and other expenses.

7. Award Plaintiff such other relief as the court may deem just and equitable under the circumstances.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, July 24, 2002.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JEFFREY E. BRUNTON  
Attorney for Plaintiff

Civil No. \_\_\_\_\_; State of Hawaii vs. The First Church of International Association of Christian Clinical Counselors, et al; COMPLAINT AND SUMMONS.