



DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 11, 2016

Honolulu Man Charged with Violence Against Tax Officials

Honolulu - On March 7, 2016, Honolulu resident Paul Lowndes appeared for his arraignment and pled not guilty in a hearing at Circuit Court for the First Circuit, State of Hawaii, for violent interference with tax officials. Lowndes trial date is set for May 9, 2016. If found guilty, Lowndes faces a fine of not more than \$4,000; imprisonment of not more than three years; or probation, when sentenced.

"Our employees are dedicated public servants. We will not tolerate any violent or inappropriate behavior directed at them," said Maria Zielinski, Director for the Department of Taxation

On February 25, 2016, Lowndes had been charged by a Grand Jury in Circuit Court for the First Circuit, State of Hawaii, with violating one (1) count of Section 231-86, HRS for violent interference with tax officials. The incident occurred on November 25, 2015, when Lowndes met with a tax official at his office. At that time, he threatened him with physical harm and said he would "wipe out" the Tax Department.

This investigation was coordinated by the Criminal Investigation Section of State Department of Taxation and the Department of the Attorney General.

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