



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
Office of the Director

DCCA News Release

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**DCCA NAMES CATHERINE AWAKUNI AS THE
STATE'S CONSUMER ADVOCATE**

HONOLULU -- Catherine Awakuni has been named executive director for the Division of Consumer Advocacy (DCA). She will start on September 18.

As head of DCA, Awakuni will oversee the division's representation of consumer interests before the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (PUC), and other local and federal agencies.

"We are fortunate to have someone with Ms. Awakuni's extensive experience in the area of public utilities accept this important position to advocate on behalf of all Hawaii consumers," said Mark Recktenwald, director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Awakuni has been serving as commission counsel with the PUC since 2002. Prior to that, Awakuni worked as an associate at Bodden & Muraoka, a law corporation and Ashford & Wriston, LLP, where she specialized in real property transactions, estate planning, and entity formation.

"I look forward to working with the experienced staff at the DCA, and to protecting and advancing the interests of the state's consumers," said Awakuni.

Awakuni's experience includes working as a law clerk for former Second Circuit Court Judge Boyd Mossman on Maui. She received her undergraduate degree in business from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and her law degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law.

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