

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS Office of Consumer Protection

DCCA News Release

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DCCA AWARDED TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AGAINST THE HAWAII COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

HONOLULU – The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) today obtained a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) against the Hawaii College of Pharmacy.

First Circuit Court Judge Sabrina S. McKenna issued the TRO, which prohibits the Hawaii College of Pharmacy from further violating the State's Unaccredited Degree Granting Institutions law, temporarily freezes its assets, and prohibits disposal of any of the College's records.

The TRO remains in effect until Wednesday, August 10, 2005, at 10 a.m., when the Court will convene a hearing to consider the State's Motion for a Preliminary Injunction, which may extend the TRO's relief for a longer period of time.

Stephen Levins, executive director of the Office of Consumer Protection, stated that he was pleased that the Court had ordered the TRO since it may ultimately assist the Office of Consumer Protection in its efforts to recover student tuition money.

The TRO is related to a pending lawsuit that DCCA filed on July 27, 2005, which alleges that the Hawaii College of Pharmacy engaged in unfair and deceptive business practices in its operations, including misleading students about accreditation, failing to make statutory disclosures, failing to produce records, and illegally accepting payments.

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