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FIRST CIRCUIT COURT
STATE OF HAWAII
FILED

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Attorney for Plaintiff

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.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & MANAGEMENT OF SOUTHWEST INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, a Hawaii corporation; MAO JUNG LEE, JAMES KING and ADAM Y. HAN,

Defendants.

# CIVIL NO. 02-1-1722-07 (RWP) (Other Civil Action)

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT AND SUMMONS

#### FIRST AMENDED 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

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Attorney for Plaintiff

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

# STATE OF HAWAII

STATE OF HAWAII, by its Office of Consumer Protection,	•	CIVIL NO. 02-1-1722-07 (RWP) (Other Civil Action)
Plaintiff,		FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT AND SUMMONS
vs.	)	
	)	
	)	
TRINITY COLLEGE OF SCIENCE &	)	
MANAGEMENT OF SOUTHWEST	)	
INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, a	)	
Hawaii corporation; MAO JUNG LEE,	)	
JAMES KING and ADAM Y. HAN,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

# FIRST AMENDED 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 Trinity College of Science & Management of Southwest International University (hereinafter "Trinity College") is a Hawaii corporation.

4. Upon information and belief, Defendant Mao Jung Lee is a resident of the State of California.

5. Upon information and belief, Defendant James King is a resident of Taiwan in the Republic of China.

6. Upon information and belief, Defendant Adam Y. Han is a resident of the State of California.

7. On February 5, 2002 Articles of Incorporation of Trinity College were filed with the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii.

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

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

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

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

12. Trinity College is an "unaccredited institution" as that phrase is defined in Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-1.

13. Trinity College has or had a "presence" in the State of Hawaii as that term is used in Haw. Rev. Stat. §446E-1.

# COUNT I FAILURE TO HAVE AN OFFICE LOCATED IN HAWAII

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

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

16. Violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(d) constitute per se

violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 480-2(a).

# COUNT II FAILURE TO HAVE AN EMPLOYEE LOCATED IN HAWAII

17. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in

paragraphs 1 through 16 as though fully set forth herein.

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

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

# COUNT III FAILURE TO HAVE TWENTY-FIVE HAWAII STUDENTS ENROLLED

20. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in

paragraphs 1 through 19 as though fully set forth herein.

21. Trinity College has failed to have twenty-five enrolled students in

Hawaii in violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(d).

22. Violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 446E-5(d) constitute per se

violations of Hawaii Rev. Stat. § 480-2(a).

#### COUNT IV ILLEGAL ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENTS

23. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in

paragraphs 1 through 22 as though fully set forth herein.

24. Trinity College 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 February 5, 2002.

25. Trinity College 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.

26. 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).

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

#### COUNT V SUGGESTIONS OF STATE LICENSING, APPROVAL OR REGULATION

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

29. Trinity College 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).

30. 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).

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

#### COUNT VI DEFENDANT LEE'S INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY

32. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in

paragraphs 1 through 31 as though fully set forth herein.

33. Defendant Mao Jung Lee 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 VII DEFENDANT KING'S INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY

34. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 33 as though fully set forth herein.

35. Defendant James King 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 VIII DEFENDANT HAN'S INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY

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

37. Defendant Adam Y. Han 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

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.

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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 Trinity College), 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:

- Providing any post-secondary instructional programs or courses leading to a degree;
- 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.

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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, August 14, 2002.

JEFFREY E. BRUNTON Attorney for Plaintiff 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, August 14, 2002.

E Brunton

JEFFREY E. BRUNI OF Attorney for Plaintiff