



## DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

MARIA E. ZIELINSKI  
DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 30, 2015

#### *New Taxpayer Advocate Gives Taxpayers a Helping Hand*

HONOLULU – The State Tax Department is pleased to announce that Jaysen Morikami has been selected as the new Taxpayer Advocate. Mr. Morikami has worked to resolve both taxpayers and tax practitioners' problems the past eleven years in the Department's Taxpayer Services Section.

The Taxpayer Advocate helps taxpayers where:

- Taxpayers who have unresolved State tax problems after exhausting all appropriate avenues of resolution;
- Taxpayers believe his or her rights have been abridged;
- Taxpayers are not looking for an alternative to the formal appeals process or established departmental procedures; and
- Taxpayers are not seeking legal or technical tax advice or determinations.

"We're excited to have Mr. Morikami take on the Taxpayer Advocate role in the State Tax Department. Because the Advocate helps to ensure that all taxpayers rights are protected, finding and hiring a highly qualified person to handle these responsibilities is important. We have confidence that Mr. Morikami will serve the State's taxpayers well," stated Tax Director Maria Zielinski.

For more information about the Taxpayer Advocate program, please visit the State Tax Department's website at <http://tax.hawaii.gov/assistance/advocate/>.

###

#### **Media Contact:**

Mallory Fujitani  
Department of Taxation  
Phone: (808) 587-1481  
Email: mallory.c.fujitani@hawaii.gov  
Website: www.tax.hawaii.gov