



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

**News Release**

**LINDA LINGLE**  
GOVERNOR

---

Mark J. Bennett, Attorney General  
Phone: (808) 586-1500  
Fax: (808) 586-1239

---

For Immediate Release: May 14, 2007

News Release No. 2007-14

**Attorney General Suspends Professional Solicitor's Registration**

(HONOLULU) On May 11, 2007, Attorney General Mark Bennett gave notice of the suspension of Hawaii Promotion, Inc.'s registration as a professional solicitor for charitable organizations for a period of ninety days. The Attorney General also imposed \$3,000 in administrative penalties under Hawaii's charitable solicitation law.

Hawaii Promotions, Inc. has contracts with The Music Foundation of Hawaii and Hawaii's Lifeguard & Water Safety Fund to solicit funds from the public.

An investigation revealed that Hawaii Promotions, Inc. failed to comply with a requirement that requires all solicitors, before attempting to collect a donation, to disclose clearly and conspicuously the following information, in writing:

- The full legal name, address, and telephone number of the individual professional solicitor who directly communicated with the contributor; and
- A disclosure that the contribution is not tax-deductible, if applicable, or, if the professional solicitor maintains that the contribution is tax-deductible in whole or in part, the portion of the contribution that the professional solicitor maintains is tax-deductible.

In the case of the Music Foundation of Hawaii, the Foundation lost its tax exempt status when it was involuntarily dissolved by the State in 2004. The Foundation re-incorporated in 2007 but failed to re-apply for tax exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service. Therefore, donations to the Foundation are not tax-deductible. Any person who contributed funds to the Foundation in the belief that their contribution was tax deductible should contact Deputy Attorney General Hugh R. Jones at 586-1473.

Hawaii Promotions, Inc. is entitled to request an administrative hearing to review the Attorney General's decision to suspend its registration as a professional solicitor.

News Release No. 2007-14  
Attorney General Suspends Professional Solicitor's Registration  
Page 2

Information regarding the registration law and a list of registered and bonded fundraisers are available on the Attorney General's website at <http://www.hawaii.gov/ag/charityresources.htm>

###

For more information, contact:  
Hugh R. Jones  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
Tax Division  
(808) 586-1473  
[hugh.r.jones@hawaii.gov](mailto:hugh.r.jones@hawaii.gov)  
[www.hawaii.gov/ag/charity\\_resources.htm](http://www.hawaii.gov/ag/charity_resources.htm)