



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

**News Release**

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**COURT CLERK FOUND GUILTY OF TICKET-FIXING**

(HONOLULU) A jury has found a former Waianae District Court clerk guilty on charges of Ticket Fixing. The jury found Alberta Souza guilty in two of three counts, and was not able to reach a verdict in a third count.

Souza was found guilty of dismissing a traffic citation without court approval, and waiving the fines and fees and shortening the length of a license suspension imposed in another case without court approval. The evidence at trial pointed to her knowing the individuals involved as a possible motive for the crimes.

“Through its verdict, the jury clearly stated that the integrity of the judicial system must be scrupulously maintained,” Attorney General Mark Bennett said.

The charges on which Souza was convicted are class C felonies, carrying a maximum penalty of five years in prison or a \$10,000 fine, or both. The charge also mandates that there be summary dismissal from employment upon conviction. Sentencing is set for October 26, 2005 before Judge Dexter Del Rosario.

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