

POLICE COMMISSION

COUNTY OF MAUI

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COMMISSIONERS

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October 7, 2026

Chief John Pelletier
Maui Police Department

Re: Paid Administrative Leave Pending Investigation

Dear Chief Pelletier:

At the Regular Meeting of the Maui Police Commission on August 19, 2026, the commission reviewed the allegations contained in the criminal complaint in United States of America v. Michael Vaitu'ulala, Case No. MJ-26-0076, and voted to hire an independent investigator to investigate your oversight of the Criminal Intelligence Unit ("CIU").

At its Special Meeting on October 7, 2026, the Commission voted to place you on paid administrative leave effective immediately, today October 7, 2026, while the independent investigation is conducted.

The Commission has determined that your presence at work would be detrimental to the investigation and to the operations of the Department. Further, this leave is intended to protect the independence and integrity of the investigation and ensure public trust and confidence in the Maui Police Department. It is an interim administrative measure and the Commission has made no finding of misconduct. Your pay and benefits will continue during your paid administrative leave.

The Commission is acting under Sections 8-12.2 and 8-12.3 of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui, which establish its oversight responsibilities and authority to appoint and remove the Chief of Police, and section 13-101-18 of the Commission's rules which recognizes its authority to discipline and suspend the chief.

Your involvement in the investigation shall be limited to attending any interviews and providing any information the investigator requests that is in your personal control. The Commission expects you to respond promptly and truthfully to all requests for information, making yourself available for interviews, providing requested records and materials, and not obstructing the investigators access to any person.

You must not interfere with the investigation or direct, encourage, or permit anyone acting on your behalf to obstruct or interfere with the investigation.

Failure to follow the directives set forth in this letter may result in disciplinary action up to and including removal from office. Any failure to cooperate or any obstruction or interference will be brought before the Commission. If the Commission determines that you have obstructed or interfered with the investigation, including intentionally doing so or directing others to do so, it may take disciplinary action.

Effective immediately, you are relieved of your duties and shall not exercise the authority of the Chief of Police of the County of Maui.

Please return all department- and County-issued property in your possession or control to Deputy Chief Wade Maeda as soon as you return to Maui. This includes:

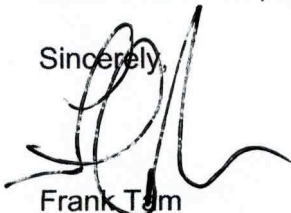
- All issued firearms and other weapons, ammunition, and related equipment;
- All badges, identification cards, and official credentials;
- All department- or County-owned radios, cellular phones, computers, tablets, and other communications or electronic devices;
- All department- or County-owned vehicles, together with their keys, access devices, and fuel cards;
- All building keys, access cards, purchasing cards, and other issued equipment or property.

If you cannot return an item by the deadline, identify the item, its location, and the reason it cannot be returned.

You must preserve all records, messages, files, and other information relevant to the CIU and the investigation, including any held on personal devices or accounts. Do not delete, alter, destroy, reset, or erase any records or devices before returning them. Arrange the transfer of access to department devices and accounts with Deputy Chief Wade Maeda.

Your leave will remain in effect until the Commission reviews the completed investigative report and takes final action, and it will notify you in writing of any change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Tam', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Frank Tam
Chair
Maui Police Commission

