

***NATURAL RESOURCES SECTION
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION***

MONTHLY MEETING/BROWN BAG LUNCH: TUES., AUGUST 19, 2008

Description:

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer will discuss, “Building a Land Base for Hawaiians: Recent Developments at OHA.” Since 2005, OHA has gone from owning 1.1 acres of land to being the thirteen largest landowner in the State of Hawai`i. To acquire and manage the lands, the agency has forged new partnerships and developed new subsidiaries. In addition, in 2008, OHA also pursued an agreement with the State after four years of negotiations to resolve past-due claims on income and proceeds from the so-called ceded lands. This talk will review the status of these activities and the internal policy foundations that drive OHA’s pursuit of land.

Biography:

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer works as the director of the Land Management Hale of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA). Born and raised on Oahu and a graduate Iolani School, he has three degrees in Environmental Studies: a BA (1991) and Ph.D. (2002) from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a Master's degree from the Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies (1995). For the past eighteen years, his professional and academic work has been on understanding (and occasionally, solving) policy problems with strong cultural and environmental components. Since joining OHA in 2004, he has worked on water rights advocacy and the development of OHA's real estate portfolio.