

# O'AHU COUNTY DEMOCRATS

OF THE  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII'

*a gathering place for political action*



**O'ahu Democrats Wish You  
A SAFE  
AND HAPPY  
4th OF JULY!**



## O'AHU COUNTY COMMITTEE RECAP

Mahalo to everyone who joined the O'ahu County Convention on May 2023! Coming together as Democrats, we had spirited discussion on strengthening the rules outlined in our Bylaws as well as updating our O'ahu County Platform and passing a new set of resolutions to shape our work over the next two years.

If you are interested in reviewing our current documents, they are available online at [www.oahudemocrats.org](http://www.oahudemocrats.org).

**Review Updated  
Bylaws**

**Review Updated  
Platform**

**Review Current  
Resolutions**



A big thank you to Rules Committee Co-Chairs Elton Fukumoto and Melissa Pavlicek, Platform Committee Co-Chairs Micah Kosasa and Kathleen Pahinui, and Resolutions Committee Co-Chairs Brenden Kinoshita and Darolee Prewitt as well as their committee members for all of their hard work leading up to the convention!

# Meet Your New O'ahu County Committee

At the convention, we also elected our officers and Region Chairs who will help us with our work in our O'ahu communities over the next two years.

Welcome the new OCC and get to know your Region Chair if you are interested in getting involved or heading up a project in your neighborhood. [Click here and then on your Region Chair's name for email address.](#) Bios below are edited from convention nomination submissions.

## Region 1 (Districts 18, 19, 20) - Darolee Prewitt

I was born and raised in Hawai'i, living the last 12 years in Kalama Valley, in District 18. I am married with four kids; their ages range from 21 to 32 years old. Now that my kids are grown and out of the house, I've decided to become more involved in things that really matter to me.

As a lifelong Democrat, I have been active for several years in my region's Democratic Party and am currently serving as the secretary for District 18 and co-chair on the 2023 OCC resolutions committee. I look forward to meeting fellow Democrats, planning and participating in various activities and events, and doing my part in strengthening and building the Democratic Party.



## Region 2 (Districts 21, 22, 26, 27) - Nathan Char



Nathan Char served as Region 3 Chair when the redistricting occurred and it was decided to move Region 3 out from under where he lives in Makiki. In running for Region 2 Chair, he is coming back home, so to speak, to serve the region he lives in with the people he knows and loves. With more experience under his belt and with his friends' support, Nathan Char hopes to better serve everyone in Region 2.

## Region 3 (Districts 23, 24, 25, 28) - Karen Cheung

I'm a millennial mother with two young children living here in Kaka'ako. I grew up here since the 90s and have witnessed all the changes, both good and bad. I'm an active grassroots community organizer with a focus on pedestrian safety for Keiki and Kūpuna. Together with 120 mothers, we founded the Ward Village Moms. I am a firm believer that we are the change that our children and future need. We are the solution, and we need to act today, and now.





### **Region 4 (Districts 29, 30, 31) - Vacant**

Are you interested in working with us and live in Region 4, please email [lorna.strand@gmail.com](mailto:lorna.strand@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Region 5 (Districts 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39) - Roth Puhala**

Roth Puhala is a very proud single father of four adult children and for the past 40+ years, worked with various communities, passionate about social justice, individual rights, protection, and respect of the environment, getting involved and having a voice.

Roth has served in the Democratic Party for almost 40 years with various candidate committees, as a delegate for the County and State Democratic Conventions and as the Region 5 chair. He has been very active in the Hawaiian Civic Club movement as a member and various leadership position within clubs, Councils and in the Association. Roth is active in the Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii, serving as advisory member of the Indigenous Ministries, the Bishops advisory committee on Native Hawaiian Ministries, as the Jr. Warden of the Cathedral Church of Saint Andrews and serve as the Lead verger of the Cathedral for the past 15 years. I am currently working at the Hawai'i State Legislature for the past 12 years. My commitment to the O'ahu County Democrats is to continue to support one of the strongest Regions, build its membership and grow its participation. To select and groom our next leaders within our party.



### **Region 6 (Districts. 37, 38) - Melissa Vomvoris**



I have worked at the Hawai'i State Senate for the past 17 years for the Majority Policy Leader. I also served on both Mililani Mauka and Mililani Town neighborhood boards. Before the legislature I was the Executive Director for the Hawaiian Eye Foundation, Office Manager for the Greek Orthodox Cathedral, managed a dentist office and also worked 2 years at the City Council. I also own a small online business.

In my younger years, I was an avid soccer player, playing with the original Leahi Soccer Club back in the 80's. Now, I just watch my grandchildren (and coach a little on the side) I am a lifelong Democrat. I believe my background and experience may be helpful to our community and I am willing to serve and collaborate with Region 6 members so we can continue to empower our community and promote civic values.

### **Region 7 (Districts 40 41, 42) - Perry Arrasmith**



Perry Arrasmith is a second-year graduate student with the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where is also a Graduate Degree Fellow with the East-West Center.

Raised on O'ahu between Kaimuki, 'Aiea, and 'Ewa, Perry is a proud product of the local public school system and graduated from 'Aiea High School in 2016. He thereafter attended Harvard University, where he graduated in 2020 with a B.A. in U.S. History and a minor in Government. Perry has been involved in local community affairs in 'Ewa since returning home during the COVID-19 pandemic. He is actively serving a term (2021-23) on the 'Ewa Neighborhood Board. Perry's priorities include a strong public school system (and quality pay for our educators), strong multi-modal transportation networks for residents, long-term affordable housing for local people (especially our younger generations), and a vibrant, diverse economy with an eye towards innovation, social equity, and the long-term future of Hawai'i.

### **Region 8 (Districts 43, 44, 45) - Jo Jordan**

Community member for over 50 years.  
Longtime Democratic member, who has served in many positions within the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.  
Has served the community for over 25 years in many volunteer positions.



### **Region 9 (Districts 48, 49, 50, 51) - Brenden Kinoshita**



I was born and raised on the Valley Isle of Maui, but it is Kāne'ohe that I have made my home here on O'ahu. I am a proud graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and went on to receive both my Bachelor of Arts and Master of Public Administration from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Professionally, I am a career public servant having worked in the State Legislature, the Department of Budget and Finance, and currently for the Department of the Attorney General.

I have always felt a calling to servant leadership, leadership in service not only to the communities I have been entrusted to lead but leadership in service of fundamental democratic values. As individuals we all express and experience life from different

perspectives, but as Democrats I believe those different perspectives are rooted in shared values and a shared commitment to building accountable, healthy, inclusive, safe, and thriving communities. Recently I served as co-chair and presiding officer of the OCD Resolutions Committee.

### **Region 10 (Districts 46, 47) - Kathleen Pahinui**

Member of the Democratic Party since 2007. Co-chaired, helped organize and run the first virtual county convention in 2021. Current co-chair of the Platform Committee and past district Chair for HD 46. Current Region 10 chair and current chair of the North Shore Neighborhood Board #27.

Region 10 covers the rural communities of Wahiawā, Waialua, Haleiwa and around to Sunset, Kahuku and down to Kahalu'u. We have unique challenges that I am well-versed in to address. We need to save our agricultural land and promote food security. We need to protect our beaches and infrastructure and improve our rural schools. I have lived in my Waialua community for 30 plus years and am passionate about keeping the "Country Country".



### **Oahu County Committee Vice Chair - Davin Aoyagi**

Davin Aoyagi joins the OCC as the newly elected Vice Chair. Alongside the Chair, he will lead O'ahu Democrats' 2024 candidate education and election efforts.

### **Continuing OCC Officers**

- Chairperson - Lorna Takehara Strand
- Treasurer - Joe Francher
- Assistant Treasurer - Kevan Wong
- Secretary - Carlos Santana
- Assistant Secretary - Jenna Takenouchi



**Legislation Committee's  
Annual Survey of O'ahu Dems!**



# GET TO KNOW YOUR COUNCILMEMBERS With Will Caron

In our continuing series of video interviews, O'ahu County Committee member Will Caron talks with Honolulu's Democratic city council members about how O'ahu Dems can get involved in the nuts and bolts issues that impact county residents every day. This month, Caron interviews Honolulu City Council Chair Tommy Waters.

**[Click here to watch video](#)**



## Before You Go ...

We want to stay connected with you!

Whether you can volunteer your time, donate funds that allow us to sponsor events or just help us by sharing content with others, please take a minute to check out how you can get involved with O'ahu Democrats.

More information available at [www.oahudemocrats.org](http://www.oahudemocrats.org)

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