



Proclamation

Charles F. Marsland, Jr., the first elected Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu, made significant contributions to public safety on O‘ahu, and his efforts have left a lasting legacy in part responsible for the safety our communities still enjoy today.

A third-generation island son, Chuck attended Punahou School before serving our nation honorably with Pacific amphibious forces during World War II. After finishing college and earning a law degree, Chuck returned to Honolulu to work for First National Bank and later the City Corporation’s Counsel Office.

The course of his life changed in 1975, after his son was murdered by an organized crime syndicate member. Impassioned to combat organized crime in Hawai‘i, Chuck joined the City Prosecutor’s Office as a deputy and aggressively prosecuted reputed underworld figures. Chuck became the first elected Prosecuting Attorney in 1981, and developed a reputation as a tough and outspoken crime-fighter.

Chuck helped mold the office into what it is today. Working closely with the Honolulu Police Department, he started the office’s first felony narcotics unit and white-collar crime unit. He worked aggressively to break up and prosecute organized crime syndicates, and publicly challenged a few politicians and judges in the process. His tireless efforts are credited for a significant decrease in Hawai‘i’s crime rate.

Moreover, Chuck had a lasting influence on his deputies, many of whom continue to play an important role in our state. Former Deputy and current Honolulu Prosecutor Peter Carlisle praises Chuck as his “mentor, friend, [and] the reason why I am a prosecuting attorney today.” Lieutenant Governor James “Duke” Aiona, another former Marsland Deputy, has said Chuck “transformed the Honolulu Prosecutor’s Office to what it is today – an office built and sustained on integrity and fairness.” Keith Kaneshiro, a deputy who succeeded Chuck as Prosecuting Attorney has said, “Chuck was genuinely interested in making Hawai‘i a safer place to live,” and former Deputy Ted Hong has praised Chuck’s legacy of being a strong advocate for victims.

Outside of the spotlight, Chuck presented a much softer side to his family and friends. He was known as a caring person with a warm smile and enjoyable sense of humor. Above all, Charles F. Marsland, Jr. was a loving companion and committed family man, who was devoted to his late mother and frequently visited his son’s grave.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and **I, JAMES R. “DUKE” AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, do hereby proclaim **April 30, 2007**, as

CHARLES F. MARSLAND, JR. DAY

in Hawai‘i, and do hereby order the lowering of the Hawai‘i State flag to half-staff on all state and county buildings from sunrise to sunset in honor and memory of this outstanding citizen.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai‘i, this twenty-seventh day of April 2007.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai‘i

James R. “Duke” Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai‘i