



# CITY COUNCIL

## CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3065/Telephone 547-7000

### **Charles K. Djou**

*Councilmember, District IV*

Phone: (808) 547-7004 / Facsimile: (808) 523-4220

Email [cdjou@honolulu.gov](mailto:cdjou@honolulu.gov)

Web: [www.honolulu.gov/council/d4](http://www.honolulu.gov/council/d4)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 13, 2007

For More Information, Please Contact:  
Councilmember Charles K. Djou  
Phone: (808) 265-2858

### LEGISLATIVE LIAISON ALEX SANTIAGO ABRUPTLY TERMINATES CONTRACT

After intense scrutiny from a majority of the City Council on his duties and even having to request him to show up for work, the Council's Legislative Liaison, Alex Santiago, has abruptly terminated his contract.

"For several months, City taxpayers paid Alex Santiago a monthly salary greater than what I get paid as a Council Member, though it was never clear what his duties were as Legislative Liaison to the City Council," stated Councilmember Djou. "Earlier this month, Mr. Santiago refused to appear before the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee to answer questions about his duties and how he's spending the people's money. I am pleased that we are finally closing this sad chapter on wasteful spending, but I am disappointed that we had to waste thousands of dollars to relearn the lesson that sweetheart contracts are never a good deal for taxpayers."

Alex Santiago, the former state representative and Chair of the Hawaii Democratic Party, was retained by Council Chair Barbara Marshall at the end of June to serve as the "legislative liaison" for the Honolulu City Council to the Hawaii State Legislature. Santiago's contract calls for him to be paid, with taxpayer funds, \$4,166.66 per month or \$49,999.99 per year, with the first payment made on July 28, 2007. Honolulu City Council Members are paid \$49,245.00 per year and members of the Hawaii Legislature are paid a salary of \$37,500.00 per year. The City and County of Honolulu already has a paid lobbyist for City issues as the Hawaii State Association of Counties has a lobbyist for county council issues. The Hawaii Legislature has been in recess since May.

# # #