When devout Christians Paula and Roy decided to set a date for their wedding after a long engagement, the fact that Roy was in prison seemed like a minor hurdle. But, after a half a year wading through the complex paperwork between the State of Hawai‘i and the private, for-profit prison in Saguaro, AZ, where he was being held, their request to get married was summarily denied by a State administrator; the administrator denied the request based on her personal opinion that the inmate was “incapable of providing the necessary emotional, financial and physical support that every marriage needs in order to succeed.” While administrators have some discretion within their own facilities, the grounds for this rejection were clearly opinion based and unconstitutional. The ACLU stepped in.

Paula said: “If not for the ACLU, we would not be married! I was trying to find someone to help, after jumping through paperwork hoops for 6 months just to marry my husband. When we got our denial letter from the State of Hawai‘i, we were crushed, but our faith in God kept us strong. After the ACLU stepped in, we finally got married on March 15th, 2011. We are so grateful that Dan and the ACLU were there to help us push back against the State officials making moral judgments about who can and cannot get married. Roy and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Hopefully we make a difference for others who truly want to take the steps we have made – to join as husband and wife. Love and aloha always MR. & MRS. Roy and Paula Kaiama.”

In a victory for girls’ athletics, three Baldwin High School (“BHS”) softball players, their parents and coach settled a lawsuit following a preliminary injunction requiring the Hawai‘i State Department of Education and the County of Maui to immediately rectify their discriminatory treatment of the BHS girls’ softball team. The ACLU and Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing represented the plaintiffs in federal district court.

After a federal judge granted our motion for a temporary restraining order, the parties signed a settlement agreement valued at over $1 million (including the value of a new softball facility at Baldwin). Spurred by the lawsuit, the State released an additional $1.94 million for construction and improvements to several other girls’ softball facilities on Maui.
same-gender couples (based on the
same as other controlled substances.
and penalties for non-compliance so
expire and that laws were passed to
transitioning medical cannabis program. The Attorney
and capacities; of course, those officials were rightfully allowed
to investigate reports that the Maui
We continued a letter to the Mayor
continue to shoulder the responsibility.
rule of law.
Civil Unions cases resolved without litigation.
settlements or peace agreements in the many
cases resolved without litigation.
limited space; we are unable to list here
the Speaker of the House; the
at meetings, flyer the street, march in
the Attorney General’s office stated that DPS will
also be changing its verbal and published
information.
Summary
Continues: the Attorney General’s
guidelines” regarding Hawai‘i’s medi-
cannabis program. The Attorney
General’s office stated that DPS will
also be changing its verbal and published
information.
seeds have been planted, we must
forward a protest monitor. In the
months ahead, we will be host-
ing a statewide series of informal
talk story sessions and invite you to par-
take and join our protest monitors. Our
our findings will impact advocacy in
Hawai‘i.
before the 1st Amendment's
limits. By December 2008, we had
filed a lawsuit against
Lambda Legal
and
Civil Unions
We are looking forward to
Governer
Abernethy
signing other important
civil rights legislation soon, including:
a ban on shackling pregnant inmates,
a media shield extension and a ban
on employment discrimination based on
sexual orientation. Learn more about protecting and
proving civil rights in the Legislature!
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Committees & Working Groups: Chairs listed
first, members follow alphabetically.
Annual Meeting: George Atkins, Patrick Tao-
mee, Barbara A. Ankersmit, Mosha
temitting calls at patient homes; DPS will
scribe medical cannabis from perform-
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and penalties for non-compliance so
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