

COUNTY OF HAWAI'I  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

**Polystyrene Foam Food Container and Food Service Ware Reduction -  
Application for Exemption Due to Hardship to the Food Vendor**

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In compliance with Rule No. 14-4, Application for Exemption of Exemption Due to Undue Hardship, Subsection (b), an exemption is requested from Rule No. 14-2 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Department of Environmental Management.

1. Name of Food Vendor: **Kauaha'ao Congregational Church**
2. Mailing Address: **POB 622, Naalehu, HI 96772**
3. Telephone Number: **808 928 8039**
4. Attach a copy of the food vendor's most current business registration certificate. **See attached.**
5. Describe with specificity (*use additional pages as necessary*):
  - a. The polystyrene foam food service ware(s) at issue, including why the food vendor requires the product(s); and

**See attached request.**

- b. An estimate of the monthly quantity of the product used.

**Requesting a single day exemption to use excess inventory until exhausted. Quantity: Approximately 150 polystyrene foam food containers on December 3, 2022.**

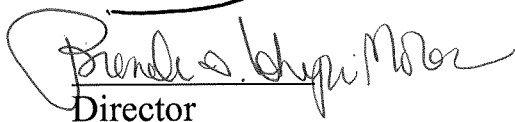
6. If an exemption is granted, the polystyrene foam food service ware(s) may only be used for the specific food item(s) identified in the application.

Name of Submitter: **Walter Wong Yuen**

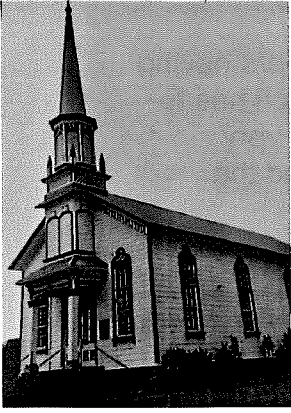
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**For Department Use Only:**

This application for exemption due to undue hardship is (circle one)  
**APPROVED** / DENIED for December 3, 2022.

  
Director

11/1/22  
Date



***Kauaha'ao Congregational Church,  
United Church of Christ  
Founded November 1841***

PO Box 622 ~ Naalehu, HI 96772

Located at: 95-1642 Pinao Street, Waiohinu, Ka'u

Phone (808) 929-9997 - church office

dwongyuen.kauahaaochurch@gmail.com

*Rooted* in Faith... *Serving* in Aloha

October 26, 2022

Ramzi I. Mansour, Director  
County of Hawaii  
Dept. of Environmental Management  
345 Kekuanao'a St., Suite 41  
Hilo, HI 96720

Aloha Mr. Mansour,

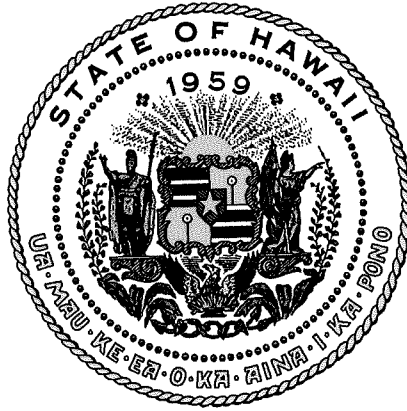
Our church is a very small membership congregation. Since closing the doors for worship services on March 22, 2020, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, then four months later offering drive-in/outdoor worship services which few attendees, along with live streamed services through the church's Facebook page, and thankfully, re-opening the Chapel on March 20, 2022 for in-person worship services along with the live streaming...the attendance at services has really dropped, which, has affected the income from offerings and tithes drastically for the past two years. Due to the pandemic, the members are also having to stay home to watch grandchildren, while their adult children work on weekends due to their own financial struggles.

Due to the pandemic, we also had to stop holding our annual fundraising bazaars which were held every Spring and Fall, which is much needed to raise funds to meet the operating expenses of the church.

With all this, the Church has taken a huge financial loss, and we are struggling. Our checking account from the beginning of this year was in the double digits...now it has dipped to half the amount. We don't know how we will pay the premium for the Liability Insurance, which increases each year, come this January 2023.

With the lack of income from offerings and tithes and no fundraisers for two years, the Church Council has decided to hold a fundraiser on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, since other entities are starting to have events.

In planning for the fundraiser, the question was raised about the inventory we have of the foam 3-compartment food containers that has been sitting in the storeroom since the new ruling became effective July 19, 2019. There currently are about 150 containers in storage.



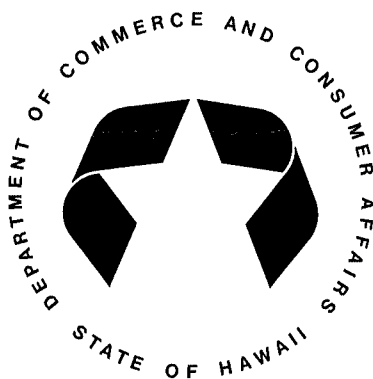
## Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

### CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

I, the undersigned Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that

**KAUAHAO CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 07/19/1922 ; that it is an existing nonprofit corporation; and that, as far as the records of this Department reveal, has complied with all of the provisions of the Hawaii Nonprofit Corporations Act, regulating domestic nonprofit corporations.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dated: October 26, 2022

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs