



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCountyVotes.gov

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wailuku, Maui, Hawai'i – The Hawai'i Supreme Court ruled on December 24, 2024, in favor of the Maui County Clerk as to all claims brought by Kelly T. King and a group of 30 voters who filed an election challenge seeking to invalidate the results of the 2024 General Election and order a new election for the South Maui Council seat, which Ms. King lost by 97 votes to incumbent Councilmember Tom Cook.

Citing “undisputed facts,” the Court confirmed that the Clerk’s Office followed State law and administrative rules and took timely and appropriate actions related to the processing of return identification envelopes and notification of voters whose envelopes were deficient in some way.

The Court stated, “Plaintiffs failed to establish any error was committed by the Clerk in the review and processing of the return identification envelopes. Plaintiffs also failed to establish a legal cause between the mistakes alleged in the complaint and the final election results because the preponderance of the evidence established that every voter with a rejected return identification envelope was provided with notice and a sufficient period of time to cure the deficiency determination made by the Clerk.”

“While we’re aware that election-related litigation is all too common in this day and age, going through a lawsuit immediately following the immense effort of conducting an election still takes a human toll on our hardworking staff, who work long hours during the election cycle and are diligent in providing voters with every opportunity to exercise their right to vote,” said County Clerk Moana M. Lutey. “We are grateful to the Court for quickly resolving this matter so that we can proceed with the start of the 2025 Council term unimpeded.”

The Hawai'i Supreme Court’s order is available at <https://mauicountyvotes.gov/resources>. The inauguration ceremony for the 2025-2027 Council will be held January 2, 2025, at 10 a.m., and will be shown live on Akakū Channel 54 and the Maui County Council’s YouTube and Facebook pages.

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