

# Recognizing the Outstanding Contributions and Dedication of Deputy Attorney General Daniel Morris Towards the Healing and Restoration of Kaho‘olawe

**WHEREAS**, the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission’s (KIRC) assigned Deputy Attorney General Daniel A. Morris has retired on July 31, 2025, after twelve noteworthy years working with the KIRC; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Morris is a graduate of Punahou School and received his undergraduate degree in English Literature from the University of Michigan and his Juris Doctorate degree from University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, William S. Richardson School of Law; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Morris was admitted to the Hawaii State Bar Association in 1988 and first began his law practice at the law firm Cade, Schutte, Fleming & Wright, then served at the State of Hawaii Department of the Attorney General; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Morris then left the Attorneys General office for the law firm of Bickerton, Lee, Dang, and Sullivan but returned to the Attorney General, Land Division; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Morris volunteered/assigned to represent the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) upon the departure of the KIRC’s previous Deputy Attorneys General, Rowena Summerville; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Morris began his work for the KIRC by working with KIRC staff and representatives of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana (PKO) in restructuring and providing clarifying language regarding the status and determination of KIRC volunteers and the State of Hawaii’s Attorneys General responsibilities for representation to improve the Stewardship Agreement or Palapala ‘Aelike Kahu‘āina between the KIRC and PKO; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Morris, in addition to guiding both the KIRC and PKO to two more revisions of this Stewardship Agreement also provided astute and swift legal review of KIRC contract and legal documents and provided insightful advice while participating in KIRC public hearings; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Morris has served faithfully for over twelve years as the KIRC’s Deputy Attorney General, with passion, commitment; and

**WHEREAS**, with the retirement of Deputy Attorney General Daniel A. Morris, the KIRC will lose a committed public servant that has helped guide the KIRC with dedication and support; and

**WHEREAS**, though Mr. Morris will be leaving his position with the State of Hawaii government, it is clear that his work on Kaho‘olawe is not over and that he will continue as an advisor and supporter of the rebirth, healing and restoration of Kaho‘olawe for years to come; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, on this day, the twenty-first day of August in the year 2025, on the island of Oahu,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the KIRC that a significant record of achievement has been accomplished by Daniel A. Morris in the areas of leadership, legal advice and community engagement for Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve, all in the spirit of healing Kaho‘olawe; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, through the dedication of Daniel A. Morris, Kaho‘olawe will be restored as a rich cultural and environmental resource for Hawai‘i’s people, and through his actions and sound advice, Kaho‘olawe has become a model of native Hawaiian stewardship and management; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Daniel A. Morris has served the KIRC with dignity and dedication; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Hawai‘i’s congressional delegation, the Governor and Attorney General of the State of Hawai‘i, the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana, the Mayor of the County of Maui, and the Chairperson and Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.



Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission



*Michelle Pescaia  
Chairperson*

*Faith Kahale Saito  
Vice-Chairperson*

*Dawn N. S. Chang  
Commissioner*

*Kalama Jensen Chock  
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*Saumalu Mataafa  
Commissioner*

*Benton Kealii Pang, Ph. D.  
Commissioner*

*Keoni Souza  
Commissioner*