

# Is the President the President?

**A Hereditary Peers' Briefing Paper | LONDON, JUNE 2012**

**B**Y ARTICLE II, section 1, of the United States Constitution, “no person except a natural born Citizen ... shall be eligible for the Office of President”. On 27 April 2011, two days after an opinion poll had found that 62% of voters doubted whether Mr. Barack Obama had been born on U.S. soil, Mr. Obama posted a purported image of his long-form Hawaiian birth certificate at [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov). Yet the results of a six-month criminal investigation made public by Sheriff Joseph Arpaio of Maricopa County, AZ, on 1 March 2012 found the document to be a manifest forgery. Further results are expected in mid-June.

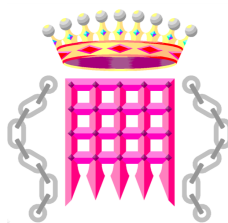
A senior judge of the Alabama Supreme Court has held *obiter* that documentation presented by a petitioner for *mandamus* against Mr. Obama,

“if presented to the appropriate forum, ... would raise serious questions about the authenticity of both the ‘short-form’ and the ‘long-form’ birth certificates of President Barack Hussein Obama that have been made public” (*ex p. McInnish*, Alabama S.C., March 27, 2012).

Unlike petitioners in other states, Mr. McInnish was not denied standing and may recommence his petition in the state District Court. In the light of the judge’s *obiter dictum*, and of the forensic and other evidence outlined here, Hawaii cannot rely upon the “full faith and credit” provision (Art. IV, s. 1) to require other States to accept the birth certificate as genuine. If it is the forgery it appears to be, at least one person at the Hawaii Health Department knows it is a forgery. But it is not clear whether the White House knows.

Attorneys for anyone accused of a criminal offence signed into statute by President Obama under Art. I, s. 7, have the right to request access by their forensic investigators to the Hawaii Health Department’s original birth record for Mr. Obama to satisfy them that the President is the President, the statute the statute and the alleged offence an offence. By the precedent set in *Brady v. Maryland* (373 US 83, 1963), “The suppression by the prosecution of evidence favorable to an accused upon request violates due process [14<sup>th</sup> Amdt.] where the evidence is material either to guilt or to punishment”. Therefore, the courts will be obliged to grant any such defence request. By the supremacy clause (Art. 6), Hawaii must comply.

Does the issue matter? Advice from an eminent constitutional lawyer is that it does: “The Constitution is the supreme law of the US. We amend it, or we abide by it.” He expects a credible court challenge to the authenticity of Mr. Obama’s birth certificate soon. If it occurs, and if the certificate is a forgery, the constitutional consequences will be grave.



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## A Hereditary Peers' Briefing Paper

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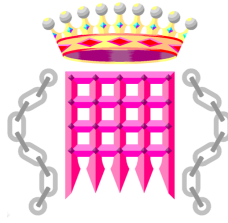
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Following letters of request on Friday 22 April 2011 by Mr. Obama and his attorney, Ms. Corley, the Hawaiian Health Department printed two photocopies of the birth record from the bound volume on Monday 25 April, as described in a press release by Governor Abercrombie of Hawaii on Wednesday 27 April. The Health Department gave the copies to Mr. Obama's attorney, who delivered them to the White House late on Tuesday 26 April, the day before the 8.48 a.m. White House press conference of Wednesday 27 April 2011 at which they were published. Mr. Obama, in a press statement at 10.30 a.m. that day, described the certificate as "additional information ... about the site of my birth".


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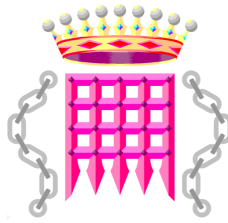
## Images of the short-form and long-form birth certificates

Mr. Obama has circulated his birth certificate in three forms: the computer-generated short-form certificate or abstract published in June 2008 (below), on which the certificate number has been blanked out; and the reporters' photocopy (page 4) and the PDF website copy (a 376 KB picture-definition file: page 5) of the long-form certificate, published on 27 April 2011, on which the certificate number has not been blanked out. At the foot of the short-form certificate appear the words: "This copy serves as prima facie evidence of the fact of birth in any court proceeding."

### The short-form birth certificate

CERTIFICATION OF LIVE BIRTH		
STATE OF HAWAII HONOLULU		DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAWAII U.S.A.
		CERTIFICATE NO. [REDACTED]
CHILD'S NAME BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA II		
DATE OF BIRTH August 4, 1961	HOUR OF BIRTH 7:24 PM	SEX MALE
CITY, TOWN OR LOCATION OF BIRTH HONOLULU	ISLAND OF BIRTH OAHU	COUNTY OF BIRTH HONOLULU
MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME STANLEY ANN DUNHAM		
MOTHER'S RACE CAUCASIAN		
FATHER'S NAME BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA		
FATHER'S RACE AFRICAN		
DATE FILED BY REGISTRAR August 8, 1961		
THIS IS A TRUE COPY		
CHBM 1.1 (Rev. 11/01) LASER		
This copy serves as prima facie evidence of the fact of birth in any court proceeding. [HRS 338-13(b), 338-19]		
ANY ALTERATIONS INVALIDATE THIS CERTIFICATE		





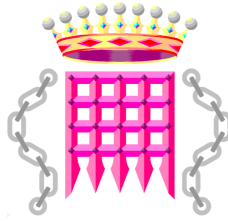
# The “reporters’ copy” of the long-form birth certificate

STATE OF HAWAII		CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH		DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
		FILE NUMBER 151		61 10641	
1a. Child's First Name (Type or print)		1b. Middle Name		1c. Last Name	
BARACK		HUSSEIN		OBAMA, II	
2. Sex	3. This Birth	4. If Twin or Triplet, Was Child Born	5a. Birth Date	Month Day Year	5b. Hour
Male	Single <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Twin <input type="checkbox"/> Triplet <input type="checkbox"/>	1st <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd <input type="checkbox"/>	August 4, 1961	7:24 P.M.	
6a. Place of Birth: City, Town or Rural Location				6b. Island	
Honolulu				Oahu	
6c. Name of Hospital or Institution (If not in hospital or institution, give street address)				6d. Is Place of Birth Inside City or Town Limits?	
Kapiolani Maternity & Gynecological Hospital				Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
7a. Usual Residence of Mother: City, Town or Rural Location		7b. Island		7c. County and State or Foreign Country	
Honolulu		Oahu		Honolulu, Hawaii	
7d. Street Address				7e. Is Residence Inside City or Town Limits?	
6085 Kalaniana'ole Highway				Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
7f. Mother's Mailing Address				7g. Is Residence on a Farm or Plantation?	
				Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Full Name of Father		9. Race of Father			
BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA		African			
10. Age of Father	11. Birthplace (Island, State or Foreign Country)	12a. Usual Occupation	12b. Kind of Business or Industry		
25	Kenya, East Africa	Student	University		
13. Full Maiden Name of Mother		14. Race of Mother			
STANLEY ANN DUNHAM		Caucasian			
15. Age of Mother	16. Birthplace (Island, State or Foreign Country)	17a. Type of Occupation Outside Home During Pregnancy	17b. Date Last Worked		
18	Wichita, Kansas	None			
I certify that the above stated information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.		18a. Signature of Parent or Other Informant		18b. Date of Signature	
		Parent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>		8-7-61	
I hereby certify that this child was born alive on the date and hour stated above.		19a. Signature of Attendant		19b. Date of Signature	
		M.D. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D.O. <input type="checkbox"/> Midwife <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>		8-8-61	
20. Date Accepted by Local Reg.		21. Signature of Local Registrar		22. Date Accepted by Reg. General	
AUG - 8 1961		V. Lee		AUG - 8 1961	
23. Evidence for Delayed Filing or Alteration					

I CERTIFY THIS IS A TRUE COPY OR  
ABSTRACT OF THE RECORD ON FILE IN  
THE HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

APR 25, 2011

Alvin T. Onaka, Ph.D.  
STATE REGISTRAR



## The “website copy” of the long-form birth certificate

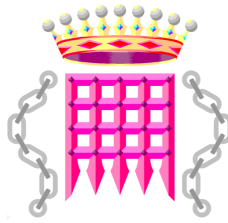
STATE OF HAWAII		CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH		DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
		FILE NUMBER 151		61 10641	
1a. Child's First Name (Type or print)		1b. Middle Name		1c. Last Name	
BARACK		HUSSEIN		OBAMA, II	
2. Sex	3. This Birth	4. If Twin or Triplet, Was Child Born	5a. Birth Date	5b. Month	5c. Day
Male	Single <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Twin <input type="checkbox"/> Triplet <input type="checkbox"/>	1st <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd <input type="checkbox"/>	August	4	1961
6a. Place of Birth: City, Town or Rural Location			6b. Island		
Honolulu			Oahu		
7a. Name of Hospital or Institution (If not in hospital or institution, give street address)			7b. In Place of Birth Inside City or Town Limits?		
Kapiolani Maternity & Gynecological Hospital			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
7c. Usual Residence of Mother: City, Town or Rural Location			7d. Country and State or Foreign Country		
Honolulu			Honolulu, Hawaii		
7e. Street Address			7f. In Residence Inside City or Town Limits?		
6085 Kalanianaʻole Highway			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
7g. Mother's Mailing Address			7h. In Residence on a Farm or Plantation?		
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
8. Full Name of Father		9. Race of Father		10. Kind of Business or Industry	
BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA		African		University	
11. Age of Father		12a. Birthplace (State, State or Foreign Country)		12b. Usual Occupation	
25		Kenya, East Africa		Student	
13. Full Maiden Name of Mother		14. Race of Mother		15. Date of Signature	
STANLEY ANN DUNHAM		Caucasian		8-7-61	
16. Age of Mother		17a. Type of Occupation Outside Home During Pregnancy		17b. Date Last Worked	
18		None			
18a. Signature of Parent or Other Informant		18b. Date of Signature		19a. Signature of Attendant	
Stanley Ann Dunham Obama		8-7-61		David A. Dunham	
19b. Signature of Attendant		19c. Date of Signature		20. Date Accepted by Local Reg.	
David A. Dunham		8-8-61		AUG - 8 1961	
21. Signature of Local Registrar		22. Date Accepted by Reg. General		23. Evidence for Delayed Filing or Alteration	
V. H. Lee		AUG - 8 1961			

APR 25 2011

I CERTIFY THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF  
ABSTRACT OF THE RECORD ON FILE IN  
THE HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Alvin T. Onaka, Ph.D.  
STATE REGISTRAR



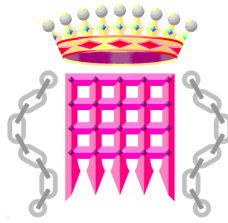


## Forensic questions about the authenticity of the long-form birth certificate

1a. Child's First Name (Type or print)	1b. Middle Name		1c. Last Name	
BARACK	HUSSEIN		OBAMA, II	
2. Sex	3. This Birth	4. If Twin or Triplet, Was Child Born	5a. Birth Date	5b. Hour
Male	Single <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Twin <input type="checkbox"/> Triplet <input type="checkbox"/>	1st <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd <input type="checkbox"/>	August	7:24 P.M.
6a. Place of Birth: City, Town or Rural Location			6b. Island	
Honolulu			Oahu	
6c. Name of Hospital or Institution (If not in hospital or institution, give street address)			6d. Is Place of Birth Inside City or Town Limits? If no, give judicial district	
Kapiolani Maternity & Gynecological Hospital			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
7a. Usual Residence of Mother: City, Town or Rural Location		7b. Island	7c. County and State or Foreign Country	
Honolulu		Oahu	Honolulu, Hawaii	
7d. Street Address			7e. Is Residence Inside City or Town Limits? If no, give judicial district	
6085 Kalaniana'ole Highway			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
7f. Mother's Mailing Address			7g. Is Residence on a Farm or Plantation?	
CREATED FOR FORENSIC TESTING & EXAMINATION			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Full Name of Father			9. Race of Father	
BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA			African	
10. Age of Father	11. Birthplace (Island, State or Foreign Country)	12a. Usual Occupation	12b. Kind of Business or Industry	
25	Kenya, East Africa	Student	University	
13. Full Maiden Name of Mother			14. Race of Mother	
STANLEY ANN DUNHAM			Caucasian	
15. Age of Mother	16. Birthplace (Island, State or Foreign Country)	17a. Type of Occupation Outside Home During Pregnancy	17b. Date Last Worked	
18	Wichita, Kansas	None		

Upper panel: for comparison, forensic experts created a birth certificate form, into which they entered text in a single pass using a manual typewriter. The blue grid shows letters, words and lines regularly spaced and neatly aligned. Lower panel: for clarity, a blue grid of 6 x 6 pt. (1/12 x 1/12 in.) is superimposed on Mr. Obama's copy birth certificate. Numerous irregularities in the spacing of letters, words and lines demonstrate that it could not have been typed on a single machine in a single pass.

1a. Child's First Name (Type or print)	1b. Middle Name		1c. Last Name	
BARACK	HUSSEIN		OBAMA, II	
2. Sex	3. This Birth	4. If Twin or Triplet, Was Child Born	5a. Birth Date	5b. Hour
Male	Single <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Twin <input type="checkbox"/> Triplet <input type="checkbox"/>	1st <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd <input type="checkbox"/>	August	7:24 P.M.
6a. Place of Birth: City, Town or Rural Location			6b. Island	
Honolulu			Oahu	
6c. Name of Hospital or Institution (If not in hospital or institution, give street address)			6d. Is Place of Birth Inside City or Town Limits? If no, give judicial district	
Kapiolani Maternity & Gynecological Hospital			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
7a. Usual Residence of Mother: City, Town or Rural Location		7b. Island	7c. County and State or Foreign Country	
Honolulu		Oahu	Honolulu, Hawaii	
7d. Street Address			7e. Is Residence Inside City or Town Limits? If no, give judicial district	
6085 Kalaniana'ole Highway			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
7f. Mother's Mailing Address			7g. Is Residence on a Farm or Plantation?	
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Full Name of Father			9. Race of Father	
BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA			African	
10. Age of Father	11. Birthplace (Island, State or Foreign Country)	12a. Usual Occupation	12b. Kind of Business or Industry	
25	Kenya, East Africa	Student	University	
13. Full Maiden Name of Mother			14. Race of Mother	
STANLEY ANN DUNHAM			Caucasian	
15. Age of Mother	16. Birthplace (Island, State or Foreign Country)	17a. Type of Occupation Outside Home During Pregnancy	17b. Date Last Worked	
18	Wichita, Kansas	None		



Based upon the two diagrams on page 6 above, and upon other considerations identified by forensic experts, many doubts as to the authenticity of Mr. Obama's long-form birth certificate are evident:

## Multiple image-data layers in the long-form birth certificate

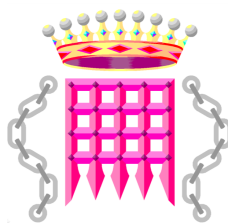
1. The data file downloadable from the White House website, when opened in Adobe Illustrator, can be separated into nine separate, superimposed layers and one clipping-mask path that groups the layers. Sheriff Arpaio's cold-case posse in Maricopa County, Arizona, established that these layers were not an artefact either of optimization or of optical character recognition. In any event, the statements from the Governor of Hawaii and from the White House Press Office establish a chain of custody whereby no alteration or processing of the photocopied images was performed at any point. If a forger other than one acting with the knowledge of the Hawaii Health Department had fabricated or altered the original image, the forger would have anticipated that the Department would notice the forgery.
2. The website copy was posted in the form of a PDF file at 12.09 pm on 27 April 2011 using Macintosh Preview. However, forensic experts say that Photoshop was used to fabricate or alter the document; then Adobe Illustrator was used to compile the layers and export them as a Portable Document Format (PDF); then, immediately before posting on the internet, Macintosh Preview was used to erase the digital traces of previous use of Photoshop and Illustrator, and to reduce the file size.

```
Created: 27/04/2011 12:09:24
Modified: 27/04/2011 12:09:24
Application: Preview

Advanced

PDF Producer: Mac OS X 10.6.7 Quartz PDFContext
PDF Version: 1.3 (Acrobat 4.x)
Location: F:\CM\
File Size: 376.32 KB (385,354 Bytes)
Page Size: 8.50 x 11.00 in
Number of Pages: 1
Tagged PDF: No
Fast Web View: No
```

3. The Portable Document Format file for the website copy of the birth certificate was optimized in Preview, a Macintosh-based program that will not produce layers in the optimization process, but will maintain any pre-existing layers produced by the user. For this reason, the attributes of the layers in the website copy of the birth certificate were unquestionably fabricated before the file was optimized in Preview.
4. The date when the copy was certified by the registrar, and the registrar's stamp adjacent to it, each appear independently on separate layers of the website copy of birth certificate that contain no other surrounding background data. No scan of an original photocopy from Hawaii could possibly produce such separation of discrete items into separate layers. This is definitive evidence that – contrary to the chain-of-custody account from official sources – the document was not photocopied, but fabricated piecemeal. No legitimate document process would result in this separation of information into independent layers. It would have been simple to place the photocopy from Hawaii into a scanner, capture the electronic image, and then print the reporters' copies and upload the website copy. The foregoing evidence establishes beyond reasonable doubt that the simpler route was not followed, and that instead the image was pieced together from several sources.

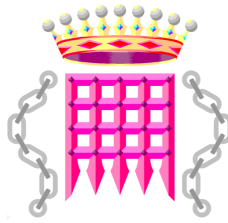


5. The copy birth certificate contains eight separate layers each of 1-bit quality (none displaying black), and a single layer of 8-bit quality. Yet no document that had been directly photocopied, scanned or photographed from a paper birth certificate in a bound volume would contain more than one layer. But if the document had multiple layers as a result of optimization, it would contain only one 1-bit layer and all remaining layers would be 8-bit.
6. Most photocopied, scanned or photographed documents consist of a single layer.
7. No optimization software produces multiple layers of 1-bit quality.
8. Multiple layers of 1-bit quality each representing a different colour other than black can only be created by an operator deliberately.
9. Any document that had multiple layers would have a single 1-bit layer that was black. Not one of the 1-bit layers in the website copy of the birth certificate displays as black.
10. Any document that displayed multiple layers after automated optimization would contain one layer of 1-bit quality with a black colour value, and the remaining layers will be of 8-bit quality to represent the remaining colours within the image at various locations within the document, not just the one 8-bit colour layer that is present in the website copy of the birth certificate.
11. Different green colours are present in the two date-stamps at the foot of the form and part of the word “none” where “non” has a green value. These items are on separate layers and were also rotated 90 degrees clockwise and then imported into the form.
12. The website copy of the birth certificate has all of the green basket-weave safety paper on a single layer of its own. A document that has layers from an automated optimization process would not have the background isolated on one layer: it would be broken up among many layers. This is evidence that the document was fabricated, layer by layer.
13. The existence of layers and the object-code attributes for those layers imply that Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator were major contributors to the compiling of this electronic file image, which was not derived from a photocopy.

## **Typewriter anomalies in the long-form birth certificate**

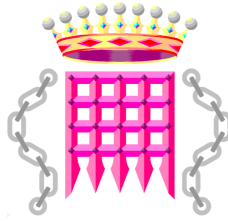
1. Manual typewriters were in use in 1961. All typewriters use mono-spacing, so that all letters, capital or lower-case, occupy the same width. A common width was the Elite escapement (typically 6 points wide, i.e. 12 characters to the inch horizontally, and 12 or 24 points line spacing, i.e. 6 single-spaced or 3 double-spaced lines to the inch vertically). The upper panel on page 14 above, compiled by forensic specialists, shows how neatly the typewritten margins, letters, words, and lines of text would have been aligned both horizontally and vertically if the original birth certificate had indeed been created, like others in the public domain, by inserting a pre-printed form into a manual typewriter, aligning the carriage at the appropriate starting point at top left, and then filling in the form line by line. By contrast, the lower panel shows how unnaturally irregular the letter, word and line spacings and alignments are.
2. On Mr. Obama’s copy birth certificate, the line spacing of the typewritten entries varies between one to three points ( $1/72$  to  $1/24$  in.) above or below the usual 24-point ( $1/3$  in.) double-spacing. That variability would not occur if the original document had been genuinely typewritten rather than assembled piecemeal on a computer. The Hawaiian long-form certificate, like most forms of its day that were intended to be used in typewriters, was





designed and printed precisely to allow double-spaced entries, so that once the first line entered was correctly registered all other lines of type would automatically fall in the right place within the successive form-lines as the carriage-return lever advanced the paper past the ribbon. The rollers in a manual typewriter hold the paper firmly enough against the platen to ensure minimal slippage. The irregularity in the line spacing of Mr. Obama's copy birth certificate is very considerably beyond what would be expected, suggesting that the typed data in the form were placed by hand, or "eyeballed".

3. The leftward foot of the letter "M" in "Male" is, as it should be, below the rightward foot, because, as the form-lines above and below the word show, the page-image curves apparently downward near the binding. By contrast, as a further instance of anomalous line-spacing, the word "Kapiolani", unlike the word "Male" above it, does not curve downward to the left as it should have done if the image had indeed been scanned from a bound volume, following the curvature of the form-lines above and below it. [See point 6 on the lower diagram on page 6].
4. Letters within a word have changing baselines. This is to be expected occasionally with upper-case letters, where the SHIFT key had not been pressed fully down before the capital was typed: but it should not otherwise occur to any marked degree. For instance, the first two or three letters of the word "Maternity" are noticeably above the alignment of the rest of the word. It is possible that, if the shift key were not quite pressed home before the capital "M" was typed, the letter "M" would be aligned somewhat above the lower-case letters of the rest of the word, as in the word "Oahu" at point 5. However, it is not likely that the letter "a" and, to some small extent, the first letter "t" of "Maternity" would also be above the line of the letters in the rest of the word. Manual or electronic "pasting-in" is a possible cause. [7]
5. The word "BARACK" is not aligned either to the curvature of the form-lines above and below it or – at its right-hand end – to the words "HUSSEIN" and "OBAMA" later in the line. [9]
6. The vertical alignment of the year "1961" is well below the adjacent month and day. [4]
7. Variable letter-spacing is evident throughout the typewritten entries in the document. One consequence is that the three flush left lines on Mr. Obama's birth certificate are not vertically aligned with one another, as all flush-left entries on the forensic experts' document are. For instance, the whole word "Male" is offset by almost half a character to the left compared with the word "Kapiolani" two form-lines below it, indicating that one or the other word (or both) was imported electronically from another form and inserted. Otherwise, all the typewritten letters and words on the form should have had the same vertical alignment. [2]
8. A further instance of variable letter-spacing is that the comma after the figure "4" is offset too much to the right, indicating that it was not typed but "pasted" in position electronically during the composition of the image. [3]
9. Another consequence of the variable letter-spacing is that many of the words towards the right-hand side of the form are aligned horizontally almost half a character too far to the right. This anomaly definitively demonstrates that the document was not typed line by line from left to right, but was instead assembled, the left portion separately from the right portion. This feature is significant. The typist would normally have inserted the form into the typewriter, aligned it, closed the rollers over the platen to hold the form firmly in alignment, and then typed the lines successively from left to right. If so, the systemic rightward shift that is evident in the letters and words appearing towards the right-hand side of the form could not have occurred. It is also possible that this discrepancy arose because of parallax in the microfilm



camera that was used to take different portions of the long-form birth certificate from other documents. [5, 8, 10-12]

10. The variable letter spacing suggests that many of the typewritten letters were placed by hand, and not typed on a typewriter. For instance, the lower-case “a” often appears several times on the form more closely to the right than normal, but the capital “A” does not. On a mechanical typewriter, the capital letter is carried on the same arm as the lower-case letter, so that if the document had genuinely been typewritten either the “A”s and “a”s would have been correctly spaced or they would all have been biased either leftward or rightward.
11. Word spacing is also variable. Whole words are 1-3 points (1/72 to 1/24 in., or one-sixth to one-half of a character) to the left or right of where they should be. Once again, the inference is that the words were individually “pasted in” as the document was fabricated.

### Further anomalies in the long-form birth certificate

12. A ghost image of what appears to be the lower border of a short-form birth certificate is embedded behind the signature of the attendant physician on the long-form certificate. For comparison, the relevant portion of the short-form certificate is shown below:

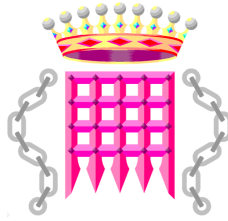
child and	19a. Signature of Attendant	M.D. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<i>David A. Amala</i>	D.O. <input type="checkbox"/>
l Reg.	21. Signature of Local Registrar	Midwife <input type="checkbox"/>
	<i>U. Lee</i>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
		22. Date
		<i>Aug</i>

This copy serves as prima facie evidence of the fact of birth in any court proceeding. [HRS 138-1]

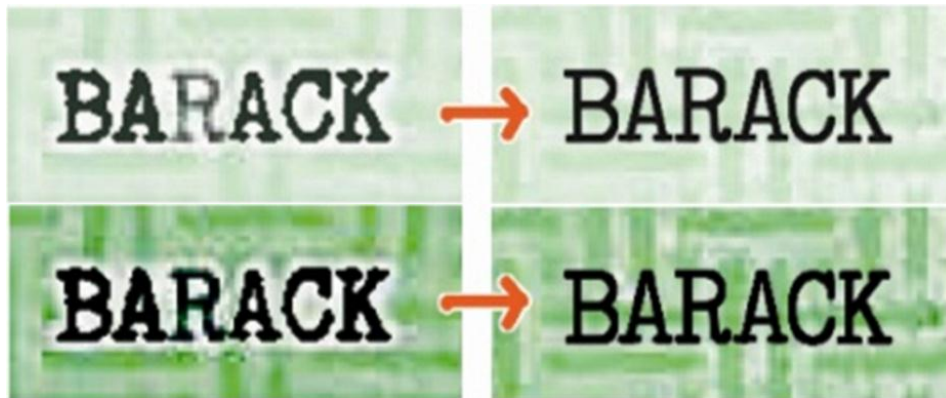
**ANY ALTERATIONS INVALIDATE THIS CERTIFICATE**

13. A ghost image of a section of what appears to be Mr. Obama’s short-form birth certificate is embedded behind the word “HUSSEIN” near the top of the reporters’ copy of the long-form birth certificate (right below). The words “HOUR OF BIRTH” are visible the thick black line, followed by “7.2” to the left of “1b.”, and the words “OAHU” can be seen above the thin black line. For comparison, the relevant section of the short-form certificate is at left:

HOUR OF BIRTH 7:24 PM	1b. Middle Name HUSSEIN
ISLAND OF BIRTH OAHU	



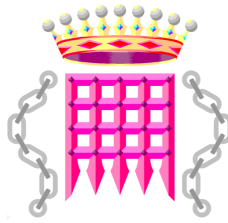
14. The use of Unsharp Mask – a feature in Photoshop which also appears to a more limited extent in Adobe Illustrator, and whose purpose is to clean and sharpen the image – is one possible cause of the problematic halo of white space around the inked portions of the long-form birth certificate. This halo effect has many causes, but would not normally occur merely as a result of an original document being copied on to a photocopier, nor as a result of that photocopy being photocopied again in turn. The Governor of Hawaii, Mr. Neil Abercrombie, has stated that the original document was copied and then given to Obama’s attorneys. The White House Press Office has stated that the copy birth certificates it circulated on April 27, 2011, were taken from the copies received from Hawaii the previous afternoon. At neither end of the transaction should the copies have exhibited a white halo effect. Its existence suggests manipulation, contrary to the course of events described by Mr. Abercrombie and the White House Press Office, which do not mention any processing or alteration of the image. The top left image below is from the long-form birth certificate: in the top right image, the halo has been removed. The lower images have been darkened to show the halo still more clearly.



15. The website copy of the birth certificate exhibits no chromatic aberration – the refraction of light when the lens of a scanner or camera comes across contrasts between colours (such as text against background). This is established physics. The aberration displays as a cool colour, like a blue tint, to the top and left edges of any black text character, and a warm colour, such as a red tint, to the right and bottom edges. It can be seen if the viewer zooms in closely to a text area for observation, but it is absent in the website copy – definitive evidence that that version could not have been photocopied, scanned or photographed from a paper birth certificate. Accordingly, the account of events given by the Governor of Hawaii and the White House Press Office cannot be correct. The reporters’ photocopy shows chromatic aberration:







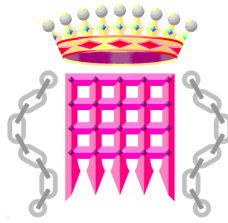
16. No photocopied, scanned or photographed document would have incorporated a “clipping mask” that had the effect of hiding data forming part of the document image. Yet the copy birth certificate has a clipping mask path that conceals the safety paper pattern within the margins. This option can only occur by deliberate manipulation: it cannot result from any legitimate computer processing. Automated processing such as optimization can produce a clipping mask under certain conditions, but this automated version will only define the size of the layer and will never hide data or parts of the image. The security paper in the website copy of the birth certificate contains a white margin that conceals data. The pattern on genuine security paper bleeds to the edge of the document.
17. Mr. Obama’s short-form birth certificate, when first published in 2008, had its certificate number blacked out. It is not easy to discern any legitimate reason why this should have been done. Indeed, a certificate number appears openly on Mr. Obama’s long-form birth certificate. However, the number is out of sequence, and it may be that the original blacking-out of the number on the short-form certificate was an attempt to conceal this irregularity. The certificate appears to be stamped as having been registered on Tuesday, August 8, 1961, on which date the number 10641 was assigned to it. However, the Vital Statistics for 1961 issued by the US Department of Health & Human Services show that 17,578 births occurred that year in Hawaii: an average of 48 births per day. Therefore, Mr. Obama’s certificate should have been about  $3 \times 48 = 144$  numbers less than the numbers issued to two girls, the Nordyke twins, whose certificates were registered three days later, on Friday, August 11, as 10637 and 10638. It should certainly not have had a number greater than theirs.

For these and many other reasons, the forensic experts who have kindly provided assistance in the preparation of this briefing paper consider both the reporters’ copy and the website copy of the long-form birth certificate to be forgeries.

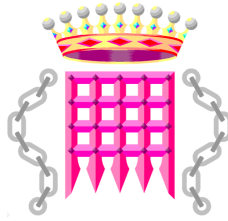
## **Further questions about the authenticity of the long-form birth certificate**

Events surrounding the birth certificate arouse further concerns about its authenticity.

1. Mr. Obama’s first Executive Order as President gave him the power to invoke “executive privilege” in preventing disclosure of any records concerning him. On January 21 2009, just days after entering office, he signed Executive Order 13489, *Presidential Records* (Fed. Reg. 74:15, January 26, 2009). By s. 3 (d), “If the President decides to invoke executive privilege, the Counsel to the President shall notify the former President [during whose term the presidential record was created], the [National] Archivist, and the Attorney General in writing of the claim of privilege and the specific Presidential records to which it relates. After receiving such notice, the Archivist shall not disclose the privileged records unless directed to do so by an incumbent President or by a final court order.”
2. Almost all school, college and other records of Mr. Obama's early life have been sealed and are not available to the public. Birth certificates would be routinely available to any enquirer in the United Kingdom, and no agency of the State would have standing to prevent members of the public from gaining access to certified copies or having sight of the original records, on paying a reasonable fee. The sealing of the President’s records appears to have been carried out to an exceptional and costly degree.



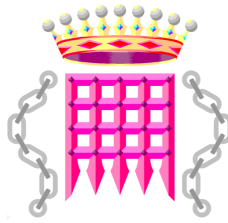
3. In 2011, the cold-case posse of Maricopa County, Arizona, applied to the National Archives for all I-94 landing cards completed by immigrants arriving in the United States during 1961, the stated year of Mr. Obama's birth. All of these landing cards were available except those for 1-7 August 1961. Mr. Obama's birth date, according to the birth certificate, was 4 August 1961.
4. On 20 January 2011, Mr. Timothy Adams attested to the following facts by affidavit. He had been Senior Elections Clerk for the Absentee Ballot Office of the Honolulu Elections Division from May-September 2008. His superiors had told him many times that no Hawaii long-form, hospital-generated birth certificate for Mr. Obama existed or had ever existed (this was common knowledge among staff), and that many times they had asked the Queens and Kapi'olani Medical Centers for any record of Mr. Obama's birth, but that that neither hospital had any such record and no government official could find one.
5. Governor Neil Abercrombie of Hawaii included in his election platform an undertaking to end the controversy once and for all by obtaining and publishing a copy of Mr. Obama's certificate of live birth. However, when he took office he did not obtain a copy of the document, on the ground that Hawaiian law prevented the release of birth records. In Britain, by contrast, all records of births, marriages and deaths are public records. Anyone may examine them.
6. On 20 January 2011 Michael Sheridan, a staff writer for the New York *Daily News*, wrote an article entitled *Mike Evans: Hawaii's Gov. Neil Abercrombie 'never told me there was no birth certificate'*. He wrote that Mike Evans, a radio personality and long-term friend of Gov. Neil Abercrombie of Hawaii, had told KQRS-FM in Minnesota that day that the Governor had admitted that no record existed of Mr. Obama having been born in Hawaii. Evans had said, "Neil promised me that when he became governor he was going to cut through all the red tape. He was gonna get Obama's birth certificate, once and for all and end this stupid controversy." Evans said he had talked with the Governor's office: "Neil says that he's searched everywhere using his power as governor" at Kapiolani and Queen's Medical Centers, without success. Evans said he was told, "There is no Barack Obama birth certificate in Hawaii – absolutely no proof that he was born in Hawaii ... now [Abercrombie] admits, publicly, that there is no birth certificate." However, Evans had now retracted his story and said he had not talked with the Governor, though he had called his office.
7. Mr. Obama's apparent birth date coincides with the date of birth of an infant in Hawaii, Virginia Sunahara, who died the day after her birth. Recently her brother Duncan, on trying to obtain a copy of her long-form birth certificate to ensure that its sequential number was not identical with that now showing on the President's copy birth certificate, was refused by the Hawaiian state Court with no stated reason, after the Hawaiian Deputy Attorney General had intervened personally to say the records might be damaged if anyone even looked at them. The Deputy Attorney General had also commented to the Court that the real reason for the request was to establish whether there was any connection with Obama's birth certificate. The judge gave no reason for the decision to refuse the brother of the dead girl a copy of her birth certificate. Hawaiian law expressly allows anyone sharing a common ancestor with a registrant the right to a copy of the registrant's long-form birth certificate. Such certificates have been issued recently, and not only to Mr. Obama.
8. The Hawaiian authorities spent eight weeks raising procedural objections to a request in 2012 by the Secretary of State for Arizona, Mr. Bennett, before providing the requested independent confirmation that Mr. Obama was born in Hawaii. Hawaiian law provides that birth records may be given to officials of another state upon legitimate request, and there can have been no doubt in Hawaiian officials' mind at any time that Mr. Bennett, in his capacity as returning officer for the Presidential Election of November 2012, required the information to satisfy himself that Mr. Obama's name should be allowed to appear on the ballot.



9. A 1991 author's biography from Mr. Obama's literary agents, Acton & Dystel, says he was born in Kenya: "Barack Obama, the first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review, was born in Kenya and raised in Indonesia and Hawaii." Authors usually write their own biographical notes for their literary agents. The biography went uncorrected despite many years of revisions and updates. The official *Parliamentary Debates* of the Kenyan National Assembly for 25 March 2010 records that Mr. Orengo, the Minister for Lands, said: "If America ... did not see itself as a multiparty state or nation, how could a young man born here in Kenya, who is not even a native American, become the President of America?"
10. On 27 March, 2012, the Supreme Court of Alabama dismissed a petition from Mr. Hugh McInnish directing the Alabama Secretary of State, *qua* electoral returning officer for the 2012 Presidential Election, "to demand that Mr. Obama cause a certified copy of his *bona fide* birth certificate to be delivered to her direct from the government official who is in charge of the records in which it is stored, and to make the receipt of such a prerequisite to his name being placed on the Alabama ballot for the March 13, 2012, primary election, and on the ballot for the November 6, 2012, general election". The Court dismissed the petition because the petitioner had not applied in the first instance to the State District Court. Justice Tom Parker said, "McInnish has attached certain documentation to his *mandamus* petition which, if presented to the appropriate forum as part of a proper evidentiary presentation, would raise serious questions about the authenticity of both the 'short form' and the 'long form' birth certificates of President Barack Hussein Obama that have been made public."
11. Mr. Obama's short-form birth certificate, at bottom left, shows the revision number of the then-standard electronic form: (Rev. 11/01). Other Hawaiian birth certificates issued using that revision number contain, at lower left, the sub-heading "DATE ACCEPTED BY STATE REGISTRAR". However, Mr. Obama's short-form certificate, at the same location, carries the sub-heading "DATE FILED BY REGISTRAR". This wording does not appear to have been part of Revision 11/01, but it was used in the later Revision 10/05.
12. Mr. Obama's Social Security Number has a three-digit identifier from Connecticut, where he has never lived. The preceding and five subsequent serially-numbered Social Security Numbers were all issued to residents of Connecticut, suggesting either that Social Security Numbers at the relevant date were not always strictly given state identifiers for the applicant's state of residence, or that the President's social security number may be a fabrication.
13. Mr. Obama's Selective Service Document has an invalid post-office stamp with only two digits (left below), rather than the required four digits that appear on the post-office stamp on all other selective service records, including a subset (right below) obtained by the Sheriff's cold-case posse from the post office branch said to have had issued Mr. Obama's Selective Service Document. The specification by the Department of Defense for the stamp design specifies four-digit years, not two-digit years. Also, the positioning of the two digits, rather to the right of the regular position on other post office stamps, suggests that an original 2008 stamp may have been cut up to remove the digits "20". Then the two digits "80" appear to have been inverted, and the top sliced off the "8" to conceal the fact that the larger loop was now uppermost. Also, the form revision number does not match the form language.







## Assessment

Does the issue matter? An eminent constitutional lawyer has given advice that it does. He says: “We amend the Constitution, or we abide by it.” Judge Parker of the Alabama Supreme Court in the *McInnish* case also considers the issue important, in that it raises “serious questions about the authenticity of both the ‘short form’ and the ‘long form’ birth certificates”. Mr. Obama’s legitimacy is now materially in doubt. Though his political supporters dismiss questioners of his birth certificate as “birthers”, much as they brand questioners of Man’s influence on the weather as “deniers” or questioners of the European Union as “xenophobes”, the subject will move up the political agenda in the coming months, notwithstanding the studied indifference of the media and of both parties to it.

### The role of the Hawaii Department of Health

Hawaii is taking exceptional and costly steps to avoid allowing anyone to scrutinize its documentation, even when its own laws grant applicants the right to see long-form certificates. The brother of the baby girl who was born on the President’s stated “birth date” and died the following day is entitled under Hawaiian law to receive a long-form certificate for his dead sister, but Hawaii, with the acquiescence of the Court, has denied the document to him. This less than forthright conduct on the part of the authorities in Hawaii raises legitimate questions about their conduct.

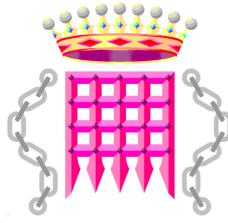
If the birth certificate is a forgery, as the disturbingly long lists of forensic and other questions at pages 6-16 compellingly suggest it is, it cannot be proven that the White House knew it to be forged: however, at least one person as the Health Department in Hawaii must know it is a forgery.

If the President’s Selective Service Document is also a forgery, as the cold-case posse believe it to be, the apparent perpetrator is Mr. Obama himself, since it is his signature that appears on the document.

### The likelihood of civil and criminal court proceedings

It may be possible for a citizen of Alabama, such as Mr. McInnish, to bring a civil suit in the state District Court to require the Alabama Secretary of State to conduct a proper forensic examination of the original documents in Hawaii or, in default of any such examination, to remove Mr. Obama’s name from the ballot for the forthcoming Presidential Election. In the light of Judge Parker’s *obiter dictum* in the Alabama Supreme Court, which did not deny standing to Mr. McInnish, the court of first instance in that state would be unlikely to deny it either. However, standing has been denied to petitioners in other civil cases, notably in California, in Arizona, in Georgia, and in New Jersey. A constitutional expert who has been kind enough to provide assistance has described the grounds for denial of standing as “intellectually feeble”: but the denial of standing has now become a precedent.

Even if the civil courts were to deny standing to any voter concerned about whether all of those on the ballot for President are entitled to be there, the criminal courts cannot deny standing to a defendant charged with an offence signed into law by Mr. Obama. The constitutional attorney says that, by the precedent established in *Brady v. Maryland* (373 US 83, 1963), “the suppression by the prosecution of evidence favorable to an accused upon request violates due process where the evidence is material either to guilt or to punishment”. Therefore, the court would be bound to grant any request by the defence that its forensic experts should be given access to the original birth record in the Hawaii Health Department’s bound volumes. Thereupon, under the supremacy clause in the US Constitution, Hawaii must comply.



It is the constitutional expert's opinion that a challenge from a defendant may well arise soon. If such a challenge indeed arises, and if the copy birth certificate proves to be the forgery that Sheriff Arpaio and his cold-case posse suspect, the constitutional consequences may prove to be grave.

The apparent twin forgeries – of the copy birth certificate and of the Selective Service Document – raise legitimate doubts about whether Mr. Obama was born within the United States and is a “natural-born citizen” entitled in terms of the Constitution to hold the highest office in the land. However, no criminal prosecution for forgery can yet be brought because, though Sheriff Arpaio has identified (though not named) a “person of interest”, at the time of writing there is insufficient evidence to tie the forgeries to any named perpetrator.

## **Opening Mr. Obama's birth record to public scrutiny**

Since Mr. Obama was concerned enough about the question of his birthplace to publish first his short-form and then his long-form birth certificate, it is strange that he has not taken the obvious step of opening the record in Hawaii to independent forensic scrutiny. The evidence summarized here suggests that the reason why he has not taken this obvious step is that he and his advisers have reason to suspect that the official record of his birth in Hawaii would not survive that scrutiny.

## **Implications for Her Majesty's Government**

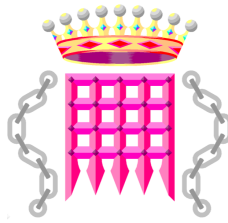
The implications of this affair for Her Majesty's Government are considerable. The apparent forgeries, with the failure of Mr. Obama and of the State of Hawaii to ensure access to the original long-form birth certificate of which the document on the White House website is said to be a copy, have cast legitimate and growing doubt upon Mr. Obama's fitness to hold office. His hostility to the United Kingdom, evidenced by his removal of the bust of Churchill from the White House, may have been somewhat assuaged by his relationship with the present UK Prime Minister: however, almost any other foreseeable candidate for his office would be less inimical to the United Kingdom.

If any successful moves are made against Mr. Obama or his key supporters, whether via ballot challenges in the civil courts, or via the exercise of *Brady* rights by a defendant accused of a crime signed into law by Mr. Obama, or via a disqualification from office under the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution, a dislocation considerably more severe than the fall of Nixon may be anticipated, leaving the free world leaderless at a time of great financial uncertainty. Therefore the issue, peripheral though it may at first seem, is not only of central importance to the United States, whose Constitution may have been flouted and circumvented in a material respect, but is also potentially of great consequence to Britain and to the West.

**Monckton of Brenchley**  
[monckton@mail.com](mailto:monckton@mail.com) | June 2012

## **Acknowledgements**

The author is most grateful for kind assistance in the preparation of the forensic analysis in this briefing paper from several experts in the forensic examination of documents. An expert in United States constitutional law also gave his time and assistance generously.



## **Annex 1. The chain of custody**

### **White House correspondence with Hawaii Health Department**

**Perkins Coie**, 700 Thirteenth Street NW, Suite 600, Washington DC 20005-3960

April 22, 2011

Loretta J. Fuddy, ACSW, MPH, Director of Health, State of Hawaii Department of Health,  
1250 Punchbowl Street, Room 325, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. Fuddy:

I am writing on behalf of my client, President Barack Obama. Enclosed please find a letter from my client requesting two certified copies of his original certificate of live birth and authorizing me to act on his behalf in completing this request.

As you know, several years ago, my client requested a certified copy of his birth certificate and received, pursuant to the policy and practice of the Hawaii Department of Health, a Certification of Live Birth, sometimes referred to as a "short-form" or abbreviated birth certificate. This Certification of Live Birth is, of course, legally sufficient evidence of birth in the State of Hawaii. Moreover, it is my understanding that it is, and has been, the Department of Health's longstanding policy and practice to provide only the "short-form" version when a certified copy of a birth certificate is requested.

We understand that the Department of Health has adopted this policy for sound administrative reasons. However, we are writing to request a waiver of the Department of Health's policy, so that my client can obtain two certified copies of his original, "long form" birth certificate. Waiver of the Department's policy in this instance would allow my client to make a certified copy of his original birth certificate publicly available and would also relieve the burden currently being placed on the Department of Health by the numerous enquiries it receives from the media and others relating to my client's birth record.

We are, of course, willing to complete any necessary paperwork and pay the standard required fees to fulfil this request. Pursuant to my client's authorization, I will be coming to your offices to pick up the copies of the certificates.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

[signed] **Judith L. Corley**

**THE WHITE HOUSE**

**WASHINGTON**

Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H., Director of Health, State of Hawaii  
Department of Health, 1250 Punchbowl Street, Room 325, Honolulu, HI 96813

April 22, 2011

Dear Ms. Fuddy:

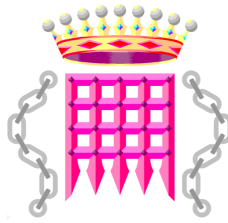
I am writing to request two copies of my original certificate of live birth. With this letter, I hereby authorize my personal counsel, Ms. Judith Corley of Perkins Coie in Washington, D.C., to act on my behalf in providing any additional information or paying any fees required by the Department of Health to fulfill my request. Ms. Corley is also authorized to make any necessary arrangements for delivery of the certified copies from your office.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

[signed] **Barack Obama**





**State of Hawaii Department of Health**, P.O. Box 3378, Honolulu, HI 96801-3378

April 25, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States  
The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I have reviewed your request for two certified copies of your original Certificate of Live Birth. As the Director of Health for the State of Hawaii, I have the legal authority to approve the process by which copies of such records are made. Through that authority, in recognition of your status as President of the United States, I am making an exception to current departmental policy which is to issue a computer-generated certified copy.

We hope that issuing you these copies of your original Certificate of Live Birth will end the numerous inquiries received by the Hawaii Department of Health to produce this document. Such inquiries have been disruptive to staff operations and have strained State resources.

Enclosed please find two certified copies of your original Certificate of Live Birth. I have witnessed the copying of the certificate and attest to the authenticity of these copies. A receipt for the payment of these documents is attached for your files. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

[signed] **Loretta J. Fuddy**, A.C.S.W, M.P.H., Director of Health

Enclosures

## **Hawaii Governor's press statement of April 27, 2011**

### **HAWAII HEALTH DEPARTMENT GRANTS PRESIDENT OBAMA'S REQUEST FOR CERTIFIED COPIES OF 'LONG FORM' BIRTH CERTIFICATE**

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i State Health Department recently complied with a request by President Barack Obama for certified copies of his original Certificate of Live Birth, which is sometimes referred to in the media as a "long form" birth certificate.

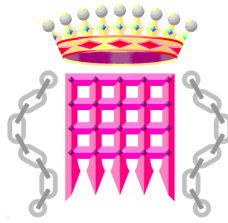
"We hope that issuing certified copies of the original Certificate of Live Birth to President Obama will end the numerous inquiries related to his birth in Hawai'i," Hawai'i Health Director Loretta Fuddy said. "I have seen the original records filed at the Department of Health and attest to the authenticity of the certified copies the department provided to the President that further prove the fact that he was born in Hawai'i."

On April 22, 2011, President Obama sent a letter to Director Fuddy, requesting two certified copies of his original Certificate of Live Birth. Also on that day, Judith Corley, the President's personal attorney, made the same request in writing on behalf of the President.

On April 25, 2011, pursuant to President Obama's request, Director Fuddy personally witnessed the copying of the original Certificate of Live Birth and attested to the authenticity of the two copies. Dr. Alvin Onaka, the State Registrar, certified the copies.

President Obama authorized Ms. Corley to pick up the documents. On April 25, 2011, Ms. Corley appeared in person at the Hawai'i State Department of Health Building in Honolulu, paid the requisite fee, and was given the two certified copies, a response letter from Director Fuddy to President Obama, and a receipt for payment. (*Letter from Director Fuddy is attached*).

In June 2008, President Obama released his Certification of Live Birth, which is sometimes referred to in the media as a "short form" birth certificate. Both documents are legally sufficient evidence of birth in the State of Hawai'i, and both provide the same fundamental information: President Obama was born in Honolulu, Hawai'i, at 7:24 p.m. on August 4, 1961, to mother Stanley Ann Dunham and father Barack Hussein Obama.



In 2001, the Hawai'i State Department began computer-generating vital statistics records. Since then, its longstanding policy and practice has been to issue copies of the original birth certificate. The departmental policy to issue only computer-generated Certifications of Live Birth remains in effect for all birth records that have been computerized. Director Fuddy, in her capacity as Health Director, has the legal authority to approve the process by which copies of birth records are made.

"The exception made in this case to provide President Obama with a copy of his original Certificate of Live Birth was done according to the letter of the law," Attorney General David Louie said. "Director Fuddy exercised her legal authority in a completely appropriate manner in this unique circumstance. We will continue to maintain the strict confidentiality requirements afforded to vital statistics records, such as birth certificates. These requirements help protect the integrity of the records, and keep us all safe from crimes, such as identity theft."

Governor Neil Abercrombie stated: "Considering all of the investigations that have been done and the information that has been provided, no rational person can question the President's citizenship. We have found a way – once again – to confirm what we already knew: the President was born here in Hawai'i. State officials of both parties have verified that President Obama's birth records show that he was born in Honolulu.

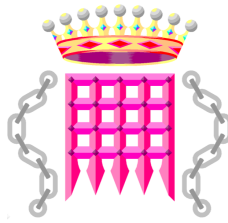
"President Obama's mother and father were dear friends of mine, and we must respect their memory. It is an insult to the President, his parents and to the Office to suggest that he was not born in Hawai'i. The State of Hawai'i has done everything within our legal ability to disabuse these conspiracy theorists. We granted the President's request for certified copies of his birth certificate so we can all move on from this unfortunate distraction and focus on the real issues affecting people today."

## **White House Press Conference, 27 April 2011, 8.48 a.m.**

Dan Pfeiffer (White House Press Secretary): We'll be happy to take some questions. [Q: I guess I just want to make sure that we're clear on this. Even though this one says "certificate of live birth" on here, this is different than the other certificate of live birth that we've seen?]

Mr. Pfeiffer: Yes. The second page there is the one that was posted on the Internet. [Q: Okay.] And that is a copy of the one that has been kept at the Hawaii Department of Health. [Q: Okay. And this is the one that would be referred to -- that people have been asking for that is the birth certificate?] They are both -- the second one is the birth certificate. The one on the top is what is referred to as the long-form birth certificate. As you can see -- and Bob can walk you through it -- it contains some additional information that is not on the second page, which was the birth certificate which was released during the campaign. [Q: If you could just explain the difference?]

Mr. Bauer: There's a difference between a certificate and a certification. The certification is simply a verification of certain information that's in the original birth certificate. The birth certificate, as you can see, has signatures at the bottom from the attending physician and the local registrar, who essentially oversees the maintenance of the records. It contains some additional information also -- that is to say, the original birth certificate -- it contains some additional information like the ages of the parents, birthplaces, residence, street address, the name of the hospital. The core information that's required for legal purposes and that is put into the actual certification -- that's a computer-generated document, which we posted in 2008, that information is abstracted, if you will, from the original birth certificate, put into the computerized short-form certification, and made available to Hawaiian residents at their request. So the long form, which is a certificate, has more information, but the short form has the information that's legally sufficient for all the relevant purposes. [Q: This first one has never been released publicly, correct?] That's correct. It is in a bound volume in the records at the state Department of Health in Hawaii.



## **Mr. Obama's press statement of 27 April 2011 at 10.30 a.m.**

ON 27 APRIL 2011, at 9.48 a.m., Mr. Obama made the following statement at a press conference at the White House announcing the online posting of his birth certificate:

"As many of you have been briefed, we provided additional information today about the site of my birth. Now, this issue has been going on for two, two and a half years now. I think it started during the campaign. And I have to say that over the last two and a half years I have watched with bemusement, I've been puzzled at the degree to which this thing just kept on going. We've had every official in Hawaii, Democrat and Republican, every news outlet that has investigated this, confirm that, yes, in fact, I was born in Hawaii, August 4, 1961, in Kapiolani Hospital.

"We've posted the certification that is given by the state of Hawaii on the Internet for everybody to see [images of the long-form and short-form certificates are at pp. 6-7]. People have provided affidavits that they, in fact, have seen this birth certificate. And yet this thing just keeps on going.

"Now, normally I would not comment on something like this, because obviously there's a lot of stuff swirling in the press on at any given day and I've got other things to do. But two weeks ago, when the Republican House had put forward a budget that will have huge consequences potentially to the country, and when I gave a speech about my budget and how I felt that we needed to invest in education and infrastructure and making sure that we had a strong safety net for our seniors even as we were closing the deficit, during that entire week the dominant news story wasn't about these huge, monumental choices that we're going to have to make as a nation. It was about my birth certificate. And that was true on most of the news outlets that were represented here.

"And so I just want to make a larger point here. We've got some enormous challenges out there. There are a lot of folks out there who are still looking for work. Everybody is still suffering under high gas prices. We're going to have to make a series of very difficult decisions about how we invest in our future but also get a hold of our deficit and our debt -- how do we do that in a balanced way.

"And this is going to generate huge and serious debates, important debates. And there are going to be some fierce disagreements -- and that's good. That's how democracy is supposed to work. And I am confident that the American people and America's political leaders can come together in a bipartisan way and solve these problems. We always have.

"But we're not going to be able to do it if we are distracted. We're not going to be able to do it if we spend time vilifying each other. We're not going to be able to do it if we just make stuff up and pretend that facts are not facts. We're not going to be able to solve our problems if we get distracted by sideshows and carnival barkers.

"We live in a serious time right now and we have the potential to deal with the issues that we confront in a way that will make our kids and our grandkids and our great grandkids proud. And I have every confidence that America in the 21st century is going to be able to come out on top just like we always have. But we're going to have to get serious to do it.

"I know that there's going to be a segment of people for which, no matter what we put out, this issue will not be put to rest. But I'm speaking to the vast majority of the American people, as well as to the press. We do not have time for this kind of silliness. We've got better stuff to do. I've got better stuff to do. We've got big problems to solve. And I'm confident we can solve them, but we're going to have to focus on them -- not on this.

"Thanks very much, everybody."