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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 14, 2001

**Thursday**

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PRESS RELEASE

HONOLULU--The Supreme Court of Hawai'i suspended Hilo attorney **ROBERT I.W. LAU** from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year and one (1) day effective May 10, 2001.

Lau entered into a business transaction (investment coins) with a client but failed to fully disclose to the client that the interests of Lau and the client differed. Lau also fraudulently transferred real property to avoid creditors. In imposing discipline, the Court found in aggravation Lau's prior professional discipline, dishonest or selfish motive, multiple offenses, refusal to acknowledge the wrongful nature of his conduct, and substantial experience in the practice of law. In mitigation, Lau's prior discipline occurred more than eight years ago and other sanctions had been imposed upon him.

Lau, 75, was admitted to the Hawai'i bar in 1956, and is a graduate of Vanderbilt University. [A copy of the Supreme Court's Order of Suspension is available upon request]

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