

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM


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To: FTZ9 Customers

From: Gregory P. Barbour
FTZ Administrator 

Subject: State Furloughs and Impact to the Foreign-Trade Zone

As you may be aware, Governor Lingle's mandated furlough plan began implementation on October 23, 2009. Many State offices have closed two days a month, normally a Friday.

As you know, we are a self-sufficient agency and depend on the revenue that we collect from our 300+ clients for our livelihood. We receive no tax revenue to support our operations. As such, our employees are very cognizant of the need to provide quality service to our clients and you experience as little disruption to the delivery of our services as possible. Closing down the Zone is NOT an option. Our State employees at the Zone recognize the negative impact this might have on your business.

Accordingly, we are pleased to announce that **the Zone will remain open** during its normal operating hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) Monday through Friday except holidays. We will be operating with a "skeleton crew" on Friday afternoons and we are asking for your kokua in planning ahead if you need Zone services during this time.

Those Zone employees belonging to the United Public Workers Union (forklift operators and building maintenance) are still in contract negotiations with Governor Lingle and we will provide an update on Zone operating hours after these negotiations have been completed. Zone operating hours may or may not be affected.

Please feel free to contact me at any time at 586-2507 or gb@ftz9.org if you have any questions or concerns that you would like addressed. Mahalo.