Honolulu Board of Water Supply
News Release

Contact: Kurt Tsue Telephone: 748-5320 January 12, 2012

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY NAMES NEW MANAGER AND CHIEF ENGINEER

HONOLULU – The Board of Water Supply's (BWS) board of directors has appointed Ernest Y.W. Lau as the tenth manager and chief engineer of the Board of Water Supply. As manager, Lau will be responsible for the overall strategic direction and management of the BWS, with a focus on furthering the department's mission to provide a safe and dependable water supply, now and into the future. Lau will assume his new position on February 1, 2012.

"Ernest is an innovative and experienced leader who has worked for more than 23 years in waterworks and related fields," said BWS Chairman Randall Chung. "Ernest was the board of directors' choice to lead the Board of Water Supply in managing Oahu's municipal water resources and distribution system."

Lau is currently the administrator of the Public Works Division under the State Department of Accounting and General Services, where he oversees the planning, coordinating, directing, and controlling of a statewide program of engineering, architectural, and construction services. Lau previously worked as Deputy Director of the State Commission on Water Resource Management, Department of Land and Natural Resources where he worked collaboratively with the Commission members to set policies and make decisions in accordance with the State Water Code. Lau also served as the Manager and Chief Engineer of the Kauai Department of Water from 1996 to 2003 and as Deputy Manager from 1995 to 1996. Prior to that position, he worked for the Board of Water Supply, City and County of Honolulu for more than 14 years as an engineer in Long Range Planning and Water Systems Planning.

"I look forward to returning to the Board of Water Supply and working with all the employees of the board to meet our needs for water system adequacy, efficiency, and dependability," said Lau. "I am honored by the opportunity to lead the organization in facing the challenges ahead to ensure the community with continued access to a safe and dependable water supply."