

Atlas Insurance Agency - Your Navigation Partner



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Core Values

Pono
Lokahi
Alaka'i
Ho'okele
Kakou
Imi'ike

Email article submissions to:
kribilla@atlasinsurance.com

2025 Kick-Off Event!

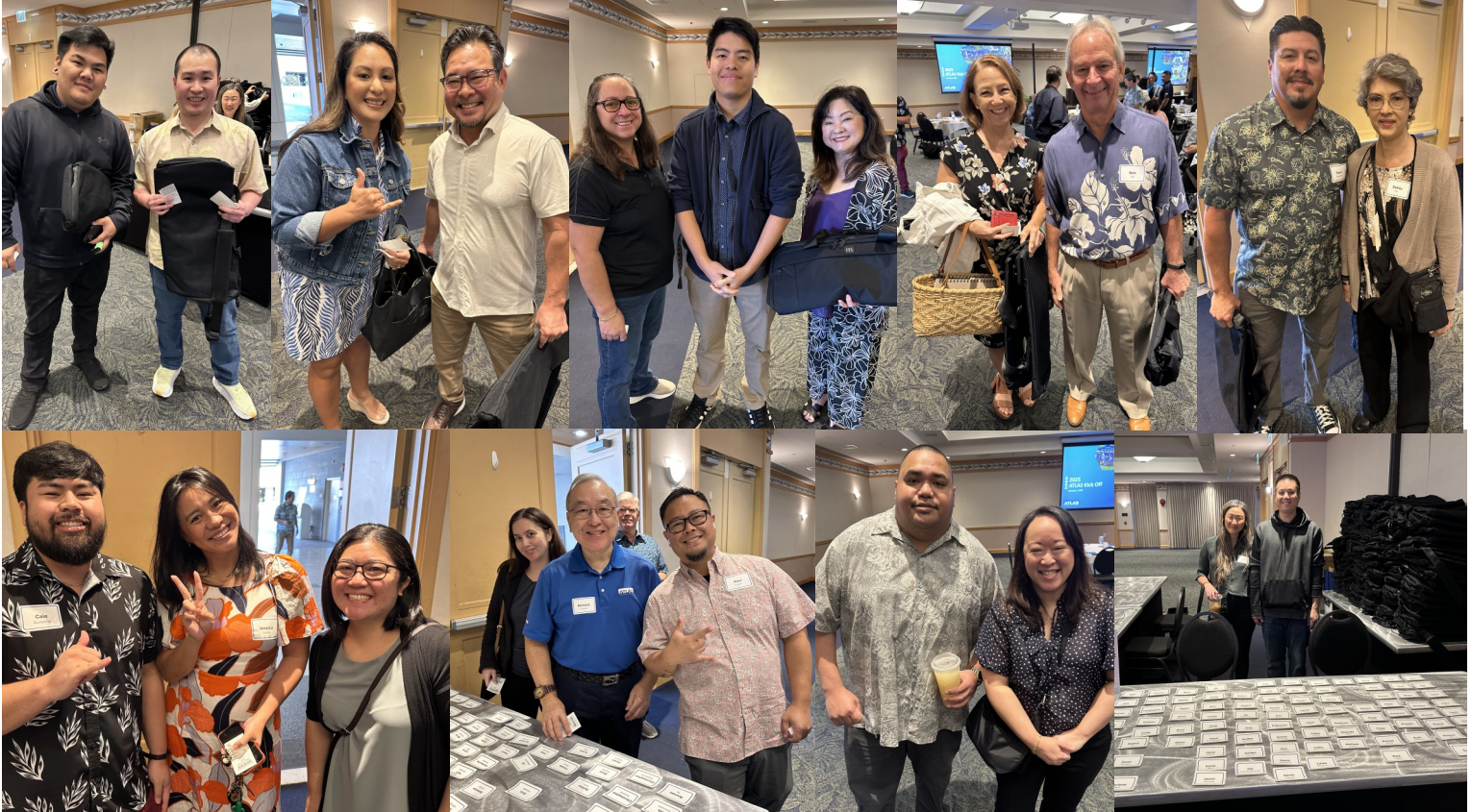
Atlas Insurance Agency started off the year with our Annual Kickoff Event at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii! Our team gathered for important company updates, insights on global trends, and a look ahead at what's to come. A highlight of the event was recognizing our dedicated employees with certificates and awards for their years of service in the insurance industry, along with a special keynote speaker, Danny Kim talking about "Working with Aloha!" and provided us with his special journals! Mahalo to our team for their hard work and commitment—we're excited for another year of success together!



2025 Kick-Off Event!, Cont.



2025 Kick-Off Event!, Cont.



Risky Business Corner

I'm Not Under Your Jurisdiction

By: David Ching

"I don't have any employees" says the owner of a small owner/operated backhoe service. I own the company and I'm the one who does the work. He is an independent contractor that is a sole proprietorship without any employees in the company.

He is exempt from Hawaii Occupational Safety & Health (HIOSH) jurisdiction and does not need to comply with the bureaucracy of safety regulations.

HIOSH is concerned about the safety of employees, therefore a company without any employees does not fall under HIOSH jurisdiction. A general contractor who has a subcontractor such as this might think that this independent owner operator can work as unsafe as he possibly can without any repercussions. "NOT TRUE." As a general contractor one is responsible for safety on the entire job site. By being the general contractor, one is also the controlling employer for the site. If the sole proprietor created a hazard and the general contractor's employees or even another subcontractor's employees were exposed to that hazard, these contractors can be cited. The sole proprietor will not be cited under HIOSH.



Happy Valentine's Day!

Love (and sherbet) was in the air at Atlas! Our Office Activities Committee put together a sweet Valentine's Day treat with Scoop Scoops sherbet, featuring delicious flavors like Honeydew, Lychee-Hoo, and Majah Mango. A perfect way to celebrate the day with our team! We heart every one of you!



Happy Valentine's Day!, Cont.



Toastmasters' February Recap: Finding Your Path

This month's Toastmasters meeting brought insightful lessons on both personal growth and professional development. We had two outstanding speeches that left a lasting impact on our members, covering topics that ranged from digital detoxing to mastering our Toastmasters journey. Ken Fujiwara took home the Best Speaker Award for his thought-provoking speech titled "Detox." In his speech, Ken explored the importance of taking a break from social media and how disconnecting can lead to a more mindful and fulfilling life. With today's world constantly pulling us into the digital space, his message served as a timely reminder of the benefits of stepping away and focusing on what truly matters. His ability to weave together personal experiences and universal truths made his speech both relatable and inspiring. Funny enough, as his speech emphasized how today's world constantly pulls us into the digital space, he had to accept his award via a Teams virtual call—talk about irony!

We were also fortunate to hear from our seasoned Toastmasters colleague, Debra Chong, who shared her expertise with a valuable presentation on how to Navigate Pathways—Toastmasters' online education platform. Whether you're new to Toastmasters or a longtime member, understanding how to effectively use Pathways is crucial for advancing in public speaking and leadership development. Debra's clear and informative walkthrough helped members gain a stronger grasp on how to maximize the tools available to them in their Toastmasters journey.



As always, our meetings continue to be a space where members can learn, grow, and support one another. Whether it's refining your speaking skills, stepping out of your comfort zone, or simply gaining new perspectives, there's something for everyone in Toastmasters.

Client First Program

Customer Satisfaction

Atlas recently began working with Market Trends Pacific to survey clients on our performance. We started to gather positive comments and would like to begin sharing it with the company. Here is what our clients are saying about us!



“My previous insurance carrier was no longer providing policies in my state. Ross, my agent was very easy to reach, and was helpful and patient. He answered every email and phone call thoroughly and courteously. He helped me look into other insurance providers, made sure the plan I chose with the new company had adequate coverage, and made sure the changes went through at my mortgage company.” *Mathew T.*

PL Referrals!

Please continue to refer your friends and family (all islands) for a personalized Insurance Analysis for our Personal Lines Referral Program! Staff receives \$25 per referral and then \$25 for every referral bound.

If you would like to participate in this program, please contact Irene Zilisch, at (808) 533-8704 or izilisch@atlasinsurance.com.

Here are the staff that helped with the program for the month of February 2025!



Dana Tokioka, 3 referrals; Grant Murakami, 2 referrals; Jimmy Lui-Kwan, 1 referral, 1 bound; Karen Cielo, 1 referral.



Welcome, Aaron!

We are welcoming back Aaron Goo as a Personal Lines Account Manager! Many of you might remember Aaron when he interned with our Client Consulting Services Team as part of Tradewind Group's summer internship program this past summer. Aaron recently graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he received his BBA in Business Management and Finance. While at UH, Aaron was active in the American Marketing Association, Delta Sigma Pi: Rho Chi, and Hawaii Student Entrepreneurs. Welcome back, Aaron!

Welcome, Ken!

Let's welcome Ken Kobayashi to the Atlas team! Ken is an Account Executive in our Surety unit. Most recently, Ken was a Financial Analyst at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory at Stanford University where he managed funding and spending of multiple research projects in disciplines such as astronomy and dark matter. Before that, Ken was a Senior Financial Analyst at Intel, managing the spending and budgeting of the Intel Optane Group's Technology Development and Manufacturing Organization (IOG TD). Ken has a background in investment operations, accounting, investing, and law. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Portland, his Master of Business Administration from the University of California Davis, Graduate School of Management, and his Juris Doctorate from the University of California, Hasting School of Law. Welcome, Ken!



Congrats, Kanani!

Kanani Cuevas' new bundle of joy, Kade Yoshio-Makamae Cuevas, was born on February 17, 2025! He weighed in at a nice 8 lb. 6.6 ounces, and 20.5 inches in length. One thing Kanani pointed out was that he looks just like his father-in-law! Congratulations to Kanani and his family!



Atlas Gives Back!



F O U N D A T I O N

The Atlas Insurance Agency Foundation continuously gives back throughout the year with corporate sponsorships or straight donations to organizations/ non-profits. Please don't forget that Tradewind Group will match employee's personal donation to a 501C3 \$1.00 for \$1.00, up to \$500 per employee. Contact Dana Tokioka at dtokioka@atlasinsurance.com for more details.

\$10,000



Hawaiian Humane Society
People for animals. Animals for people.



HO'ŌLA NĀ PUA

\$5,000



\$5,000



\$1,000



PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT
FOUNDATION