

IMPORTANT - KEEP YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CURRENT

Have you moved? Changed your address, phone number or email? Don't forget to keep us informed! Having your correct contact information is critical to protecting your money and keeping your accounts safe.

Take a moment to verify your information and make sure its current.

- Call us at 808.935.9778
- Visit us in Hilo, Keaau or Kona
- Log into your Online Branch account, then go to **Settings, Profile**



Don't let Your Account Go Dormant

A member's account is considered dormant when there has been no activity (deposit or withdrawals) for a period of 24 months. Members with accounts nearing dormant status will receive a letter notifying them of such and will request that they activate their account by making a deposit, withdraw, or notify the Credit Union that they acknowledge the account. If we do not receive a response, the account will be charged a dormant fee of \$5.00 per month.



If you have any questions regarding dormant accounts or if you think you may have an account that may be in dormant status, please call us at 808-935-9778.

BIG ISLAND FCU BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATE

The following candidate was submitted by the Nominating Committee to fill the one (1) vacancy on Big Island FCU's Board of Directors. This position will be filled March 8, 2023 at the Annual Membership Business Meeting.

LENNY SUGIYAMA - Lenny has been a member of Big Island FCU since August 1987 and has served on our Board of Directors since 2020. He currently serves as Vice Chairman on the Board. He also served on the Board of another local Credit Union for 12 years, which allowed him to gain a lot of knowledge on the Credit Union movement by attending various training and workshops that focused on Board governance, Credit Union financials and regulatory requirements. Over the years, he has watched the Credit Union grow and improve member experience and feels he can use his knowledge to help make the best decisions for Big Island FCU and its members.

NOMINATIONS BY PETITION:

The Nominating Committee is also currently accepting nominations by petition to fill the one (1) vacancy on the Board. The nominee must be a member in good standing with Big Island FCU, at least 18 years of age, and must be bondable by Big Island FCU's Fidelity Bond Company. Nominations made by petition must be signed by at least 1% (100 signatures) of the membership. Minimum age to sign the petition is 18. Petition forms are available at Credit Union offices. The deadline for receipt of the petition by the Committee is January 27, 2023.

For more information on nominations by petition, please call 808-935-9778.

PRIVACY NOTICE

Federal law requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Our Privacy Policy has not changed and you may review our Policy and practices with respect to your personal information at [bigislandfcu.com/privacy-policy](https://www.bigislandfcu.com/privacy-policy) or we will mail you a free copy upon request if you call us at 808-935-9778.



HILO

66 Lono Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
(808) 935-9778
Fax: (808) 934-7572
Loan Dept.: (808) 935-6665
Loan Dept. Fax: (808) 935-6666
Mon-Fri 8:30am-5:00pm

KEAAU

16-594 Kipimana Street
Keaau, Hawaii 96749
Ph: (808) 930-2600
Loans: (808) 930-2610
Fax: (808) 930-2619
Mon-Fri 8:30am-5:00pm

KONA

75-5737 Kuakini Hwy, Ste 101
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740
Ph: (808) 329-8889
Fax: (808) 326-4959
Mon-Fri 8:30am-5:00pm

WEBSITE

www.bigislandfcu.com

EMAIL

info@bigislandfcu.com

AUDIO RESPONSE

(808) 961-3316

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman:
Henry Kaaihue, Jr.
Vice Chairman:
Lenny Sugiyama
Secretary:
Loren Tsugawa
Treasurer:
Necelyn Yamashiro
Director:
Teresa Agpoon

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Martin Luther King Jr Day-January 16
Presidents' Day-February 20



We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and Equal Credit Opportunity Act

Federally Insured by NCUA

A PUBLICATION OF THE



Big Island

Federal Credit Union

The first chartered credit union in the State of Hawaii

First Quarter 2023

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE NOW!!

As part of our ongoing commitment to education, we will be awarding a total of \$10,000 in scholarships. All Big Island FCU members seeking a post-high school education is eligible to apply. Seven (7) scholarships will be awarded, two (2) \$2,500 scholarships and five (5) \$1,000 scholarships.

Our Scholarship Committee will review and score all applicants based on academic excellence, personal achievements, community involvement, academic & career goals and letters of recommendation.

Formed as the Big Island Teacher's Federal Credit Union in 1936, Big Island Federal Credit Union remains committed to helping members succeed in their educational goals by offering scholarships.

Applications are now available at any Big Island FCU branch or can be downloaded from [bigislandfcu.com/scholarship-program](https://www.bigislandfcu.com/scholarship-program).



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED OR POSTMARKED BY JUNE 1, 2023

MONEY PRINCIPLES TO START OFF THE NEW YEAR!!

Making the most of your money starts with five building blocks for managing and growing your money -- The MyMoney Five. Keep these five principles in mind as you make day-to-day decisions and plan your financial goals.



THE FIVE PRINCIPLES

- **EARN** – Make the most of what you earn by understanding your pay and benefits.
- **SAVE & INVEST** – It's never too early to start saving for future goals such as a house or retirement, even by saving small amounts.
- **PROTECT** – Take precautions about your financial situation, accumulate emergency savings, and have the right insurance.
- **SPEND** – Be sure you are getting a good value, especially with big purchases, by shopping around and comparing prices and products.
- **BORROW** – Borrowing money can enable some essential purchases and builds credit, but interest costs can be expenses. If you borrow too much, you will have large debt to be repaid.

For more financial literacy tools and resources, visit [mymoney.gov](https://www.mymoney.gov).

Big Island News

BIG ISLAND FCU MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY & ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Our Member Appreciation Day will be held on Wednesday, **March 8, 2023**. Please visit us on that day at any of our branches for a special gift (while supplies last)...you could also win a prize!

Our Annual Business Meeting will also be held on Wednesday, March 8, 2023. The Business Meeting will start promptly at 4:30pm in our Keaau Branch lobby, located in the Shipman Industrial Park at 16-594 Kipimana Street. Only Big Island FCU members are allowed to attend the Business Meeting.

Start earning points today.

1. Register
2. Earn
3. Reward

It's that simple.

Visit www.uChooseRewards.com today and register to start earning points!

You'll earn points for all of your purchases - wherever you shop!

- Earn 1 point per \$3 when you use your **Big Island FCU Visa® Debit Card**
- Earn 1 point per \$1 when you use your **Big Island FCU Visa® Credit Card**
- Earn additional points by shopping at participating retailers in-store and online at www.uchooserewards.com.

Redemption options are endless! Redeem points for travel, gas, gift cards and more.

For more information, please visit contact any Big Island FCU branch or visit www.uchooserewards.com.

Earn every time you shop
with your Big Island FCU
Visa® Debit or Credit Card

uChoose
Rewards

BIG ISLAND FCU'S DEBT PROTECTION WITH LIFE PLUS

Your financial safeguard
against the unexpected



Life can take some unexpected turns. That's why there's Debt Protection with Life Plus

Financial Protection for the unexpected - protect the ones that matter most. Debt Protection with Life Plus could help your family's financial situation against a variety of covered life events:

- Involuntary Unemployment
- Disability
- Death

For additional protections, Life Plus can extend your Debt Protection with Life Plus to address a wide range of circumstances, giving you the reassurance of knowing you've taken steps to help secure your finances.

- Accidental dismemberment
- Terminal illness
- Hospitalization or family medical leave
- Death of a non-protected dependent

Things to know about Debt Protection with Life Plus:

- It's easy - Simple to apply for.
- It's budget-friendly - Comfortably fits into your monthly payment.
- It puts you at ease - Rest easy, knowing you may be taken care of in so many problem situations.

Take an important step toward financial security. Ask us about Debt Protection with Life Plus today.

Your purchase of Debt Protection with Life Plus is optional and will not affect your application for credit or the terms of any credit agreement required to obtain a loan. Certain eligibility requirements, conditions and exclusions may apply.

Please contact your loan representative or refer to the Member Agreement for a full explanation of the terms of Debt Protection with Life Plus. You may cancel the protection at any time. If you cancel protection within 30 days, you will receive a full refund of any fee paid.

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PROTECT YOURSELF OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW FROM ELDER FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

Elder abuse can take many forms, including physical, psychological, emotional, neglect, or abandonment. Financial exploitation is also a form of elder abuse. Elder financial abuse is complex. Sometimes, the people taking advantage of older adults can be trusted people who are managing money for their parent, relative or friend. If individuals step in to manage an older person's finances, some may try to take advantage by taking money or assets for themselves.

What is Elder Financial Exploitation?

By definition, financial exploitation is the fraudulent or otherwise illegal, unauthorized, or improper actions by a caregiver, fiduciary, or other individual in which the resources of an older person are used by another for personal profit or gain; or actions that result in depriving an older person of the benefits, resources, belongings, or assets to which they are entitled. Financial exploitation crosses all social, educational, and economic boundaries. Anyone can be a victim.

Why Are Older Adults At Risk Of Financial Exploitation?

Certain circumstances or conditions can make an older adult more vulnerable to financial exploitation.

Some older adults may:

- have regular income and accumulated assets.
- be trusting and polite.
- be lonely and socially isolated.
- be vulnerable due to grief from the loss of a spouse, family member, friend, or pet.
- be reluctant to report exploitation by a family member, caregiver, or someone they depend on.
- be receiving care from a person with substance abuse, gambling or financial problems, or mental health issues.
- fear of retaliation by the exploiter.
- be unfamiliar with managing financial matters.
- be dependent on someone who may pressure them for money or control of their finances.

What Are The Warning Signs Of Financial Exploitation?

- Sudden changes in bank accounts or banking practices, including unexplained withdrawals of large sums of money by a person accompanying the older adult.
- Adding additional names on an older adult's bank accounts.
- Unauthorized withdrawals of the older adult's funds using their ATM or debit card.
- Abrupt changes in a will or other financial documents.
- Unexplained disappearance of funds or valuable possessions.
- Unpaid bills or obligations despite the availability of adequate financial resources.
- Discovery of a forged signature for financial transactions or for the titles of the older adult's possessions.
- Unexplained sudden transfer of assets to a family member or someone outside the family.
- The provision of services that are not necessary.

What Are Some Examples Of Financial Exploitation?

- Exploitation by an agent under a power of attorney or person in another type of fiduciary relationship
- Theft of money or property, often by a family member or caregiver
- Investment scams, including deceptive seminars selling unnecessary or fraudulent financial services or products
- Lottery and sweepstakes scams
- Romance/sweetheart scams
- Tax and debt collection scams
- Charity scams
- Telemarketer, mail offer or door-to-door salesperson scams
- Computer and Internet scams
- Reverse mortgage fraud
- Identity theft

Why Don't Victims Report Financial Exploitation?

- Shame and embarrassment - Many people are ashamed to admit that they have been financially exploited.
- Loyalty - Victims may be reluctant to report someone who may treat them well in other ways.
- Fear of retaliation - Victims may fear losing their independence by being declared incompetent and being moved into a care facility.
- Dependence - Victims may be dependent on the abuser for care or assistance.
- Denial - Some victims are unwilling to acknowledge that financial exploitation is happening to them.
- Self-blame - Victims may believe they deserve or have caused the abuse.
- Lack of awareness - Victims are unaware they are being exploited, or don't know who to report the exploitation to.

How Can Elder Financial Exploitation Be Reported?

Unfortunately, elder financial exploitation is very prevalent. Don't be silent. Report it. If you feel you are a victim of financial exploitation, contact your financial institution, notify local law enforcement and report the incident to the Federal Trade Commission. You can also reach out to our local Adult Protective Services office for elder abuse.

Hawaii Adult Protective Services:

- East Hawaii (Hilo/Hamakua/Puna) - 808-933-8820
- West Hawaii (Kau/Kona/Kohala/Kamuela) - 808-327-6280