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## **HGEA NAMES CAROLINE SLUYTER COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER**

Honolulu - The Hawaii Government Employees Association (HGEA), the state's largest public union, has named Caroline Sluyter communications officer. Sluyter leads HGEA's communications team and is responsible for media relations and communications with HGEA's 42,000 members and retirees.

Sluyter, a former KITV4 news reporter, has used her seven years of broadcast journalism experience to effectively serve in communications leadership roles in state and city government agencies for the past six years. Prior to joining HGEA, Sluyter had been the public information officer and community development specialist for the Hawaii Department of Transportation, a position she held since May 2012.

At the Department of Transportation, she worked closely with the director and deputies and led a team responsible for planning and implementing communications for the highways, harbors, and airport divisions.

She also worked to develop the public outreach campaign for the H-1 freeway rehabilitation project for which her team received a prestigious Koa Anvil Award of Excellence from the Public Relations Society of America Hawaii Chapter for best integrated communications program in the government, association and nonprofit category.

Sluyter also served the Honolulu Police Department as an information specialist from 2008 to 2012.

Sluyter holds a bachelor of arts degree in journalism with a concentration in radio and TV news from San Diego State University.

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### **About HGEA**

HGEA was founded in 1934 to ensure fair and equitable representation for government employees. HGEA is the largest labor union in Hawaii, with more than 42,000 members. HGEA represents state and county employees in eight bargaining units. HGEA also serves a large associate membership composed primarily of retirees, other state and county employees and officials, and federal and private sector employees.