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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Building Industry Association of Hawaii
Appoints New Chief Executive Officer
Jessica Leorna selected to lead organization***

HONOLULU – The Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii) is pleased to announce the appointment of Jessica Leorna as the organization’s new Chief Executive Officer. Leorna brings to the position a wealth of knowledge and an array of experiences in the building industry. She will join BIA-Hawaii on April 27, 2020.

Leorna has an extensive history of organizational and operations management experience. As the Executive Officer for the Interior Alaska Building Association, the NAHB (National Association of Home Builders) affiliate in Fairbanks, Alaska, Leorna worked for over six years in association management, leading volunteer engagement, overseeing tradeshow, events, marketing activities, and public relations. She worked closely with the Alaska State Home Building Association and its lobbyist and local government officials to advocate on behalf of the building industry in Alaska.

Additionally, Leorna has nine years of experience in the financial investment/technology sector in California. As part of her positions with BV Capital, eVentures and Citrix Online, she managed budgets and financials, supervised employees, and acted as Finance Liaison through a public acquisition of a startup company with its main product being software as a service. Through this process, she gained experience working with executive leadership and department heads, while assisting them in navigation of the transition to a publicly traded company.

“I am honored to have been selected as BIA-Hawaii’s next CEO. It is a privilege to be part of an organization representing the Voice of Hawaii’s construction industry,” said Leorna. “BIA-Hawaii is led by a mission to advocate on behalf of the housing and building industry. I see tremendous opportunity to contribute to developing the sustainability and growth of the building industry in Hawaii. I look forward to serving the membership and industry.”

“We are fortunate to have someone of Jessica’s caliber and experience to lead BIA-Hawaii,” said Dwight Mitsunaga, BIA-Hawaii Board of Directors President. “The industry is at a critical juncture and we need leadership to successfully implement our strategy, take advantage of the market opportunities ahead and unite our membership. Jessica is a strong communicator and has a solid understanding of our industry and markets.”

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About BIA-Hawaii

The Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii) is the Voice of the construction industry and a not-for-profit trade organization chartered in 1955.

BIA-Hawaii is affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) with members including developers, general contractors, specialty contractors, suppliers and associates. BIA-Hawaii members build the living spaces that we call home and supports the creation of housing at all price points. BIA-Hawaii's corporate sponsors are Hawaiian Electric Company, Hawaii Home + Remodeling Magazine, Sub-Zero, Wolf & Cove by Riggs Distributing, Hawaii Gas, and Inspired Closets Hawaii.

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Jessica Leorna
Chief Executive Officer
Building Industry Association of Hawaii