## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mission Statement/Vision Statement/Core Values</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter from the Police Chief</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter from the Police Commission Chair</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawai‘i County Police Commission</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Response Team</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle Patrol</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Policing</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization Chart</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photos of Police Administration</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Affairs/CIU</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Bureau</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations Bureaus</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Investigations Divisions</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area I Patrol Districts</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area II Patrol Districts</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Enforcement Unit</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Changes</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistical Tables &amp; Charts</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cover photo by Sandy Tokeshi
**Mission Statement**

The employees of the Hawai‘i Police Department are committed to preserving the Spirit of Aloha. We will work cooperatively with the community to enforce the laws, preserve peace, and provide a safe environment.

**Vision Statement**

The Hawai‘i Police Department is committed to providing the highest quality of police service and forming partnerships with the community to achieve public satisfaction making the Big Island a safe place to live, visit, and conduct business.

**Core Values**

- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Compassion
- Teamwork
- Community Satisfaction
Dear Commissioners:

I am pleased to submit the Hawai‘i Police Department’s Annual Report for fiscal year 2009 – 2010. During this fiscal year, we continued to make improvements to help provide the best possible service to our residents and visitors. As in recent years, we continued with ongoing state-of-the-art training for our officers and civilian employees.

Our officers continue to make progress in fighting the war on crystal methamphetamine and other illegal drugs by using enforcement and preventive measures. At the same time, school resource officers worked with schools to provide positive role models and teach curriculum designed for school children — including anti-drug classes.

This fiscal year, we continued to hold monthly public meetings throughout the island. The meetings allow the public to meet the Police Department’s command staff and to discuss concerns with me, the deputy chief, and the commanders who oversee police operations at the local level.

Another step toward improving our rapport with the community was through the expansion of our Bicycle Patrol into West Hawai‘i. Residents continue to express enthusiastic support for our officers as they ride through our island’s communities on bicycles.

The Police Department continued taking steps toward achieving the goal of gaining law enforcement accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies. Thanks to tireless efforts by our Accreditation Section, we are one year closer to achieving that goal.

We remain committed to enhancing our partnership with the public through community policing and participation in neighborhood and charitable events. We look forward to working with our neighbors to make the island of Hawai‘i a safe place to live, visit, and work.

On behalf of the men and women of the Police Department, I thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Harry S. Kubojiri
Police Chief
Hawai‘i Police Department
Dear Mayor Kenoi:

In Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010, the Hawai‘i County Police Commission held 12 monthly meetings on a rotating schedule in Hilo, Waimea, and Kona. Our commissioners had the privilege throughout the fiscal year to attend community events and various functions that included recruit graduation, Police Week ceremonies, commanders meetings, and the Hawai‘i State Law Enforcement Officials Association Conference.

In May 2010, we had the privilege of hosting the Annual State of Hawai‘i Police Commissioners’ Conference at the Waikoloa Beach Marriott. The conference theme was “Balancing Police Responsibilities and Public Perception.” It was well attended by commissioners and police personnel from all islands, and it generated thought-provoking discussions.

Although 2009 – 2010 was a very challenging fiscal year, our commissioners were committed to their task and diligently worked with the chief and his staff to help the Police Department fulfill its mission and vision statements.

I’m confident in saying that, along with my fellow commissioners, it is an honor to serve the people of Hawai‘i County as Police Commissioners.

Sincerely,

Donn S. Mende
Chair, Hawai‘i County Police Commission
Nine Big Island residents proudly serve on the Hawaiʻi County Police Commission. The mayor appoints one member from each district and each appointment is subject to confirmation by the Hawaiʻi County Council.

The commission’s most important responsibilities, as delineated in the Hawaiʻi County Charter, are to appoint and remove the police chief at its sole discretion, confirm the chief’s appointment of a deputy chief, and consider public complaints against the department or any of its members and then submit findings to the chief.

According to the County Charter, the commission’s other functions are to:

- Adopt rules it may consider necessary for the conduct of its business and regulation of the matters committed to its charge and review the rules and regulations of the department
- Review the department’s annual budget prepared by the police chief and make recommendations thereon to the managing director and mayor
- Submit an annual report to the mayor and the County Council
- Advise the police chief on police-community relations
- Hire personnel necessary to carry out its functions
- Evaluate at least annually the performance of the police chief and submit a report to the mayor, managing director and County Council

During Fiscal Year 2009–2010, the Police Commission members were:

- Carol Ignacio, District 1 — Hāmākua
- Anita Politano Steckel / Leroy J. Victorine, District 2 — South Hilo
- Donn S. Mende, District 3 — South Hilo
- Louis Kaoiwi/Michelle Kualii, District 4 — South Hilo
- Kaʻili Pe’a-Ferrari, District 5 — Puna
- Richard J. Behenna, District 6 — Upper Puna
- Melvin S. Morimoto, District 7 — South Kona
- Thomas P. Whittemore, District 8 — North Kona
- Michael B. Sumja, District 9 — North and South Kohala
Lieutenant Burt Shimabukuro, Special Response Team commander, sits at the controls of one of the SRT’s specialized vehicles as Sergeant Thomas Shopay pops his head out the hatch.

The mission of the Special Response Team is to support the Hawai‘i Police Department and any other requesting law enforcement agency with a response to critical incidents.

Critical incidents are hostage situations, barricade situations, sniper situations, high-risk warrant service, and special assignments. The team also provides security for visiting dignitaries.

The Special Response Team consists of specially selected officers who train extensively throughout the year ensuring operational readiness. The SRT includes a crisis negotiation team that receives special training to develop communication skills that are necessary for defusing volatile situations.

The SRT’s incident commander, tactical team, crisis negotiation team, and support personnel conduct monthly scenario training at different locations throughout the Big Island.

From July 2009 through June 2010, the Special Response Team responded to two barricaded situations, served one high-risk warrant, and conducted four security details and a special assignment. The Special Response Team is also tasked with managing the department’s TASER® program and participation in community outreach programs.

From its inception to 2009, the SRT responded to 85 incidents.

SRT’s day-to-day operations fall under the Administrative Services Division. When the team was mobilized during Fiscal Year 2009–2010, its operations fell under the command of the assistant chief of Area I Operations.
The widely popular Bicycle Patrol expanded into West Hawai‘i in 2009 – 2010. The Area II Bicycle Patrol was a welcome sight in Kailua Village and at special events. These pedaling officers developed a close working partnership with the community, businesses and visitors to Kailua-Kona.

At the same time, the Bike Patrol presence in East Hawai‘i continued to effectively address street level crime in Downtown Hilo, Pāhoa Town, and at community events.

Officers on Bicycle Patrol focus on liquor enforcement, drug enforcement, traffic enforcement, parking problems, public nuisances, pedestrian safety, and safety of our visitors — especially on days when the cruise ships arrive. Bicycles give the officers the advantage of speed, stealth, and the ability to conduct surveillance. Bicycle Patrol reinforces the department Vision Statement of providing a safe place to live, visit and conduct business.

The Bicycle Patrol Program has helped not only to fight crime but also to offer additional opportunities to build positive relations with the community by making officers more approachable.
Community Policing

Commanders: Area I, Lieutenant Albert Jason Cortez / Area II, Sergeant William Souther

The people of Hawai‘i County continue to embrace the Community Policing philosophy. Its strategy is to prevent crime, reduce the fear of crime, arrest those who commit crimes, and provide a safe environment through the use of a proactive problem-solving approach and established partnerships.

At the end of Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010, the Community Policing section had 35 authorized positions, including a supervising sergeant in Area II and a lieutenant in Area I. Of those, 15 positions were allocated for community policing officers, six for School Resource Officers, two for HI-PAL officers and one for a civilian.

During the fiscal year, our community policing officers, school resource officers, and HI-PAL staff continued to pursue partnerships with community groups in a collaborative effort to address substance abuse, homelessness, mental health issues, crime, homeland security, lack of youth activities, and numerous other issues.

The Area II Community Policing Unit was tasked with the implementation of the Special Enforcement Unit and Bicycle Patrol to address recurring problems, public complaints, special events, and property crimes in Kona.

Our school resource officers are stationed at six intermediate schools throughout the island and also reach out to students at many feeder schools. The school is considered a community within a community, and with law enforcement present, it becomes a more complete community. The school resource officers wear three hats: law enforcement officer, teacher, and counselor. They deal with crimes on campus, teach classes to students, provide presentations when requested, and act as liaisons between the school and the Police Department. These officers continue to provide DARE classes, law-related training, counseling and mentoring to students daily, and are involved in school intramural activities.

The Weed and Seed program endeavors continued to be successful, with collaborative efforts in Pāhoa and the surrounding community to provide crime prevention presentations on topics such as identity theft, home security, and drug recognition. Recently, a Hawai‘i Tourism Authority grant was secured,
some of which will fund the upgrade of Pāhoa Village surveillance cameras. For Fiscal Year 2009–2010, police efforts in and around the site resulted in 218 arrests for various offenses, including 10 liquor violations, 31 drug violations and 49 violent crimes.

Our community policing officers regularly attend Neighborhood Watch and community association meetings to provide crime prevention presentations.

Other notable Community Policing/HI-PAL activities included:

- Merrie Monarch Festival
- Downtown Hilo Hoʻolaulea
- July 4 festivities
- Keiki ID projects
- Graffiti paint-over and beautification projects
- Sign waving projects that raise community awareness about domestic violence, child/vehicle safety, and drug abuse
- Downtown Hilo Neighborhood Watch Aloha Patrol
- Weed and Seed Steering Committee meetings and activities
- VASH meetings and activities
- Bicycle Patrol in Pāhoa, Downtown Hilo, Keaukaha, Panaʻewa, Kailua Village, and at special events.
- Kurtistown Family Fun Day
- Mountain View Family Fun Day
- Halloween Safety presentations for parents and children
- Aloha Patrol on Aliʻi Drive
- Beach Sweeps on Aliʻi Drive at county beach parks
- Business Watch for Kailua-Kona
- Abandoned vehicle beautification projects
- “Meth” conferences
- Community meetings
- Station tours
- Kailua-Kona Block Party
- Illegal hunting education project
During Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010, community policing officers worked in partnership with the following groups, resulting in the following outcomes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Troy Barboza Torch Run</td>
<td>Special Olympics track and field event competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Department of Education elementary and intermediate schools</td>
<td>DARE classes provided by SROs to about 2,900 students in grades 5–8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pāhoa Weed and Seed, Puna Action Team, Neighborhood Place of Puna, QLCC, Prosecutor’s Office</td>
<td>Continued participation with the Weed and Seed project by stepped-up police enforcement and joining with various neighborhood groups in activities such as Springtime Jam, bike patrol, and a wrestling clinic/drug presentation for 100+ kids</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Parks and Recreation, pony baseball</td>
<td>Memorial Day Baseball Tournament, State Baseball Tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Parks and Recreation, Keaukaha Athletic Association</td>
<td>Spring Basketball Tournament, “Click It Or Ticket” 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament in Kea’au, Halloween Havoc 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament in Keaukaha, Fall Intermediate Basketball League, Winter Basketball Classic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Parks and Recreation, New Hope Hāmakua, Kalaniana’ole School</td>
<td>HI-PAL Open Gym Night at the Pāpa’ikou gym with various youth activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Downtown Improvement Association, Planning Department, Friends of Downtown Hilo</td>
<td>Continued work with “Envision Downtown Hilo 2025”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boy Scouts of America-Aloha Council</td>
<td>Safety and fingerprinting merit badges, training of more than 100 scouts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public and Private Schools</td>
<td>Anti-bullying presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drug Court</td>
<td>Police Department liaison</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Marshals Service</td>
<td>Operation Falcon warrant sweep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kona Coast resorts</td>
<td>Health Fair projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawai’i Fire Department</td>
<td>Fire Prevention Week activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Commanders

Paul Ferreira
Deputy Police Chief

Marshall Kanehailua
Assistant Chief
Administration

Derek Pacheco
Assistant Chief
Area I Operations

Henry Tavares
Assistant Chief
Area II Operations

Paul Kealoha
Major
Administrative Services Division

Larry Weber
Major
Technical Services Division

Samuel Thomas
Major
Operations Bureau
Area I

Randy Apele
Major
Operations Bureau
Area II
Internal Affairs/CIU

Commander: Captain James O’Connor

The Internal Affairs and Criminal Intelligence Units report directly to the police chief.

Internal Affairs (IA)

**Internal Affairs Mission Statement**

The mission of Internal Affairs is to protect and serve the public, the employee and the department through fair, thorough and proactive investigations of alleged misconduct while preserving the spirit of aloha.

During Fiscal Year 2009–2010, the Internal Affairs Unit conducted 27 administrative investigations and 82 internal inquiries into actions by police department personnel. The detectives also provided 36 in-service training sessions to employees.

Internal Affairs also conducted 64 Quality Control and Compliance Inspections (QCCI) of various elements of the department to prevent the abuse, misuse, fraud, and waste of department resources. The goal of the QCCI is to provide a safe working environment, maintain a degree of government and public trust, and prevent a financial or libelous predicament while creating an attitude of pride and discipline.

Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU)

During Fiscal Year 2009–2010, the Criminal Intelligence Unit provided intelligence information, which in whole or part led to initiating 84 criminal investigations. The unit also submitted 401 intelligence reports during this period.

The unit conducted 276 criminal history investigations for prospective department employees, other designated employees, as well as prospective employees of other county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

Officers from the Criminal Intelligence Unit also conducted surveillance and provided intelligence that aided criminal investigation detectives in successfully completing numerous felony investigations.

The unit is a member of the national Law Enforcement Intelligence Unit, the state organization of Inter-County Criminal Intelligence Unit, the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force, and is the department’s liaison to the Joint Terrorism Task Force.
The Administrative Bureau is divided into two divisions—Administrative Services and Technical Services. A police major heads each one.

**Administrative Services Division**

The Administrative Services Division includes the Finance Section, Accreditation Section, Word Processing Section, Public Relations Section, Human Resources Section, Training Section, and administration of the Special Response Team.

The Finance Section is responsible for payroll, accounts payable, officers’ gas and oil accounts, special duty work, inventory, and other finance-related tasks.

The Accreditation Section revised more than 100 General Orders, wrote more than 30 operations policies, and created an intranet portal toward the goal of achieving law enforcement accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies.

The Word Processing Center is responsible for transcribing all narrative police reports that sworn personnel dictate into a digital recording system. Throughout the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year, the Word Processing Center worked long hours in an attempt to keep up with the high workload. The Word Processing Center is composed of one clerical services supervisor, one assistant clerical supervisor, and 14 clerk III staff members. Their responsibilities include the processing, transcribing, and routing to the Records Management System all police narrative dictations for timely prosecution. More than 33,000 reports were transcribed, totaling more than 322,000 minutes of dictation.

The Public Relations Section is responsible for maintaining the department’s website and Nixle alerts, responding to inquiries from the news media, managing the Police Department’s Community Satisfaction Survey, producing the cable access television program “Hawaii’s Island’s Most Wanted,” and publishing the department’s annual report and employee newsletter.

The Special Response Team (SRT) is mobilized for high-risk, tactical operations involving barricaded suspects, hostage situations, and high-risk warrant services. The team also provides security for visiting dignitaries and politicians. The SRT’s day-to-day operations fall under the Administrative Services Section. When the team is mobilized, its activities fall under Area I Operations.

On March 1, 2010, the Police Department filled all of its vacant, sworn positions. The new personnel came from applicants who were recruited the previous fiscal year during an aggressive police officer recruitment campaign run by the Police Department’s Human Resources Section in cooperation with the Hawaii’s County Department of Human Resources.
The Training Section conducted training for two recruit classes (the 77th and 78th), consisting of a combined 26 police recruits. These officers received a wide variety of training, which included criminal investigation, principles of patrol, interview and interrogation, forensic sciences, constitutional and citizen’s rights, understanding of federal, state and county laws and a host of other subjects pertinent to law enforcement. In addition to the academic training, police recruits received training in firearms use, arrest control techniques, use of the electronic control device and other related physical training in preparation of becoming a sworn police officer.

Also during this fiscal year, the Police Department provided more than 7,913 hours of instruction and training to its sworn police officers and civilian employees. Topics of instruction included supervisory training, customer service, evidence collection and many other specialized training sessions. To better respond to the increasing number of internet crimes reported by the Big Island community, the department hosted three training sessions related to the investigation of internet or cyberspace crimes. To better protect and educate the public about this growing problem, members of the department’s Community Policing and Community Relations sections received training in making public presentations to school children, community groups and other interested individuals.

A primary focus of the training provided by the Police Department during this fiscal year was directed at enhancing the department’s disaster preparedness and response in the event of a natural disaster, terrorist attack or other major incident. In completing this ongoing initiative, command staff and supervisors attended National Incident Management training while all other sworn personnel attended Incident Command System Training. These programs are mandated by the federal Department of Homeland Security. They have been developed to provide to police departments, civil defense agencies, public safety personnel and first responders from other government agencies a unified and systematic response to catastrophic events.

The Technical Services Division
Commander: Major Larry Weber

The Technical Services Division is in charge of the Communications Dispatch Section, Communications Maintenance Section, Computer Center, Records and Identification Section and Traffic Services Section.

The Communications Dispatch Center continues to work with wireless service providers to enhance the Wireless Enhanced 9-1-1 system deployed in April 2007. During Fiscal Year 2009–2010, the Police Department worked with those service providers to deploy 545 new towers and 1,514 new sectors. Continued maintenance of the data and cellular sites was conducted through audits of the data provided by the various wireless service providers. This process includes updating the geographic information system map layers and verifying the data that is displayed during a live 9-1-1 call. That helps the dispatchers determine the location of
callers so they can send assistance to them. Nine new layers were added to the existing Positron mapping system and all of the previous layers have been updated.

The Hawai‘i Police Department continues to expand on the capturing of Pictometry aerial mapping data. Expanded imagery will allow dispatchers to provide the first responders with information such as the terrain, number of houses, heights of buildings. At the end of the fiscal year, the Police Department expected the complete data to be delivered and available for use in December 2010.

During the 2009–2010 Fiscal Year, the Dispatch Center received 119,751 emergency 9-1-1 calls, with 16.9 percent being transferred to the Fire Department. Requests for police service are made using the 9-1-1 emergency call system, the Police Department’s non-emergency telephone line, and by reports directly to police officers or at the police station. All such requests are recorded, logged, assigned, and documented by Communications Dispatch personnel using the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system. There were 181,843 CAD events that documented such requests.

The Police Department continues to address the issues associated with the Master Street Address Guide (MSAG). A total of 2,434 transactions were completed during the last fiscal year. Those transactions include change of addresses, insertions/deletions of street records, and customer change reports.

The Communications-Dispatch Section successfully completed two Police Radio Dispatcher recruit classes to increase staffing. A third Police Radio Dispatcher class began on June 1, 2010, and finished on July 31, 2010.

The Communications-Dispatch Section received and processed 321 9-1-1 tape requests from the public, Prosecuting Attorney’s office, and police officers. In March 2010, the Computer Aided Dispatch System (CADS) was upgraded, allowing the ability to capture additional data and also interfacing and testing with the Police Department’s mobile data terminals.

Scientel was selected as radio consultant for the upgrade of the county’s Land Mobile Radio system under the Communications Maintenance Section. Scientel recommended that the county deploy VHF digital trunking technology for future communication needs. Requests for proposals were submitted for this upgrade. The proposals all recommend similar technology and overall coverage will be improved.

The Police Department’s plan is to narrow-band the existing VHF system by 2013 as mandated by the FCC. If the new VHF digital-trunked radio system can be deployed before the 2013 deadline, then we can retire our existing system.

Scientel installed surveillance cameras in Hilo and Kona, which aided in several investigations. The department will be able to appreciate their true potential once installation of the surveillance cameras is complete and optimized.

The department’s Computer Center started connecting district stations along the county’s INET fiber route to the INET fiber network. Kea’au, Pāhoa, North Hilo, Hāmākua, South Kohala, and Kealakehe were expected to be converted by the end of 2010. The INET fiber is not available in the Ka‘ū, Mauna Lani, North Kohala, and Captain Cook areas.

The department’s records management system servers were upgraded to faster 64-bit machines that are also much more
energy efficient. The software upgrade was scheduled for the beginning of the next fiscal year.

The Computer Center staff assisted with the following projects that were in various stages of completion:

- Police Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) deployment
- County MPLS network installation
- Hawai‘i Integrated Justice Information Sharing—Hawai‘i Criminal Justice Data Center
- Intergraph Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) software and hardware upgrade
- Video camera surveillance purchase and installation—HTA grant
- Pictometry mapping solution for Dispatch
- Word Processing Center system upgrade and implementation

During the 2009–2010 Fiscal Year the Police Department received $212,195 in federal grant funds, which the Traffic Services Section oversees, for traffic enforcement and equipment purchases to improve traffic safety. Police continued efforts to make Big Island roadways safer by using the grant funds to pay for overtime for checkpoints and other enforcement projects aimed at reducing injuries and deaths in motor vehicle crashes by increasing seat belt use rates, apprehending impaired drivers, and enforcing speed regulations and illegal “outlaw” road racing.

Other Traffic Services Section highlights:
- 102 road closure permits issued
- 629 violation letters sent out to motorists
- 78 school crossing guard checks conducted
- 112 impound letters sent out to owners of abandoned vehicles.

By the start of the 2009–2010 fiscal year, the Records and Identification Section had completed the final phase that allows the Police Department to send all criminal cases to the Hawai‘i County Prosecutor’s office electronically. Before March 2007, when the Records and Identification Section began the first phase of the electronic transfer process, the backlog of cases was as long as a year. Now, all cases reach the prosecutor’s office within a day or two after an investigation is completed and approved.

In total, 18,353 criminal cases were sent electronically to the prosecutor’s office during the 2009–2010 fiscal year. This has been a giant step toward serving the public more efficiently.
Operations Bureaus

Area I—East Hawai‘i
Commanders: Asst. Chief Derek Pacheco / Maj. Samuel Thomas

The Area I Operations Bureau includes investigative and patrol operations in East Hawai‘i. Its districts include Hāmākua, North Hilo, South Hilo, and Puna—an area encompassing 1,685 square miles. A captain heads each of the four patrol districts.

Area II—West Hawai‘i
Commanders: Asst. Chief Henry Tavares / Maj. John Dawrs / Maj. Randy Apele

The Area II Operations Bureau includes investigative and patrol operations in West Hawai‘i. The 2,345 square-mile area includes the districts of North Kohala, South Kohala, Kona, and Ka‘ū, each headed by a captain.
Criminal Investigations Divisions

Commanders: Area I, Capt. Randall Medeiros / Area II, Capt. Chad Basque

The Police Department’s investigative operations fall under the Criminal Investigations Divisions, one in Area I and one in Area II. CID commanders oversee the operations of the Criminal Investigations Section, Juvenile Aid Section and Vice Section with operations in both Area I and Area II. Area I also includes the Crime Lab in Hilo.

Criminal Investigations Sections (CIS)


The Criminal Investigations Sections investigate all major crimes, such as murders, felony assaults, major property crimes, and financial crimes. In addition, CIS detectives respond to all reported suicides, child deaths, and other deaths with questionable circumstances.

During Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010, the Area I Criminal Investigations Section investigated 2,305 crimes. Of those, 889 were burglaries, 425 were thefts, and 386 were financial crimes. In comparison with the previous fiscal year, this represents an 11 percent increase in the number of burglaries investigated, a 22 percent decrease in thefts, and a 10 percent decrease in financial crimes. The overall solution rate for Area I CIS this fiscal year was 72 percent.

Area I CIS detectives investigated one attempted murder and three murder cases. Detectives solved all of the cases by the end of the fiscal year.

One of the cases involved the February 2009 fatal shooting of a 24-year-old woman in Hilo. The investigation revealed that the victim was shot by her 28-year-old husband who subsequently turned the gun on himself. The case was classified as a murder/suicide and, as is standard practice, was forwarded to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for review.

Another case involved the September 2009 murder of a 5-year-old child in Hilo. The investigation revealed that the child died as a result of “forceful submersion” after being found unresponsive in her bathtub. There was also evidence that she was a victim of a sexual assault. A 30-year-old Hilo man remains in custody for these crimes and is awaiting trial.

Another case that brought domestic violence to the forefront was a brutal murder of a 38-year-old Mountain View woman who was repeatedly stabbed on a busy Hilo thoroughfare during peak traffic. Her 47-year-old husband was charged with her murder and remains incarcerated, awaiting trial.

Area II CIS detectives investigated 727 cases. These are some highlights:

Detectives conducted a murder investigation involving the death of a woman from California, who was vacationing with her fiancé in Hawai‘i and staying at a resort on the Kona Coast. On March 20, 2010, the 52-year-old woman died after falling from the second floor balcony of her hotel room. Other guests at the resort reported to security that they had heard a domestic argument coming from...
the hotel room prior to the woman falling. The victim’s fiancé, a 58-year-old California man, was arrested and later released pending further investigation. The case was referred to the prosecuting attorney’s office.

On April 24, 2010, Kona patrol officers responded to a report of a stabbing at a beach park off Ali’i Drive in Kona, where they discovered a woman in a pavilion who had been stabbed in the side. The 42-year-old woman had been visiting with friends at the pavilion when her estranged boyfriend approached her and stabbed her with a knife. The 59-year-old man fled from the pavilion, but police tracked him down and arrested him. The victim recovered from her injuries, and the suspect was charged with attempted murder. The case was referred to the prosecuting attorney’s office.

On June 11, 2010, Area II detectives became involved in the investigation of a reported robbery after Kona patrol officers responded to a business on Nāpoʻopōʻo Road in Captain Cook, South Kona, where a 58-year-old visitor to the islands and her 63-year-old husband reported they were approached by two local men while walking in a small botanical garden. One of the men brandished a knife and grabbed the woman from behind, holding the knife to her throat, and then removing the purse she was holding. The second man confronted the victim’s husband and punched him in the face. Both of the suspects were seen fleeing the area in a small sedan. A witness was located who saw the sedan minutes after the robbery occurred and was able to identify the driver of the vehicle. Police located the vehicle used during the robbery and executed a search warrant. Detectives recovered the victim’s stolen purse with contents from the vehicle. Both suspects were identified and arrested for the robbery. The case was referred to the prosecuting attorney’s office.

Juvenile Aid Sections (JAS)

Commanders: Area I, Lt. Lucille Melemai / Area II, Lt. Glenn Uehana / Lt. Gilbert Gaspar

The Juvenile Aid Section is primarily responsible for the investigation of sexual assaults, domestic violence, and other family-related crimes, as well as internet crimes involving child exploitation. JAS also investigates runaways, truants, curfew violators and serious crimes involving juvenile offenders. One officer in JAS is also trained as a canine handler to assist in investigations of missing persons.

The Juvenile Aid Section has on staff a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Coordinator—a nurse examiner who specializes in forensic/medical examinations of victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. The SAFE Coordinator also actively recruits other nurses to become certified nurse examiners in the SAFE program to provide these services throughout the island.

A Victim Services Assistant was on staff in the East Hawai‘i Juvenile Aid Section. The assistant analyzed data on reported crimes of domestic violence and sexual assaults. In addition, the assistant served as a liaison for the department with social service agencies and victims of family and sexual violence.

JAS is divided into three specialized units: the Sex Crimes Unit (specializing in sexual assault investigations), the Domestic Violence Unit (specializing in domestic violence, and other family-related crimes, as well as internet crimes involving child exploitation. JAS also investigates runaways, truants, curfew violators and serious crimes involving juvenile offenders. One officer in JAS is also trained as a canine handler to assist in investigations of missing persons.

The Juvenile Aid Section has on staff a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Coordinator—a nurse examiner who specializes in forensic/medical examinations of victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. The SAFE Coordinator also actively recruits other nurses to become certified nurse examiners in the SAFE program to provide these services throughout the island.

A Victim Services Assistant was on staff in the East Hawai‘i Juvenile Aid Section. The assistant analyzed data on reported crimes of domestic violence and sexual assaults. In addition, the assistant served as a liaison for the department with social service agencies and victims of family and sexual violence.

JAS is divided into three specialized units: the Sex Crimes Unit (specializing in sexual assault investigations), the Domestic Violence Unit (specializing in domestic
abuse cases) and the General Detail Unit, which covers all other crimes related to juveniles. The Area I Juvenile Aid Section also has two detectives who have been trained to recover digital evidence from computers, mobile devices, cell phones, and other electronic storage media.

Katie, a yellow Labrador retriever, is a “scent-discriminating” tracking canine assigned to Area I JAS. The national organization Canines for Kids, Inc. donated Katie to the Police Department in 2006, and the Missing Children Center of Hawai’i and the Children’s Justice Centers of Hawai’i provided additional funding. Katie’s primary duties are to assist in locating missing children and Alzheimer’s patients, although she may be called upon to trail criminal suspects. Tucker, the Department’s first missing persons canine, was retired because of health problems.

During the 2009–2010 fiscal year, JAS Area I detectives investigated 1,017 cases, including sexual assaults, domestic violence and related cases, and other crimes, such as burglaries, robberies, and status offenses.

During fiscal year 2009–2010, the Area II Juvenile Aid Section investigated 634 cases, including sexual assaults, domestic violence and other crimes against women, child pornography, and other juvenile related crimes, including burglaries, robberies, thefts, child abuse and neglect, and other status offenses.

On February 26, 2010, patrol officers arrested a man and three juveniles after they were observed operating a stolen vehicle in Kailua-Kona. JAS detectives continued the investigation and later determined that the adult was responsible for 13 other cases, including burglary, theft, attempted theft, unauthorized control of a propelled vehicle, and promoting a detrimental drug. The cases were deferred to the prosecutor’s office. An arrest warrant was issued for the suspect’s arrest and he was subsequently arrested and charged for all offenses.

On March 4, 2010, a woman visiting from the mainland reported that while she was on the island on February 27, 2010, she visited a massage therapist for therapy. The male massage therapist sexually assaulted the woman during the therapy session. The victim returned to the mainland, where she reported the incident to local authorities. JAS detectives continued the investigation and were able to determine that the massage therapist was suspected in other cases with a very similar mode of operation. The massage therapist was indicted on three counts of sex assault involving three separate victims.

On July 13, 2010, three male juveniles who were clients at a therapy home in Ka‘ū were being transported in a vehicle when they decided to escape. They overwhelmed the two women workers in the vehicle by holding a sharp object to one of their throats, stopped the vehicle, and pushed the women out. The juveniles then escaped in the vehicle toward Hilo. The following day, South Kohala patrol officers apprehended the juveniles in the Waikoloa area. JAS detectives continued the investigation and initiated 10 cases, including unauthorized control of a propelled vehicle, kidnapping, assault, terroristic threatening, robbery, and runaway. All cases were deferred to the prosecutor’s office.
Vice Sections

Commanders: Area I, Lt. Richard Sherlock / Area II, Lt. Miles Chong / Lt. Sherry Bird

The Vice Sections (augmented by the Ice Task Force and the Airport Task Force in Area II) are responsible for preventing and suppressing all forms of commercialized vice activity, including prostitution, gambling, and illegal trafficking of narcotics. Special operations and covert programs are in place to combat the cultivation of marijuana and distribution of illegal drugs. Federal and state grants provide some of the necessary funding to accomplish these objectives.

Crystal Methamphetamine—or “ice”—continues to be the greatest threat to the community and continues to be the focus of the Hawai‘i Police Department’s Ice Task Force, as well as the entire Area I and Area II Vice Sections. Arrests for methamphetamine trafficking have increased as ice is continually being imported into the community from Honolulu and the West Coast by way of body carriers and parcel services.

The Hawai‘i Police Department’s Vice Sections seized 1,875 grams of crystal methamphetamine during the 2009–2010 fiscal year in its efforts to disrupt the use, distribution, and importation of “ice” into our county.

Between the months of July 2009 and February 2010, concentrated efforts to curb the importation of crystal methamphetamine into the Hilo airport resulted in five interdictions and the arrest of seven “couriers,” male and female, from Honolulu, California, and El Salvador. A total of 548.3 grams of crystal methamphetamine—$274,150 in street value—was recovered as a result of these investigations.

An August 2009 search warrant served on a property used as a day care center in Hilo resulted in the recovery of 3.2 grams of “ice” packaged for distribution, as well as marijuana, pipes, and a digital scale.

A 52-year-old Hilo woman was arrested and charged with methamphetamine trafficking. Due to efforts by Hawai‘i Police Department officers, the warrant was executed when no children were present. Nevertheless, parental sign-in sheets, day care equipment and toys, and other documentation were in plain view upon service of the warrant.

In August 2009, after a month-long investigation conducted by the Area II Ice Task Force, officers from the Area II Vice Section served a search warrant at a home in Kailua-Kona. Officers recovered more than seven pounds of powdered cocaine, 12 grams of crack cocaine, approximately 10 ounces of crystal methamphetamine, nearly a half pound of marijuana, and four firearms, one of which had been reported stolen during a residential burglary earlier in the year. More than $6,000 cash was seized for forfeiture. The drugs had a combined street value of more than $222,000.

In October 2009, officers from the Airport Task Force received information alleging that a 51-year-old man would be smuggling crystal methamphetamine on a flight from California to Kona that afternoon. During the course of the investigation, police served a search warrant on the suspect’s bags and recovered approximately seven ounces of crystal methamphetamine,
almost four grams of marijuana, and nearly two grams of powdered cocaine. In addition, $1,600 in cash was seized for forfeiture. The drugs had an estimated street value of $25,000.

In October 2009, the Area II Ice Task Force received information alleging a 24-year-old Hispanic man would be transporting crystal methamphetamine in a vehicle in the Kona area. During the course of the investigation, officers were able to locate the man and develop further information that led to the execution of a search warrant on the vehicle. Officers executed the warrant on the vehicle and recovered approximately three ounces of crystal methamphetamine, with an estimated street value of $10,500.

In November 2009, a four-month-long investigation into a cocaine distribution ring on the east side of the Big Island resulted in nine felony cases, four arrests and the recovery of 28.9 grams of cocaine and 3.9 grams of “ice.”

The abuse of pharmaceutical prescriptions drugs—or pharmaceutical diversion—has become an alarming drug threat in the United States, and Hawai‘i County is no exception.

The Hawai‘i Police Department’s Vice Section reports that pharmaceutical drugs—legally prescribed or diverted—are present at 70 percent of its search warrants executed for illegal narcotics. Most commonly recovered pharmaceutical drugs during these investigations are oxycodone, hydrocodone, methadone, and fentanyl patches.

The fact that the abuse or diversion of these pharmaceutical drugs is being committed by persons with legal prescriptions makes these types of investigations that much more difficult.

A 45-year-old Hilo woman was arrested after Hilo Vice officers found her attempting to sell prescription pills in the parking lot of a local shopping plaza. Recovered from her person were 756 methadone, 75 oxycodone, and 60 clonazepam pills. The estimated street value for these pills is $17,820.

In November 2008, Hawai‘i County voters passed a bill for an ordinance making the adult personal use of marijuana the lowest law enforcement priority of the Hawai‘i Police Department. The bill contains wording that prohibits the Hawai‘i County Council from accepting any federal funding for marijuana eradication.

During the second year of this bill, the Hawai‘i Police Department’s Vice Sections recovered 12,676 marijuana plants in spite of the absence of eradication missions. In Fiscal Year 2007–2008, the year prior to the lowest priority bill, Hawai‘i Police Vice Sections recovered more than 37,000 marijuana plants as the result of eradication missions and commercial marijuana cultivation investigations.

The funding formerly used to investigate commercial marijuana cultivation and distribution was tied into those same federal grants, thus limiting the Vice Section’s resources and tools to effectively target commercial cultivation and distribution. The Hawai‘i Police Department continues to research and develop new ways to solve the problem of commercial cultivation and distribution of marijuana in the County of Hawai‘i.

In July 2009, officers from the Area II Vice Section served a search warrant at a home in Kailua-Kona, where officers discovered an indoor marijuana growing operation. Police arrested a 27-year-old man...
and a 22-year-old woman on suspicion of commercial promotion of marijuana. Continued investigation led to the service of another search warrant at a home in the Hawaiian Ocean View Estates subdivision, where officers discovered another indoor marijuana growing operation. Police recovered 137 marijuana plants, several vials containing hashish, and nearly 20 pounds of processed marijuana with a street value of more than $80,000. Also seized were two automobiles and $8,650 in cash for forfeiture.

A man and woman from Thailand were arrested in December 2009 after a search warrant executed at a home they own in Puna led to the recovery of 613 marijuana plants from a sophisticated indoor growing operation using LED lights to conserve power. Also recovered were more than three pounds of dry processed marijuana, 117.3 grams of psilocybin mushrooms, three rifles, a shotgun, and two pistols. Upon approaching the property, the suspects indicated that they had heard marijuana was legal in our county and referred to three lone plants that they had growing outside the house. A 56-year-old Pāhoa woman, who was caretaking the home, was also arrested.

In January 2010, Vice officers arrested a 42-year-old Volcano man after purchasing a quarter pound of dry processed marijuana from him over the internet. In the ensuing search warrant executed on the suspect’s home, vice officers recovered 80 marijuana plants from an indoor-growing operation and seven pounds of high-grade marijuana “buds.”

Another investigation of marijuana distribution via the internet led to the arrest of a 42-year-old Volcano man and his 54-year-old girlfriend following the recovery of 123.4 grams of processed marijuana, and 54 marijuana plants from an indoor growing operation at his home. The man, who had a medical marijuana permit, was arrested and charged with nine felony counts of selling marijuana.

In April 2010, a year-long multi-agency investigation of a Big Island sport fishing businessman concluded with the arrest of three men in connection with several commercial outdoor marijuana growing operations in the North Kona district. This investigation was led by the Area II Vice Section and assisting agencies were the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Drug Enforcement Administration, National Guard, Hawaiʻi HIDTA, and Western States Information Network. Search warrants were also served on vehicles and homes connected with this investigation. This investigation began in mid-2009 after officers observed one of the growing locations on Route 190 from the air during a marijuana eradication mission. Information was developed on the other grow sites that were later found during additional aerial reconnaissance flights. All of the patches were located on separate parcels owned by the state, encompassing nearly 70,000 acres.

Officers from the Area II Vice Section conducted subsequent surveillance of a marijuana patch in the Kiholo area off Queen Kaʻahumanu Highway and observed three men arrive at this location. Officers monitored their activities as they spent approximately three hours tending to the marijuana plants. The three men were arrested after they returned to their
truck with marijuana that officers had observed them harvest from the patch. Later that morning, police recovered more marijuana plants from two other commercial outdoor marijuana growing locations in the Pu‘uanahulu area. Investigators had linked the suspects to these additional sites, which were identified in the early stages of this eight-month-long investigation.

Four search warrants were served during this investigation. Throughout the course of the investigation, officers recovered 598 marijuana plants ranging in height from 10 inches to three feet, approximately four pounds of dried marijuana, 3.3 grams of suspected hashish, water tanks, pumps, hoses, and grow pots. Three vehicles and more than $1,000 in cash were seized for possible forfeiture. The dried marijuana had an approximate value of $20,000.

Abuse of Hawai‘i’s medical marijuana laws, enacted in 2000, also were common.

A search warrant executed on a Kurtistown home in June 2010 led to the recovery of 211 marijuana plants, 146 of which were located in an indoor growing operation, and 2.5 grams of dry processed marijuana. A 65-year-old female resident of the property did indeed have a medical marijuana permit as a caregiver in another subdivision, where her marijuana was to be grown. It was later determined that the main suspect was her 28-year-old son, who was also arrested at a later date after turning himself in.

An investigation led to the recovery of 178 marijuana plants, 1,444 grams of dry processed marijuana, and three firearms from a Mountain View address that, according to the State of Hawai‘i Narcotics Enforcement Division, had a total of six medical marijuana permits. It was determined that three people lived on the property. They were subsequently arrested for commercial promotion of marijuana.

Vice officers belong to the statewide Hawai‘i Narcotics Task Force and are involved in joint operations with the Drug Enforcement Administration, Immigration Customs Enforcement, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The Vice Sections are also a part of the Hawai‘i High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force.

Through the months of August 2009 to December 2010, the Hawai‘i Police Department’s Vice Sections continually strive to identify, infiltrate, and dismantle drug trafficking organizations in Hawai‘i County from the street to the highest level.
Crime Lab

Supervisor: Criminalist III Kathy Pung

The Crime Lab’s Evidence Specialists attended several fully grant funded training courses:

- Computer Forensic Training
- Biological Fluids Workshop
- Crash Data Retrieval
- Death Investigation
- GSR Training

In Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010, the Crime Lab completed work on acquiring a fully equipped crime scene van and laboratory equipment through grant funds provided by the Hawai‘i County Civil Defense Agency. Evidence specialists assigned to the Crime Lab worked diligently to research specifications and vendors to maximize the amount of equipment and supplies purchased with grant funds. The Crime Lab received a four-wheel-drive cargo van on February 4, 2010. It is stocked with equipment and supplies provided through the grant funds.

Equipment and supplies purchased with the crime scene van include:

- 2 laptops
- 10 SmartDraw Crime Scene Diagram licenses (two for evidence specialists, eight shared with police in Kona and Hilo)
- Digital camera with accessories
- Portable GPS
- Generator
- Outdoor lights
- Ladder
- Metal detector
- Trajectory kit

- Photo kit
- General purpose tool kit
- Evidence markers
- Handheld microscope
- Two-way handheld walkie-talkie set
- Mirror kit
- Cast impression kit
- Presumptive blood test kit
- Handheld laser measuring tool, measuring tapes, rose azimuth (for measuring large scenes)
- Tent with accessories, folding table, folding chairs
- Coolers for evidence collection
- Automated glue fuming chamber with supplies
- Four-foot downflow dusting hood

During this period, our evidence specialists responded to 56 scenes and assisted investigators from both sides of the island by processing evidence, including constructing diagrams and photo-documenting the scenes. Six of these investigations were murders, three were negligent homicides, four were suicides, seven were coroner’s inquests later determined to be natural deaths, and four were sexual assaults.

With the majority of the responsibility of processing these scenes relinquished to the evidence specialists, our investigators have been free to proceed with other aspects of their investigations that previously had to be put off until investigators completed the time-consuming process of documenting and recovering evidence.
Area I Patrol Districts

Hāmākua District

Area: 223 square miles / Authorized sworn positions: 18

Hāmākua Police ended the 2009–2010 fiscal year with a 29 percent increase in burglaries, having 31 reported burglaries compared with 24 the previous fiscal year. Ten of the burglaries were cleared for a clearance rate of 32 percent. Thefts were down 24 percent from the previous year, and the district had a 78 percent clearance rate for theft cases. Traffic enforcement was a focal point in the Hāmākua District and, although speeding enforcement was down compared with the previous fiscal year, traffic collisions remained the same, with no traffic fatalities recorded for the year.

In September 2009, a man reported he accepted a ride from another man. The suspect demanded money from the victim. After being told by the victim that he did not have any, and while the victim was attempting to leave, he was pinned by the suspect’s vehicle and assaulted. Upon completion of the investigation, Hāmākua officers arrested the suspect on charges of robbery, kidnapping, assault, and driving without a license.

During the investigation, Hāmākua officers were able to identify the man. They apprehended him for eight counts of unauthorized entry into a motor vehicle, fraudulent use of credit card, identity theft, and theft charges. The cases were pending trial at the end of the fiscal year.

Between March and June 2010, Hāmākua officers investigated reports of someone entering into parked vehicles at residences. Through a lengthy investigation, and with the assistance of a Hilo detective and many concerned community members, officers were able to identify and apprehend a male suspect. The man was arrested for escape, resisting arrest, unauthorized entry into a motor vehicle, burglary, fraudulent use of a credit card, identity theft, forgery, and theft charges. Officers were also able to refer additional cases found to be committed by the same person to the prosecutor’s office. The cases were pending trial at the end of the fiscal year.

This year also saw a change in district commanders as newly promoted Captain Mitchell Kanehailua Jr. replaced former commander Randy Apele, who transferred to another position, on April 16, 2010. The Hāmākua police captain also commands the neighboring North Hilo District.

The North Hilo District at Ka‘a‘ala Gulch and the South Kohala District at Lakeland form the boundaries of the Hāmākua District. Its police station is located at 45-3400 Māmane Street, in Honoka‘a Town.
North Hilo District
Area: 144 square miles / Authorized sworn positions: 12

In Fiscal Year 2009–2010, the North Hilo District had a 27 percent decrease in reported burglaries. Theft cases were also down, having 34 reported cases compared with 39 the previous year. Officers cleared 10 of the reported 34 cases, for a 29 percent clearance rate.

The number of traffic citations decreased 34 percent over the previous fiscal year. The district also logged 42 major traffic crashes, the same number as the previous year. There were no fatalities.

Laupāhoehoe Point Park continues to host community events, such as the Laupāhoehoe Music Festival held in February and the Laupahoehoe Point Memorial event in April.

The Laupāhoehoe Point Memorial event brings the entire community together for a poignant reminder of the devastation caused by the 1946 tsunami. Students from Laupāhoehoe School contribute to the park by doing beautification projects after the ceremony. Police officers from the district take part in the event every year assisted by community policing officers from Hilo.

In April 2010, North Hilo officers responded to a reported break-in at the Laupāhoehoe Train Museum. Upon arrival, officers located an 18-year-old man inside the museum and arrested him. The investigation revealed that the man had broken into the museum and damaged some items. He was charged with burglary, trespass, and criminal property damage.

This year also saw a change in district commanders as newly promoted Captain Mitchell Kanehailua Jr. replaced former commander Randy Apele, who transferred to another position, on April 16, 2010. The North Hilo police captain also commands the neighboring Hāmākua District.

The Hāmākua District at Kaʻūla Gulch and the South Hilo District at Hakalau Gulch form the boundaries of the North Hilo District. Its police station is located at 36-2285 Puʻualaea Homestead Road, in Laupāhoehoe, just west of the 25-mile marker off Old Māmalahoa Highway.
South Hilo Patrol
Commander: Captain Kenneth Vieira
Area: 635 square miles/Authorized sworn positions: 82

The South Hilo Patrol Division is responsible for patrolling the 635 square miles that comprise the South Hilo District. The district’s police station also serves as headquarters for the Hawai‘i Police Department. Additionally, South Hilo patrol officers and community policing officers operate out of mini-stations located at Moohoau Bus Terminal, Clem Akina Park, Holomua Street, Waiākea-Uka Gym, and Richardson Ocean Park.

The East Hawai‘i Detention Center located off the Hualālai Street entrance has housed pre-arraignment detainees since July 8, 2003. The Detention Center has 18 individual cells, one observation cell, one padded cell, and two large temporary holding cells. Two of the 18 individual cells are able to accommodate the disabled. The staff of the Detention Center is composed of five officers, a sergeant, and two contracted security personnel per shift.

This district also ranks as the busiest in calls for service and cases initiated by police annually. South Hilo Patrol is staffed with four lieutenants, seven sergeants, and 56 patrol officers.

During Fiscal Year 2009–2010, the Hawai‘i Police Department continued a partnership with the State Department of Public Safety on a program to reduce the large backlog of outstanding bench warrants and other court documents. The program used South Hilo Patrol personnel and sheriffs from the Department of Public Safety to create a bench warrant service team. This program, along with focused efforts of other South Hilo Patrol personnel, contributed to the program being just as successful as during the previous fiscal year. Police served 4,407 court documents during Fiscal Year 2009–2010, of which 1,657 were outstanding bench warrants.

Also during this fiscal year, the number of major traffic collisions in the South Hilo District decreased by 124 accidents or 23 percent. This decrease is most significant as it follows a decrease of 20 percent that was realized during the previous fiscal year. The District’s officers contributed to this decline using focused enforcement of speeding infractions at targeted roadways and intersections that were identified as having a high incidence of major traffic accidents. During Fiscal Year 2009–2010, South Hilo patrol officers issued 13,869 traffic citations, of which 1,608 were for speed-related infractions. South Hilo officers sought to reduce injuries and enhance highway safety by prioritizing enforcement of seat belt infractions. During Fiscal Year 2009–2010, South Hilo officers issued 670 citations to individuals who chose not to wear seat belts.

During this fiscal year, the communities within the South Hilo District reported 302 burglaries, a decrease of 25 percent from the previous year.

In efforts to increase the safety of the public driving our roadways, officers of South Hilo Patrol arrested 305 individuals for driving under the influence, a 46 percent increase from the previous year.

The South Hilo District occupies the area between the North Hilo District at Hakalau and the Puna District at Pāpa‘i. Its police station is located at 349 Kapōlani Street.
Fiscal year 2009 – 2010 was marked by construction in the community. Late 2009 saw building projects under way for both the Pāhoa Police substation and Woodlands Center, which is located near the intersection of Kahakai Boulevard and the Pāhoa bypass highway. The center houses a commercial drug store and several restaurants and businesses.

On March 13, 2010, community policing officers working under the Weed and Seed project were partners in the Springtime Jam 2010, an alcohol- and drug-free family fun day at the Pāhoa Community Center. This event lasted all day and featured local musicians, a fashion show, and plenty of food vendors serving ono food. A Keiki ID booth was also set up to provide parents with an opportunity to keep important identifying information on their children on hand in case of an emergency.

The lava flow that crossed over the Kalapana Royal Gardens subdivision in 2008 continued its flow into the ocean—an attraction that drew thousands of spectators during visitation hours.

On May 19, 2010, Puna Officer William “Willie” Brown was recognized by the East Hawai‘i Aloha Exchange Club as “Officer of the Year.” As part of a burglary task force, Officer Brown was honored for his outstanding investigative skills that led to the arrest of four suspects. Property was also recovered in this rash of burglaries that had plagued a Mountain View neighborhood. Officer Brown was recognized for his dedication to duty, which led to successes that enhanced community confidence in the Hawai‘i Police Department.

The Puna District showed a downward trend in certain crimes, with an 11 percent reduction in burglaries, a 20 percent decline in reported auto thefts, and a 16 percent reduction in other thefts. There was also a 7 percent decline in the number of traffic accidents reported. This may have been a contributing factor in the reduced number of traffic fatalities in the Puna District, down from seven in 2009 to two in 2010. Drug crimes showed a dramatic drop of 38 percent, from 514 reported cases in fiscal year 2009 to 318 in 2010.

This year also saw District Commander Steven Guillermo’s 30-plus year career in law enforcement end with his retirement on May 31. His command was assumed by Captain Samuel Jelsma, who transferred from the Kona Patrol Division.
Area II Patrol Districts

North Kohala District

Commander: Capt. Richard Miyamoto
Area: 123 square miles/authorized sworn positions: 15

The community of North Kohala showed an increase in some crimes during the 2009–2010 fiscal year. Reported burglaries rose from 28 reported incidents to 39. Theft reports increased from 43 to 70 incidents and assaults rose from 24 to 36. Although the number of crimes reported increased, the clearance rates remained about the same as the previous year.

Traffic citations increased from 2,197 to 2,350 and may have attributed to the drop in the total number of DUI arrest. Major traffic accidents increased from 46 to 87, but none resulted in a traffic fatality.

Our community policing officer continues to work with the community on numerous projects ranging from simple Keiki ID events to the Kamehameha Day Parade. One of his achievements is the culmination of the first “Project Grad Night” event held for the Kohala High School seniors. Almost every member of the Senior Class attended the Grad Night event. This all-night activity helps to keep graduates safe on their graduation night. Due to the event’s success, plans and preparations were under way at the end of the fiscal year for the 2011 Project Grad Night.

The North Kohala station continues to submit news articles to the Kohala Mountain News publication. These articles seem to be gaining in popularity. Feedback and interest from the community have been positive.

Some of the most significant events that occurred during the 2009–2010 fiscal year were:

- The Police Department’s community meeting held at the North Kohala Intergenerational Center, which gave the community the opportunity to voice their concerns directly to the police chief and his command staff
- The Kohala Reunion held during the Fourth of July weekend at Kamehameha Park, which attracted more than 2,000 visitors over the weekend
- The execution of a search warrant on a home in Hāwī, where officers arrested a man and a woman and recovered 102 marijuana plants, 340 grams of processed marijuana, 7 grams of hashish, growing equipment, and $2,990 in cash

The North Kohala District is bounded by South Kohala at Ka‘ōpae and Hāmōkua at Honopue. Its police station is located behind the Kamehameha statue in Kapa‘au at 54-3900 Akoni Pule Highway.
The South Kohala District experienced an increase in reported burglaries from 58 the previous year to 67. Given this increase, the district realized a clearance rate of 66 percent, which can be attributed to some solid investigation by patrol officers and Criminal Investigations Section personnel. Our community policing officers took every opportunity to raise the community’s awareness about home security measures and other crime tidbits through the district’s monthly Neighborhood Watch newsletter.

Theft incidents took a slight decrease—from 318 in Fiscal Year 2008–2009 to 312 this fiscal year. A clearance rate of 48 percent can be attributed to investigative efforts on the part of patrol officers.

A rash of unauthorized entry of motor vehicle incidents plagued the district this fiscal year with 83 cases reported, compared with 78 during Fiscal Year 2008–2009.

Reported sexual assault cases were down to 24 as compared with 37 cases reported during the previous fiscal year. Continued collaboration with the Area II Juvenile Aid Section and other social agencies servicing the district may account for this decrease.

Reducing major traffic collisions has been an ongoing effort in South Kohala and enforcement has once again reduced collisions during this fiscal year (114) compared with Fiscal Year 2008–2009 (124).

A total of 6,132 citations were issued, of which 1,532 were for speeding violations, 49 for electronic device violations, and 738 for unsafe vehicle violations.

Officers participated in a number of community events, projects, and outreach programs. During this fiscal year, our officers continued their participation in the Keiki ID program, which remains a favorite of the preschools and elementary schools in the district. Officers also participated in health and safety fairs hosted by area resorts and other agencies servicing the South Kohala community.

The most significant events occurring during Fiscal Year 2009–2010 were:

- Several brushfires in the vicinity of Kawaihae, Waikoloa, and Puako, where residents needed to evacuate
- A robbery in the Waikoloa Resort area resulting in the apprehension of a male suspect who was arrested and charged (the case was routed to the prosecutor’s office)
- Two robberies in the vicinity of Kawaihae Road with a male suspect having shot himself after the second incident
- Fourteen incidents of unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle in the vicinity of Kamuela View Estates and the Waiakea subdivision involving suspects from the Hāmākua district
- The arrests of three juveniles involved in burglaries at Waimea Elementary/Middle School and Waikoloa Elementary School, during which computers and other electronic equipment were removed
During Fiscal Year 2009–2010, both Captain Chad Basque and Captain Samuel Jelsma were commanders for the Kona District, each of them bringing their leadership experience from community policing principles and traffic enforcement strategies.

Kona patrol officers continue to use community policing techniques and philosophy—a proactive type of policing—together with crime reduction projects, traffic enforcement projects, and special enforcement units. This type of proactive policing has made an impact in reducing criminal activity and increasing traffic awareness.

Kona patrol officers and special enforcement units continue to focus on violations that contribute to traffic accidents. Officers initiated 592 DUI related cases compared with 609 DUI related cases the previous fiscal year. Patrol officers issued 2,915 speeding citations compared with 2,775 the previous fiscal year. This proactive approach to traffic safety led to a reduction of major traffic collisions from 344 in fiscal year 2008–2009 to 314 in fiscal year 2009–2010.

The community experienced a rash of property crimes for fiscal year 2009–2010. Burglaries increased slightly to 233 reports compared with 210 for fiscal year 2008–2009; however, that figure is still much lower than the 332 reports in fiscal year 2006–2007. Other property crimes, such as thefts, resulted in 1,034 reported cases compared with 1,164 reported cases for fiscal year 2008–2009. Police logged 157 reported cases of unauthorized control of a propelled vehicle (auto theft) compared with 132 the previous year.

In June 2010, the Special Enforcement Unit was established to address property crimes, recurring problems, and specific community and department issues drawing from various Area II Operations divisions, such as Community Policing, Patrol, and the Criminal Investigations Division. The unit used community policing philosophies and strategies to reduce calls for service to patrol and improve community satisfaction and quality of life.

The Special Enforcement Unit continuously analyzed information obtained through intelligence gathering provided from the community, merchants, officers, and other sources to identify and detect criminal trends for early intervention—which is crucial in curtailing crime.

Unit team members review all intelligence and formulate proactive approaches to the identified problems.

The Special Enforcement Unit then accelerates investigations to identify criminal activities and expedite the identification of persons who may be responsible for these crimes. This strategy minimizes the number of property crimes committed by those persons.

*Kona Patrol*

Commander: Capt. Chad Basque / Capt. Samuel Jelsma
Area: 834 square miles / Authorized sworn positions: 78

The Kona district occupies the area between the South Kohala District at Waikoloa and the Ka‘u District at Kualanamauna. Its main police station is in Kealakehe at 74-611 Hale Maka‘i Place.
Kaʻū District

Commander: Capt. Andrew Burian
Area: 700 square miles / Authorized sworn position: 18

During Fiscal Year 2009–2010, Kaʻū officers investigated 75 major traffic accidents—a dramatic decrease from the 109 investigated in Fiscal Year 2008–2009. Along those lines, DUI arrests rose by 31 percent and the number of citations issued remained steady at just under 3,400. As with years past, the emphasis on traffic enforcement was an attempt to curb traffic accidents and make our roads safer.

Police officers were responsible for investigating more than 1,300 incidents in the Kaʻū District. Officers investigated 61 burglaries—down from 75 the previous year. The decline can be attributed to a number of factors, not the least of which is the continuing active Neighborhood Watch group in the Hawaiian Ocean View Estates subdivision. Also contributing to this downward trend is the continued emphasis on patrol and traffic enforcement in higher crime areas and partnerships with the community to raise awareness about crime prevention methods for protecting their property.

The most significant events occurring during Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010 were:

- In December 2009, Kaʻū District officers assisted Area II Vice officers in service of a search warrant at a residence on Lokelani Street in Nāʻālehu. This was in response to community complaints of drug activity and increased property crimes in that area. A small quantity of crystal methamphetamine and marijuana was recovered, as well as drug paraphernalia. Seven suspects were arrested and charged in connection with this investigation.

- In May 2010, through the combined efforts of Kaʻū Patrol officers, Kona Patrol officers, and Area II Vice officers, a male suspect who was wanted for an outstanding warrant of arrest connected to drug and firearm offenses was located and arrested. The suspect had been eluding police for several months. Following the arrest, officers found probable cause to recover the vehicle the suspect was in. A search of the vehicle led to the recovery of 7.6 grams of heroin, 1.1 grams of morphine, and related paraphernalia. The suspect was subsequently arrested for numerous drug offenses.

Officer Dane Shibuya, a lifelong Kaʻū resident, is the community police officer for the Kaʻū District and continues to be active in working with the community and neighborhood watch organizations, as well as assisting the community members in addressing the problem of illegal dumping and abandoned vehicle removal. He has done an outstanding job in working to maintain community satisfaction; he regularly conducts Keiki ID, station tours, as well as DARE classes for our youth.

The Kaʻū District is bounded by the Kona District at Kaulanamaua and the Puna District at Keauhou Landing. Its police station is located at 95-5353 Māmalahoa Highway in Nāʻālehu.
The Traffic Enforcement Unit is charged with investigating traffic crashes involving death or serious injury while conducting traffic enforcement and training related to traffic enforcement and investigation. It is staffed by a sergeant and seven police officers.

In Fiscal Year 2009–2010, TEU investigated 25 fatal crashes that killed 29 people. All but seven of those fatal crashes involved alcohol, drugs or both. Alcohol alone was a factor in six of the fatal crashes, drugs alone were a factor in five, and a combination of drugs and alcohol was a factor in seven. (The previous fiscal year, 25 people died in 24 crashes. That year, all but five of the crashes involved alcohol, drugs or both.)

TEU officers conducted 84 DUI sobriety checkpoints, arrested 393 drivers who were under the influence of intoxicants, and conducted 95 seat belt checkpoints.

The officers also issued 8,109 moving citations, of which 4,994 were for speeding. They issued 4,346 regulatory citations and made 315 other arrests.

On September 24, 2009, Officer Andres Fojas was recognized by the Aloha Exchange Club of East Hawai‘i as “Officer of the Month” for August. Officer Fojas was recognized for arresting a man who fled to avoid a DUI sobriety checkpoint in Hilo on August 18. The man had drugs in the car and paraphernalia associated with drug distribution. He was charged with methamphetamine trafficking, promoting dangerous drugs, and two counts each of promoting a detrimental drug and drug paraphernalia.

On May 6, 2010, the TEU received the Mothers Against Drunk Driving Hawai‘i 2010 Law Enforcement Award. The Traffic Enforcement Unit was recognized—along with individual officers from the Honolulu, Maui, and Kaua‘i police departments—for their outstanding work in the prevention of impaired driving. The award was presented at the 18th Annual Law Enforcement & Youth Recognition Awards Ceremony held at The Pacific Club in Honolulu.

On June 24, 2010, Officer Clarence Davies was recognized by the Aloha Exchange Club of East Hawai‘i as “Officer of the Month” for June. Officer Davies was recognized for his outstanding DUI and traffic enforcement during the month of April. He arrested 13 drivers for driving under the influence and issued citations for 12 moving violations stemming from the DUI arrests. He also issued an additional 123 speeding citations, 59 moving citations, 15 unsafe vehicle citations, 82 regulatory citations, 23 seat belt citations, and three child restraint citations.
The following grants were funded by state or federal agencies during Fiscal Year 2009–2010:

**Click It or Ticket Basketball**

To reduce fatalities and injuries to occupants aged 17 and under during motor vehicle collisions. This was accomplished by improving awareness of state laws to increase the seat belt usage rate of youths and teens ages 4–17.

**DARE/DOE Grant**

To administer the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) curriculum in participating private and public schools.

**DATA Grant**

To establish a statewide traffic data system and ensure compliance with national standards.

**Hawai‘i Impact**

To combat the methamphetamine (“ice”) drug problem in the County of Hawai‘i by conducting various sting operations.

**Hawai‘i Narcotics Task Force**

To assist with the interdiction of drugs within the County of Hawai‘i via the apprehension/arrest/conviction of individuals smuggling narcotics into/within/out of the County of Hawai‘i.
OHA Grant

To train and educate patrol officers in the areas of cultural awareness, crisis intervention, homelessness, and mental illness.

Roadblock Grant

To reduce the number of alcohol-related fatalities and injuries, increase public awareness, and provide a constant deterrence against impaired driving.

Seat Belt Enforcement Grant

To reduce fatalities and injuries to front-seat and rear-seat occupants aged 17 and under by increasing the usage rate of seat belts.

Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Training

To improve Hawai‘i County’s ability to respond to violent crimes against women — primarily sexual assault — with associated intimate partner violence, physical abuse, and homicide with improved medical and forensic examination services.

Speed Enforcement Grant

To reduce the number of motor vehicle collisions resulting in injuries and fatalities caused by speeding drivers.

Statewide Marijuana Eradication

To assist with the interdiction of drugs within the County of Hawai‘i via the apprehension/arrest/conviction of the individual smuggling narcotics into/within the County of Hawai‘i.

Traffic Investigations

To reduce the number of alcohol-related fatalities and injuries, increase public awareness, and provide a constant deterrence against drunk driving.
Victims Service Coordinator

To hire a Victims Services Coordinator to service the ongoing needs of victims of domestic violence/sexual assault while the cases remain under investigation.

Aggressive Driving

To reduce fatalities and injuries, increase public awareness, and provide a constant deterrence against aggressive driving.

Evidence Specialist

To fund two evidence specialist positions who will be trained in the latest techniques of crime scene investigations.

SAFE Standby

To improve Hawai‘i County’s response to violent sex crimes, physical abuse, and crimes of violence against women.

Specialized Detectives Standby Pay

To improve Hawai‘i County’s ability to respond to violent crimes against women by funding the standby detectives investigating those crimes.
Budget

The following are the budget figures for Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010:

**Personnel Services**

- Salaries and wages, straight time: $34,170,947
- Salaries and wages, other: $3,531,920

**Other current expenses**

- Contractual services: $8,259,485
- Materials and supplies: $2,769,229
- Other charges: $562,314
- Equipment: $147,959
- Miscellaneous accounts: $768,200
- Grants funded: $2,324,125

Total: $52,534,179
Personnel Changes

New Hires

Aaron P. Abalos, Police Officer I  Kupono L. Mata, Police Officer I
Michael L. Abran, Police Officer I  Blayne M. Matsui, Police Officer I
Clifford B. Antonio, Police Officer I  Michael W. Matsumura, Police Officer I
Jennifer M. Balderas, Police Radio  Daniel Murray, Police Officer I
Dispatcher I
Steven J. Burkey, Police Officer I  Shea L. A. Nactor, Police Officer I
Josiah S. Coe, Police Officer I  Clive H. Okino, Police Officer I
Alva J. Curry, School Crossing  Stephen J. Parker, Police Officer I
Guard
Kaeo J. Drummondo, Police Officer I  Blake M. Ragocos, Police Officer I
Raynette P. Fukui, Accountant III  Jeremy M. Riddle, Police Officer I
Justin A. Gaspar, Police Officer I  Peter K. Roan, Police Officer I
Cory A. Gray, Police Officer I  Adrian C. Ruiz, Police Officer I
Donovan L. Hegarty, Police Officer I  Michael K. Rutkowski, Police Officer I
LeAnn M. Kajiyama, Clerk III  Larry C. Schuldt, School Crossing
Corey M. Kaneko, Police Officer I  Guard
Gregg A. Karonis, Police Officer II  Tara L. Thornhill, Police Radio
Bradden T. Kimura, Police Officer I  Dispatcher I
May M. Lee, Police Officer I  Aron M. M. Tomota, Police Officer I
Gene E. Maluyo Sr., School Crossing  Gabriel D. Wilson, Police Officer I
Guard
Irvin E. Molcilio, School Crossing  Brett P. Winther, Police Officer I
Guard
Amy C. Masuyama, Police Radio  Helene M. Wright-Setterfield, School
Dispatcher I
Larry C. Schuldt, School Crossing
Guard
Danton K. Zimmermann, Police
Promotions

Randy Apele, Major
Akira E. Edmoundson, Sergeant
Reynold H. Kahalewai, Sergeant
Mitchell Kanehailua Jr., Captain
Cory L. Koi, Sergeant
Sonya A. Taosaka-Kelii, Records Clerk
Marvin K. Troutman, Sergeant
Michael K. Riviera, Sergeant

Retirements

Officer Gregorio Antolin
Officer Aubrey K. Auna
Sergeant Benton P. Bolos
Officer Michael A. DeCoito
Major John E. Dawrs
Officer Vance Z. Fujii
Captain Steven Guillermo
Officer Charles K. Keliipio
Police Operations Clerk Janice Kualii
Officer George R. Menino III
Police Evidence Custodian Dennis H. Nojiri
Dispatcher Jarnell K. L. Osborn
Captain Duane J. Rapoza
Police Investigative Operations Clerk Judith A. Taggerty
From 2008 to 2009:
- Reported Index Crimes increased 4.7% in rate.

Comparing 2009 to 2000:
- The Index Crime rate declined 18.2%.

In 2009, of the 6,211 Index Offenses reported:
- Property crimes accounted for 92.5% (6,743).
- Violent crimes accounted for 7.5% (468).

Hawaii County’s total Index Crime rate in 2009 was the lowest in the State of Hawaii.
Violent Crime Rate, Hawaii County, 2000-2009

Percent of Violent Index Crimes Cleared since 2000

Violent Crimes - Murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

From 2008 to 2009:
- The rate of reported violent crimes increased 6.2%.

Comparing 2009 to 2000:
- The violent crime rate increased 67.1%.

In 2009, of 468 violent crimes reported:
- Aggravated assault accounted for 70.5% (330).
- Robbery accounted for 14.3% (67).
- Forcible rape accounted for 14.1% (66).
- Murder accounted for 1.1% (5).

**Murder** - The willful killing of one human being by another.

**From 2008 to 2009:**
- The rate of reported murders increased 25.1% (5 murders were reported in 2009, versus 4 reported in 2008).

**Comparing 2009 to 2000:**
- The murder rate increased 5.8%.

**In 2009,** of the 5 murders reported:
- Firearms were involved in 60.0% (3).
- Personal weapons (hands, fists, feet, etc.) were involved in 20.0% (1).
- Other/unknown weapons were involved in 20.0% (1).

Hawaii County’s murder rate in 2009 was the highest in the State of Hawaii.
Forcible Rape - The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Assaults or attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force are included.

From 2008 to 2009:
- Reported forcible rapes decreased 15.3% in rate.

Comparing 2009 to 2000:
- The forcible rape rate increased 5.4%.

Robbery - The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

From 2008 to 2009:
- Reported robberies decreased 8.2% in rate.

Comparing 2009 to 2000:
- The robbery rate increased 5.0%.

In 2009, of the 67 robberies reported:
- Strongarm (hands, fists, feet, etc.) robbery accounted for 65.7% (44).
- Other dangerous weapons were involved in 14.9% (10).
- Firearms were involved in 11.9% (8).
- Knives or cutting instruments were involved in 7.5% (5).

**Aggravated Assault** - The unlawful attack or attempted attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

**From 2008 to 2009:**
- Reported aggravated assaults increased 15.4% in rate.

**Comparing 2009 to 2000:**
- The aggravated assault rate increased 121.6%.

**In 2009,** of the 330 reported aggravated assaults:
- Strongarm (hands, fists, feet, etc.) accounted for 40.0% (132).
- Other dangerous weapons were involved in 36.4% (120).
- Knives or other cutting instruments were involved in 15.8% (52).
- Firearms were involved in 7.9% (26).
Property Crimes - Burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft. Arson is also a property crime; however, due to a different method of counting, it is not included in the totals of property crimes, Index Crimes, and total Index & Part II Offenses.

From 2008 to 2009:
- Reported property crimes increased 4.6% in rate.

Comparing 2009 to 2000:
- The property crime rate decreased 21.5%.

In 2009, of the 5,743 property crimes reported:
- Larceny-theft accounted for 67.1% (3,855).
- Burglary accounted for 24.5% (1,415).
- Motor vehicle theft accounted for 8.2% (473).

Hawaii County’s property crime rate in 2009 was the lowest in the State of Hawaii.
Burglary - The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. Attempted burglary is included.

From 2008 to 2009:
- Reported burglaries increased 17.2% in rate.

Comparing 2009 to 2000:
- The burglary rate decreased 17.4%.

In 2009, of the 1,415 burglaries and attempted burglaries reported:
- Burglary accounted for 96.0% (1,359).
- Attempted burglary accounted for 4.0% (56).

In 2009, of the 1,359 burglaries that were reported:
- Structures entered by force accounted for 57.2% (777).
- Structures entered without force accounted for 42.8% (582).

**Larceny-Theft** - The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

**From 2008 to 2009:**
- Reported larceny-thefts increased 1.6% in rate.

**Comparing 2009 to 2000:**
- The larceny-theft rate decreased 25.1%.

**Hawaii County's larceny-theft rate in 2009 was the lowest in the State of Hawaii.**

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Motor Vehicle Theft - The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

From 2008 to 2009:
- Reported motor vehicle thefts decreased 3.4% in rate.

Comparing 2009 to 2000:
- The motor vehicle theft rate increased 4.2%.

In 2009, of the 473 motor vehicle thefts reported:
- Autos accounted for 40.0% (189).
- Other vehicles accounted for 35.9% (170). Included in this category are motorcycles, mopeds, and golf carts.
- Trucks and buses accounted for 24.1% (114). Included in this category are pickup trucks and vans.

Arson - Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling, house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

From 2008 to 2009:
- Reported arsons decreased 58.2% in rate.

Comparing 2009 to 2000:
- The arson rate decreased 47.3%.
