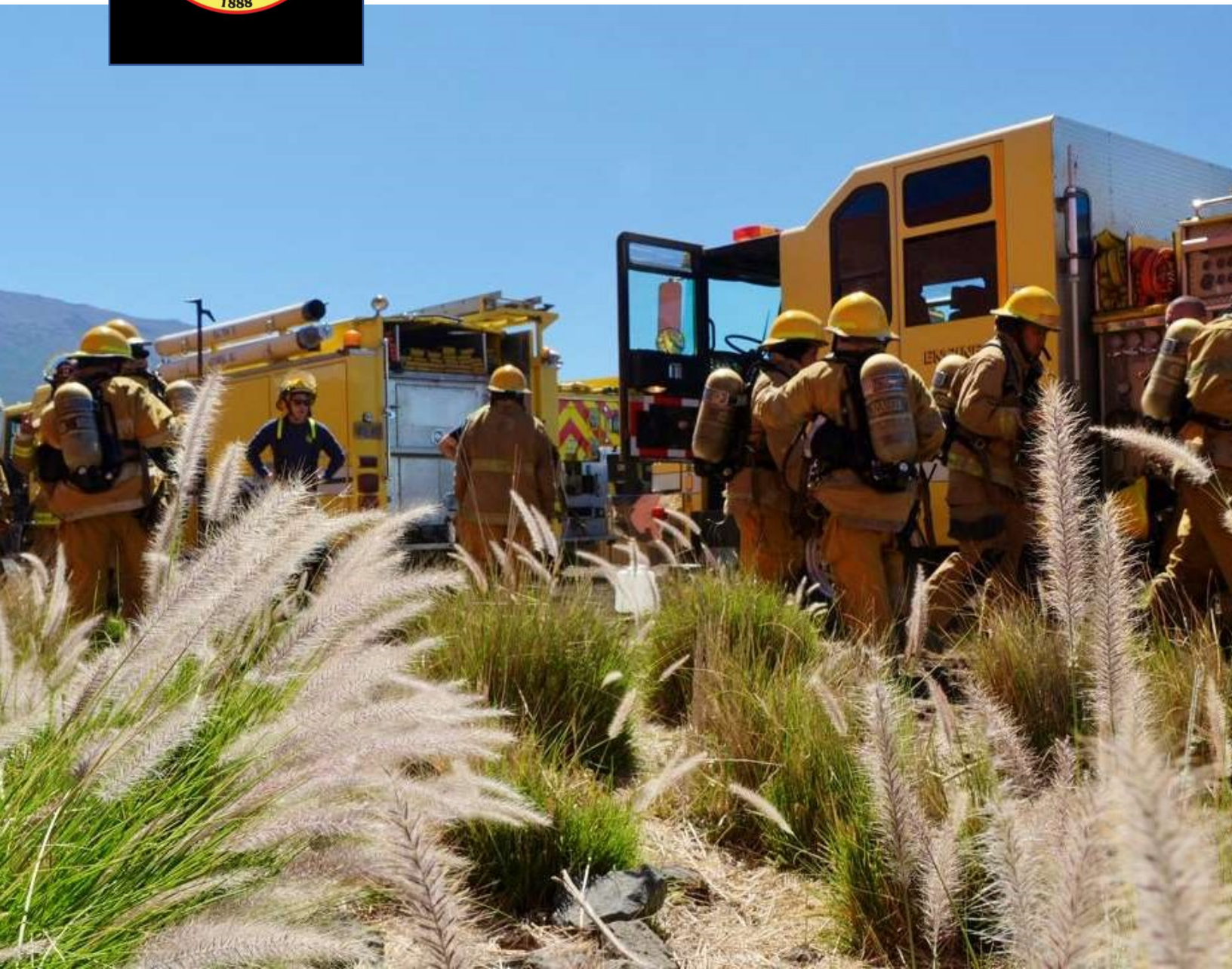


# FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Hawai'i Fire Department  
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Hilo, Hawai'i 96720  
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- Fire Department Assessments: Selecting Future Leaders ..... 3
- Admin Div: Fiscal Branch Report ..... 4
  - Program Budget Goals..... 4
- Admin Div: HR Branch Report..... 5
  - Program Budget Goals..... 5
  - Internal Recruitment within Department ..... 5
  - Open-Competitive Recruitment ..... 5
- Operations ..... 5
  - Emergency Operations ..... 6
  - Emergency Operations Highlights..... 7
    - Battalion 1, East Hawai‘i..... 7
    - Battalion 2, West Hawai‘i ..... 7
  - Special Operations ..... 7
- Support Services ..... 9
  - Emergency Medical Services Branch ..... 9
  - Training Services Branch ..... 9
  - Volunteer Training Section ..... 11
  - Fire Prevention Branch ..... 12
  - Logistics, Emergency Communications, and Vehicle Maintenance Section ..... 13
    - Logistics ..... 13
    - Emergency Communications ..... 14
    - Information Technology Highlights ..... 14
- Safety Specialist Report..... 14
- Other Updates..... 16

# FIRE DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENTS: SELECTING FUTURE LEADERS



The recent Captain's and Fire Equipment Operator's Assessments, held on June 17 and June 20-21, 2024, respectively, mark a significant milestone in the fire department's ongoing efforts to identify and promote its most capable personnel. These assessments are crucial in ensuring that the department is well-prepared to fill anticipated vacancies in the coming year with individuals who are not only technically proficient but also possess strong leadership and operational skills.

## **Captain's Assessment**

The Captain's Assessment, conducted on June 17, saw six candidates vying for this pivotal role. The role of a Captain in the fire department is critical, as they are responsible for leading a team of firefighters, making quick and informed decisions during emergencies, and ensuring the safety and efficiency of their crew. The assessment tested the candidates' leadership abilities, decision-making skills, and knowledge of firefighting tactics and procedures. By evaluating these key competencies, the department aims to select individuals who can inspire confidence and maintain high standards of performance under pressure.

## **Fire Equipment Operator's Assessment**

Held over two days from June 20 to 21, the Fire Equipment Operator's Assessment involved 16 candidates. Fire Equipment Operators play an essential role in the operation and maintenance of firefighting equipment, ensuring that all tools and machinery are in optimal working condition. The assessment for this role focused on the candidates' technical skills, their ability to operate complex machinery, and their knowledge of equipment maintenance protocols. Given the importance of reliable equipment in emergency situations, selecting the best candidates for this role is vital for the department's overall effectiveness.

## **Importance of the Assessments**

These assessments are not merely routine evaluations; they are integral to the strategic planning and operational readiness of the fire department. With several anticipated vacancies in the upcoming year, it is imperative to identify and promote individuals who are best suited to take on these critical roles. The rigorous selection process ensures that only those who demonstrate exceptional capability and commitment are chosen, thereby maintaining the department's high standards and readiness to respond to emergencies.

# ADMIN DIV: FISCAL BRANCH REPORT \*\*

Program Budget Goals	June	YTD	GOAL
Invoice Settlement within 30 days	96%	95%	90%
Pay-out of CILV's within 90 days	100%	86%	95%
Records Retention Schedule	0	0%	Mid-Year
Transition to Electronic Records	100.0	100%	100% Qtr
Option Years for Contracts	100.0	100%	45-Days

Budget	Category	Adj Appropriation	YTD Expenditures	% Used	Goal
Fire	S&W	37,358,536.00	35,827,227.92	95.9	100
6221-6225	OCE	6,006,864.83	5,876,668.86	97.83	100
	Equipment	2,043,805.38	2,022,479.60	98.96	100
Grants & Misc	S&W	1,408,679.03	928,655.96	65.92	100
6226	OCE	365,325.24	131,156.79	35.90	100
	Equipment	766,035.63	753,158.53	98.32	100
EMS	S&W	14,799,686.00	14,725,035.72	99.50	100
6227	OCE	2,869,926.77	2,680,618.70	93.40	100
	Equipment	1,725,138.50	1,725,137.63	100	100
Ocean Safety	S&W	4,873,052.07	3,955,212.43	81.16	100
6228	OCE	319,498.83	262,155.59	82.05	100
	Equipment	395,443.16	339,832.28	85.94	100
Total Budget		72,931,991.44	69,227,340.01	94.92	

Grant	Update
<b>2023 CDBG</b>	The bid was awarded to Orchid Isle Ford for three (3) Brush Trucks \$625,693. Delivery pending
<b>CDBG- MIT Wildfire Mitigation</b>	The Planning Department is tasked with acquiring this equipment.
<b>FY 2021 AFG</b>	We are procuring items for the Fire Base Station Refresh Project. The grant is 94% obligated as of 6/30/24 with 2 months remaining.
<b>FY 22 USDA Volunteer Fire Capacity Project</b>	The bid for one brush truck for volunteer station 20A awarded, pending delivery.
<b>FY 23 USDA Volunteer Fire Capacity Project</b>	The bid was awarded to Orchid Isle Ford for two (2) Brush Trucks \$411,097. Delivery pending
<b>Kohanaiki Lifeguard Tower (Fair Share funds)</b>	Delivery expected at the end of the year.
<b>Leleiwi Lifeguard Tower (Fair Share Funds)</b>	Requisition with specs submitted to Purchasing.
<b>Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)</b>	This grant funds three Fire Captain and six Fire Fighter positions. As of 6/30/2024, we have expended 98.5% of the grant funds with 7 months remaining. Funding expected to run out in August 2024.

\*\*Data reflects preliminary reports for end of FY 2024

# ADMIN DIV: HR BRANCH REPORT

Program Budget Goals	June	YTD	GOAL
Process actions within 15 working days	56	472	100%
Recruitment Actions < 30days	2	26	90%
Promotion Actions < 30days	4	36	90%
Personnel Actions within 30 days, <10% error	34	347	10%

## Internal Recruitment within Department

Position	Status Report
<b>Fire Captain</b>	Interview/Assessment Center was held on June 17, 2024 for six candidates.
<b>Fire Equipment Operator</b>	Interview/Assessment Center was held on June 20-21, 2024 for 16 candidates.
<b>Fire/Hazardous Materials Specialist</b>	Pending interview/Assessment Center schedule.
<b>Fire Training Specialist</b>	The only candidate voluntarily withdrew from the recruitment.
<b>Water Safety Officer IV</b>	Submitted Request to Fill to DHR for recruitment.
<b>Water Safety Officer V</b>	Recruitment cancelled.
<b>Accountant I</b>	Submitted Request to Fill to DHR.

## Open-Competitive Recruitment

Position	Status Report
<b>Fire Communications Officer I</b>	Pending interview results.
<b>Water Safety Officer I</b>	Pending interview results.
<b>Fire Fighter Recruit (Temp)</b>	Formal offers sent to 11 candidates.
<b>Fire/EMS Recruit (Temp)</b>	Formal offer sent to one candidate.
<b>Account Clerk (Temp)</b>	DHR referred five candidates. Pending interview schedule.
<b>Clerk III</b>	DHR referred six candidates. Pending interview schedule.

# OPERATIONS

## Emergency Operations

Total Calls for Calendar Year 2024	June	%	YTD	%
Fire	69	3%	444	3%
Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion- no fire	1	0%	4	0%
Rescue and EMS	1,938	74%	11,532	74%
Hazardous Cond. (no fire)	14	1%	94	1%
Service Call	165	6%	969	6%
Good Intent calls	380	15%	2,243	14%
False Alarm / False calls	32	1%	219	1%
Severe Weather	0	0%	1	0%
Special Incident Type	2	0%	15	0%
Other (not completed yet)	6	0%	6	0%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,607</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,530</b>	<b>100%</b>

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (est.)
Total Calls	26,869	25,015	27,398	29,594	30,738	31,060

### Response Times CY 2024

Statistic	June	% that meet....	YTD	% that meet...
Avg. Turn out time (Fire)	2:54	(80 sec.) 12.31%	2:50	(80 sec.) 13.13%
Avg. Turn out time (EMS)	2:13	(60 sec.) 16.33%	2:16	(60 sec.) 15.82%
Statistic	June	% that meet 6 min.	YTD	% that meet 6 min
Avg. Response Time (Fire)	2:54	13.04%	2:48	12.56%
Avg. Response Time (EMS)	2:12	17.04%	2:15	18.83%

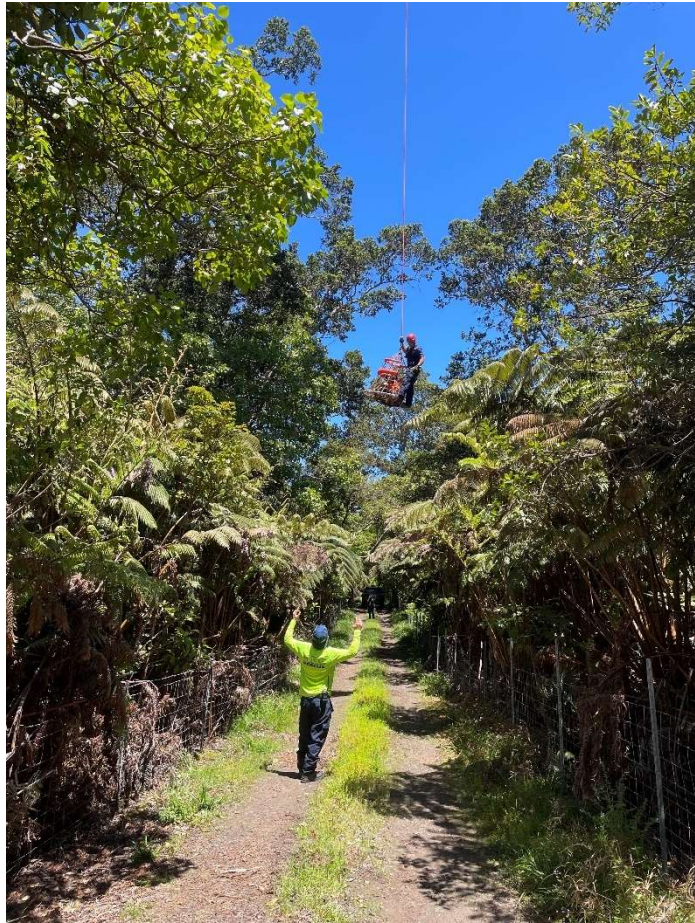
### Fire Impacts CY 2024

Call Type	June	YTD
<b>Wildland calls</b> (140, 141, 142, 143)	7	86
Acres burned	3	74
<b>Structure Fires</b> (110 & 111)	4	30
Property and Contents - Loss	\$139,416.00	\$3,158,816.00
Property and Contents - Save	\$00.00	\$2,377,600.00
<b>Other fires</b> (all other 100 series)	58	330
Property and Contents - Loss	\$82,000.00	\$1,761,602.00
Property and Contents - Save	\$00.00	\$36,100.00

# Emergency Operations Highlights

## Battalion 1, East Hawai‘i

- 6/6, Inc #13450; Structure Fire: 56 Wiwoole Street/District 2, structure fire in an unoccupied commercial building, known for homeless activity. See Prevention Report for investigation details. No injuries or fatalities.
- 6/9, Inc #13684, Search & Rescue: Amaumau Road Trail/District 19, uninjured lost hiker and her dog, safely extracted.
- 6/14, Inc #14173, Search & Rescue: Nanue Bridge, Hwy 19, Papaaloo / District 1. Injured Hiker airlifted from river mouth.
- 6/17, Inc #14441, Fire: Rd 3/District 05, structure fire with male party on scene with burn injuries who refused medical transport. No other injuries or fatalities.



*Inc. #13684, rescue of lost hiker and dog  
Photo credit: FRS Riley Young*

## Battalion 2, West Hawai‘i

- 6/4, Inc# 13276 **Boat in Distress:** Co7 w/ RB7 able to make contact and repair boat. Escorted in to harbor.
- 6/4, Inc# 13288 **Fire:** Metal scrap yard Co7 & 21 extinguished multiple burning vehicles during a metal scrap yard fire.
- 6/18, Inc. 14512, **HazMat:** Co. 7 responded to private residence with Co. 21. Home evacuated, propane leak detected, located, isolated and shut off. Home ventilated with continuous air monitoring to ensure personnel and resident safety.
- 6/20, Inc. #14653 **Multiple Vehicle Fire.** Co. 20 and Co. 11 responded to mid-size mobile home and full size truck fully involved.

## Special Operations

### Haz-Mat

- Soliciting attendees for 2024 Hazmat Continuing Challenge in Sacramento
- Hazmat Captain’s meeting scheduled for July 23 to discuss Hazmat equipment needs for FY 25 and other program needs

## Ocean Safety

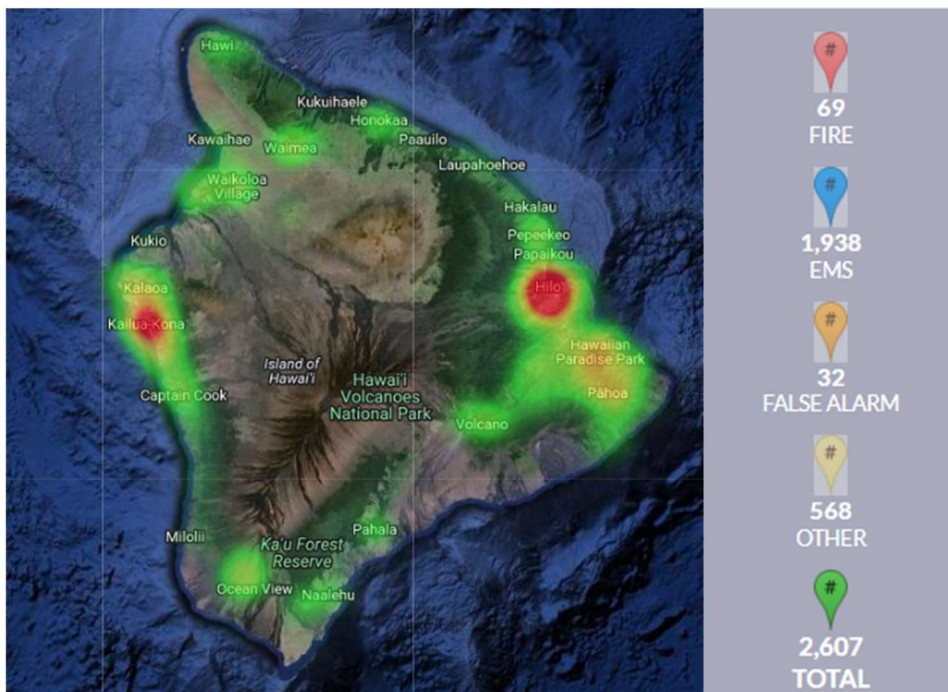
- WSO V recruitment cancelled due to pending grievance with WSO III recruitment process
- WSO Transfers completed and scheduled for July 15, second transfer for Aug 16 scheduled.
- WSO I hires pending reference checks.

## Rescue

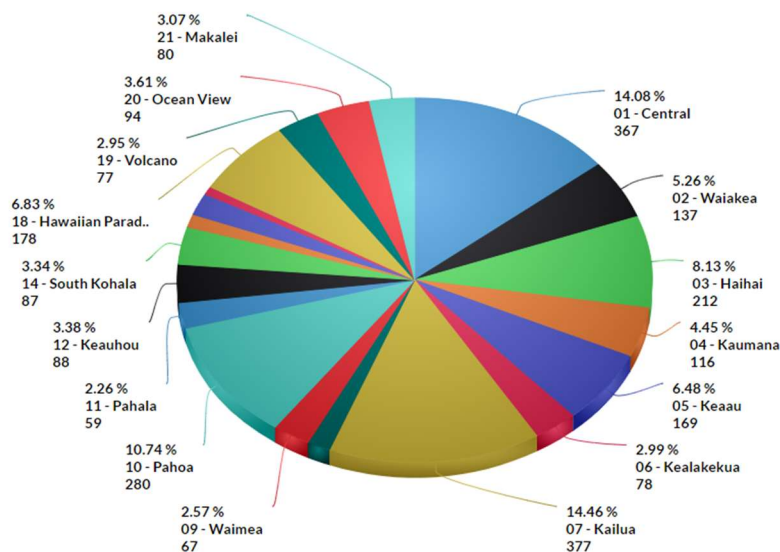
- RB7 (Hoku) has been placed into service.
- Preparations being made for Rescue Captain's meeting to discuss Rescue equipment replacement needs for FY 25 and other program concerns.

## Incident heat map and YTD stats for June 2024

[Link for Station Call Volume Breakdown](#)



Incidents by Stations  
06/01/2024-06/30/2024



# SUPPORT SERVICES

## Emergency Medical Services Branch

### Paramedic Class Progress

The current paramedic class completed their fourth rotation and final testing requirements at the end of June. These individuals are currently working on final state and national requirements for licensure from the DCCA.

### EMS Branch Meeting with AMR Management

The EMS Branch met with AMR management to discuss current operations here on Hawai'i Island. Some of the topics discussed were patient transfers, AMR dispatch, our current transfer protocol, and staffing challenges.

### New Controlled Medication Software Program

EMS Branch personnel met with ESO Support to discuss our new controlled medication software program that we hope to implement in the near future.

### Prehospital Ventilator Evaluation

The prehospital ventilator evaluation process continues. We are currently trialing the Airon ventilator that also has CPAP capability. So far, we have had positive feedback on this ventilator. Our equipment committee hopes to make a decision within the next month.

### Quarterly Base Station Meeting

On June 18th, we hosted our quarterly base station meeting at Kona Community Hospital. We were honored to have Dr. Michael Brigoli from Stanford to present on palliative care in EMS. Dr. Brigoli served 13 years with our department as an FMS II prior to pursuing his career as a physician.

### Replacement SUVs Awarded

Cutter Ford Aiea has been awarded the bid for the two replacement SUVs that are projected to arrive in January 2025.

### Honu Triathlon Assistance

EMS Branch personnel assisted with the Honu Triathlon held on June 1st at the Fairmont Orchid.

### Hawai'i Fentanyl Task Force Meeting

The Hawaii Fentanyl Task Force held a quarterly meeting on June 17th. Captain A. Mitchell did an excellent presentation on current data and trends with overdoses on Hawaii Island.

### Oxygen Delivery Delay

We have been experiencing a delay on delivery of oxygen from Airgas due to their inability to fill medical grade oxygen here on Hawaii Island. Currently, all tanks are being shipped to Honolulu to be filled. We are working with Airgas management to mitigate this situation. We would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we work through this challenge.

## Training Services Branch

### Electrical Emergencies Training

Hawaiian Electric provided a one-day training for the 52nd Firefighter Recruits covering electrical emergencies and electrical safety for first responders.

## High-Rise Operations Training

The 52nd Recruits attended High-Rise Operations training at Bayshore Towers and the Hilton Waikoloa Ocean Tower. Operations companies including personnel from Central, Kaumana, South Kohala, and Waikoloa attended as a familiarization. Operations personnel were engaged with excellent questions as we continue to discuss, plan, and train for these high-risk, low-frequency incidents. <https://youtu.be/R2pmgalfhYM?si=p4IE8tl3JES8irh1>



## Joint Workouts with HFD and HPD Recruits

Mr. Tiger Hill of Respect the Corners Gym led two joint workouts with HFD and HPD recruits and training staff. Tiger works with first responders around the state, including Special Response Team law enforcement officers.

<https://youtu.be/3FOz3wMhfhQ?si=Zjrm3R8ER9MSQZv5>

## Engine Company Operations Class

BC Patrick Springer and Captain Keone Roback attended “The Anatomy of a Push” presentation by Jay Bonnifield, hosted by the 50th State F.O.O.L.S (Fraternal Order of Leatherheads). The 8-hour class was centered in engine company operations, to include fire dynamics, scene size up, interior fire attack/water application, and many other tactical decision-making considerations.

## Structural Firefighting Refresher Training

HFD Training Services Branch and Operations personnel assisted PTA Fire and Emergency Services in delivering structural firefighting refresher training over three days at U.S. Army Garrison Pohakuloa for 20 service members from the U.S. Marine Corps and Army Reserve units. Topics of instruction included firefighter survival, rapid intervention, forcible entry, ladders, fire attack, and a live fire behavior observation lab.



### **53rd Firefighter Recruit Orientation**

The 53rd Firefighter Recruit Candidates had an orientation with Fire HR. There are fifteen (15) candidates currently completing medical clearances. The class has a projected start date of August 1, 2024.

## **Volunteer Training Section**

### **5-D (Fern Acres)**

Company 5D-Fern Acres responded to a car fire and a trash fire, recently added two volunteers and recruited two more. They are actively working on ways to improve participation and attendance with training and callouts.

### **7-B (Kalaoa)**

Volunteer Company 7B had two callouts during the month of June, one brush fire and one smoke sighted. Their training for the month of June consisted of Firefighter safety and PPE, pump operations, and “Stop the Bleed” certification.

### **8-A (Pa’auilo)**

Volunteer Company 8A performed driver training and completed some much-needed repairs on Engine 8A.

### **9-B (Kanehoa)**

Volunteer Company 9B brushed up on high performance CPR with feedback mannequins under the direction of CPR instructor/Volunteer FEO Chris Stelfox. Company 9B also participated in “Stop the Bleed” training and certification led by the Trauma Program Coordinator, Michelle Morua from Queen’s North Hawaii Community Hospital.

## 10-D (Ainaloa)

Volunteers, responded to a 30x30 structure fire in Pahoa's Nanawale Estates and assisted by providing water shuttle operations moving approximately 3000 gallons of water to the fire-ground. 10-Delta also partnered with the Ainaloa Community Associations Neighborhood watch to increase community awareness & engagement about Volunteer Fire. 10-Delta also concentrated on wildland fire training & maintenance on Engine 10-Delta.



## 14-A (Kohala)

Company 14A participated in "Stop the Bleed" training and certification led by the Trauma Program Coordinator, Michelle Morua from Queen's North Hawaii Community Hospital.

## 19-A (Volcano)

Volunteers at station 19A in Volcano along with personnel from station 5C from Fern Forest trained in the use of the PRO-pak. In addition, classroom instruction in the use of fire shelters followed by practical field exercise. Station's Engine was brought back online by repairs at the mechanic shop in Hilo. A total of 80 hrs was contributed to the mission of Hawaii Fire Dept.

## Fire Prevention Branch

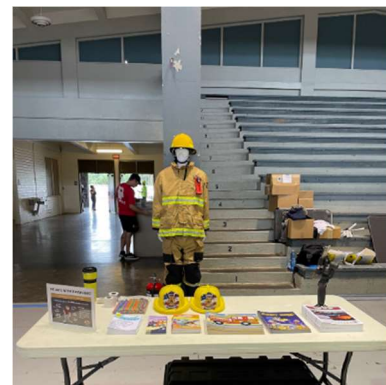
### Fire Investigations

The Fire Prevention Branch investigated One structure fire during the Month of June. The fire was in a commercial occupancy, in District 2. The fire damaged portions of the ceiling and structure of an area under a mezzanine. It is suspected that the fire originated from homeless trespassers who were illegally entering the building. No injuries or fatalities were reported at the incident.



### Public Education

The Fire Prevention Branch was grateful to have the opportunity to participate in the Hawaii County's Civil Defense Preparedness fair on June 1, 2024.



Our Social Media efforts continue to highlight the department. This month we were led by Lt. Goo, who had the privilege of working with Company 14 and the Training Branch on a High-Rise Training at the Hilton!



### **Project Updates**

Our Inspectors were able to test the Fire Suppression and Fire Alarm systems in the new joint Dispatch Center on Mohouli st. The building is protected by multiple Fire Suppression systems intended to Keep our Dispatchers safe.



The buildout of the EPR Property list is ongoing. We expect to begin assisting the Company level officers with their Preplans by the end of the year.

Chief Kurashige and Fireworks Auditor Moraes conducted numerous Fireworks inspections and setups for the 4th of July shows.

## **Logistics, Emergency Communications, and Vehicle Maintenance Section**

### **Logistics**

- Annual inventory is nearing completion, thank you to all stations for submittals.
- Fire ordering site:
  - 319 customers
  - 74 orders for the month of June
  - Approximate gross order sales, 19k of products
- Radio installs has been completed for Brush truck 15 and 9.
- Additional ice machines have been ordered and will be installed at Stations 6,8,9

### **Apparatus and Equipment Repair**

- One hundred and fifty-four (154) total repairs/service.

- Eighteen (18) service calls or trouble calls.
- Twelve (12) contracted out and tows

## Emergency Communications

- Two FCO II had the opportunity to attend the NENA conference in Orlando, FL.
- FCO II Tatianna Rodrigues had her pinning ceremony with her family and supervisors.



- We had 8 candidates interview for the FCO I position, however none were selected due to not meeting the minimum qualifications.
- All four of our FCO I attended Mental Health First Aid training, sponsored by UH Hilo
- We continue to see progress in the new Joint Communication Center. Once the building is turned over to the County, vendors will begin installation of their equipment.

## Information Technology Highlights

- Fiber Optic internet installation and county network setup for Ocean Safety West – Kailua pier location.
- Work with Information Technology department on relocation of network folders from server coh01 to server “hawaiicounty.gov”.
- Assist FireWorks committee with vehicle maintenance checks rollout.
- FireWorks new design released for all HFD personnel.
- Inventory for admin office
- Network scanning of all HFD locations for inventory items.
- Joint Communication Center (JCC) meetings. Tentative building completion date TBD.
- Occupation date TBD.

# SAFETY SPECIALIST REPORT

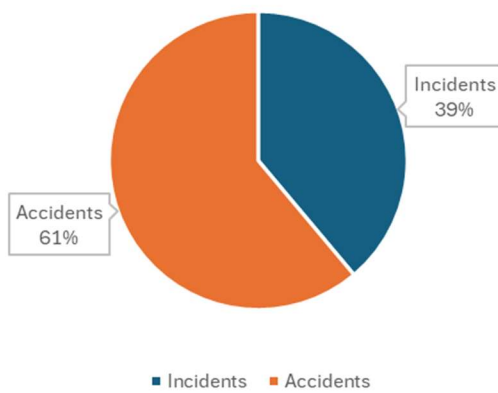
Efforts are ongoing to finalize a Mold Awareness & Abatement Training/Procedure. The Safety Culture Survey results were published. An in-station uniform and gear decontamination procedure is being created in response to the status of capabilities with available washers/dryers/extractors at various stations.

Safety or Health notices highlighted multiple hazards, such as hurricane preparedness, pertussis outbreaks, terrorism, and potential metal buildup in SCBA regulators. The department actively participated in National Firefighter Safety Stand Down Week, notably supported by Chief Springer's Training Branch.

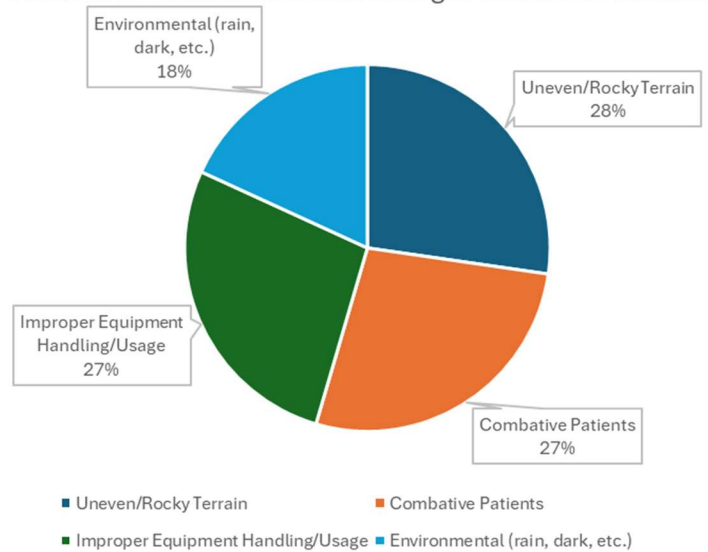
A GAP Analysis of water rescue was conducted with internal-stakeholders and a draft report is being circulated for review. Engagement with vendors to demo or evaluate an EMILY Rescue Robot includes federal lifeguards on another island using the technology. The PEER Support team is demoing the Cordico Wellness App for first responders. Seven incidents resulted in either an incident/Accident or Vehicle/Equipment/Property Damage.

At the mid-point of 2024 here are some stats/tends:

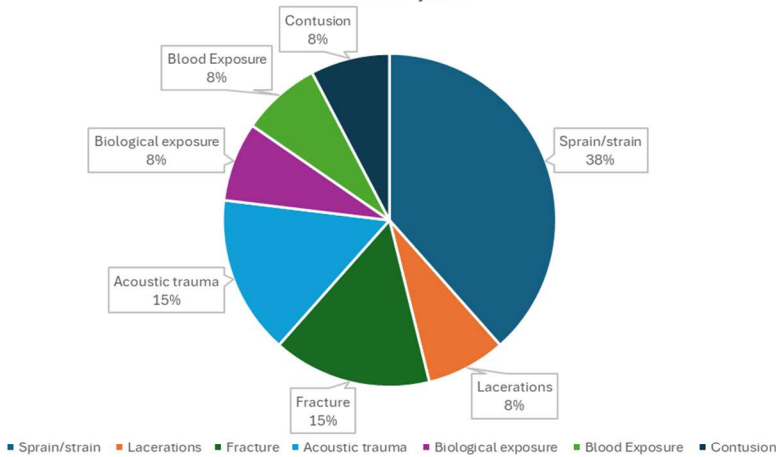
Incidents/Accidents



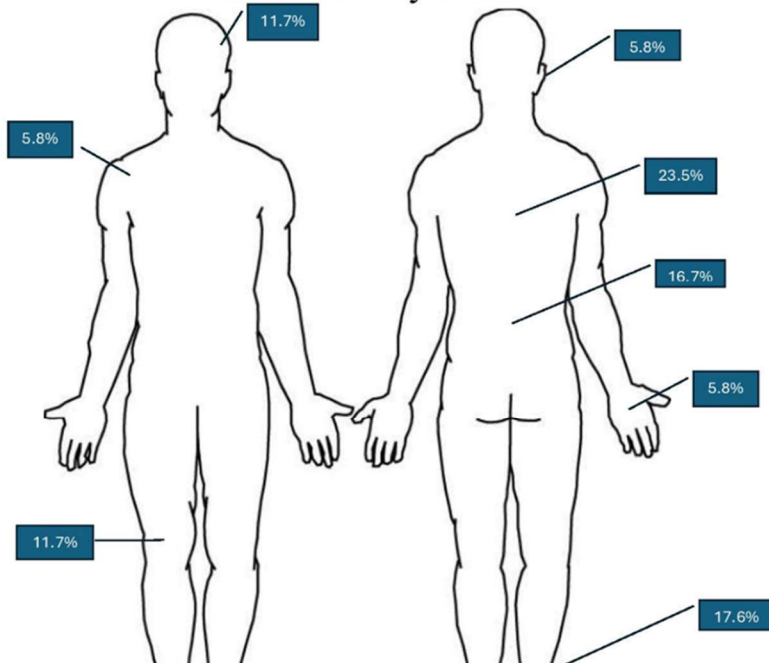
Hazardous Conditions Contributing to Incidents/Accidents



Nature of Injuries



Affected Body Parts



# OTHER UPDATES

## **Hawaii Energy Conference 2024 – Reimagining Resilience**

Chief Todd participated as a speaker at the 11th Hawai'i Energy Conference on May 22-23, 2024, at the Maui Arts and Cultural Center. The purpose of the conference was to discuss the importance of energy resilience amid increasing extreme weather events. Attendees explored solutions for improving resilience, including biofuels, resilience planning for marginalized communities, and DER applications post-August 2023 Maui fires. Advancements in risk management, grid stability, and adaptive solutions were highlighted.



**END REPORT**