



FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

HAWAII FIRE DEPARTMENT
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2025 | APRIL

FISCAL YEAR 24-25

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ADMIN DIV: FISCAL BRANCH REPORT

Program Budget Goals	April	YTD	Goal
Invoice Settlement within 30 days	96%	94%	90%
Pay-out of CILV's within 90 days	100%	97%	95%
Dollar value of grants applied for	\$5,372,585	\$27,850,085	\$5,000,000
Dollar value of grants received	\$ 0	\$ 488,723	\$5,000,000

Budget	Category	Adj Appropriation	YTD Expenditures	% Used	Goal
Fire	S&W	40,078,922.00	34,207,979.50	85.35	87.50
6221-6225	OCE	6,114,148.96	5,121,650.73	83.77	83.33
	Equipment	3,830,919.61	3,305,053.10	86.27	83.33
Grants & Misc	S&W	661,520.09	257,161.00	38.87%	87.50
6226	OCE	1,327,882.56	370,579.06	27.91	83.33
	Equipment	697,875.20	388,294.05	55.64	83.33
EMS	S&W	15,430,607.00	12,268,007.13	79.50	87.50
6227	OCE	3,089,425.33	1,666,240.19	53.93	83.33
	Equipment	3,220,637.02	3,113,529.41	96.67	83.33
Ocean Safety	S&W	5,483,856.34	3,733,405.44	68.08	87.50
6228	OCE	356,845.49	289,187.89	81.04	83.33
	Equipment	518,905.32	327,381.54	63.09	83.33
Total Budget		80,811,544.92	65,048,469.04	80.49	

Grants	Update
2023 CDBG	(3) Brush Trucks \$625,693 furnished by Orchid Isle Ford. Delivery pending.
2024 CDBG	Received (1) 2025 Kawasaki Mule Pro-FXT UTV and trailer for the Pahala Fire Station. Delivery pending on a fire pump skid. Bid for a brush truck for the Puna Volunteer Fire Station awarded to Rebel Strike LLC.
CDBG- MIT Wildfire Mitigation	Bid for three brush trucks awarded to Rebel Strike LLC. A Mobile Service Trailer was awarded to Hawaii Specialty Vehicles. The Mobile Command Vehicle will go out for rebid.
FY 2021 AFG	Equipment received for Fire Base Station Refresh Project. The grant is 100% obligated as of 3/31/25. Closing out grant.
FY 2023 AFG	Grant awarded establishing a Hazard Zone (IDLH) Incident Command and a Control Training Program to provide safe, effective, and efficient HFD emergency response Operations.
FY 23 USDA Vol. Fire Capacity Project	The bid was awarded to Orchid Isle Ford for two (2) Brush Trucks \$411,097. Delivery pending
FY 24 USDA Vol. Fire Capacity Project	Supplies and equipment continue to arrive for the Volunteer Operations section.
Kohanaiki Lifeguard Tower (Fair Share funds)	I.D.R. Surveyor Apex lifeguard tower furnished by Newport Laminates. Delivery expected in the second quarter of 2025.
Leleiwi Lifeguard Tower (Fair Share Funds)	Surveyor Junior lifeguard tower furnished by Newport Laminates. Delivery expected in early 2026.

ADMIN DIV: HR BRANCH REPORT

Program Budget Goals	April	YTD	GOAL
Process actions within 15 working days	43	243	100%
Recruitment Actions < 30 days	18	55	100%
Promotion Actions < 30 days	11	12	100%
Personnel Actions within 30 days, <10% error	29	195	100%

Internal Recruitment within Department

Position	Status Report
Battalion Chief (EMS Bureau)	Selection made. Effective date 05/01/25.
Battalion Chief (Special Operations)	Pending selection effective 07/01/25.
Battalion Chief (FASO)	Internal recruitment opened 04/27/25 – closes on 05/06/25.
Fire Equipment Operator	Selection made. Effective 05/01/25.
Fire Prevention Inspector II	Selection made. Effective date 05/16/25.
Fire Prevention Inspector I	Seven applications received and screened for MQR's.
Fire Rescue Specialist	Internal recruitment opened 04/06/25 – closes on 04/15/25.
Water Safety Officer V	Four names referred for interview/assessment.

Open-Competitive Recruitment

Position	Status Report
Program Support Technician	Selection made. Effective date 05/16/25.
Fire Fighter Recruit (Temp)	Conditional offers made; orientation scheduled for 05/16/25.
Fire/EMS Recruit	Conditional offer made; orientation scheduled for 05/16/25.
Automotive Storekeeper	Selection made. Effective date 05/01/25.
Fire Communications Officer I	Names being referred from DHR.
Fire Maintenance Worker	Interviews scheduled for 05/06/25.
Human Resources Program Specialist	Interviews scheduled for 05/02/25.
Senior Account Clerk	Recruitment closed; awaiting referred list of names from DHR.
Water Safety Officer I	40+ names referred; scheduling of PAE.

OPERATIONS

Emergency Operations

Total Calls for Calendar Year 2025	April	%	YTD	%
Fire	90	4%	399	4%
Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion- no fire	0	0%	0	0%
Rescue and EMS	1773	72%	7224	70%
Hazardous Cond. (no fire)	18	1%	71	1%
Service Call	175	7%	814	8%
Good Intent calls	367	15%	1706	16%
False Alarm / False calls	28	1%	109	1%
Severe Weather	0	0%	0	0%
Special Incident Type	3	0%	17	0%
Other (not completed yet)	13	1%	0	0%
Totals	2467	100%	10340	100%

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (est.)
Total Calls	25,015	27,398	29,594	30,738	31,143	31,020

Response Times CY 2025

Statistic	April	% that meet...		YTD	% that meet...	
Avg. Turn out time (Fire)	2:20	(80 sec.)	21.11%	2:18	(80 sec.)	19.90%
Avg. Turn out time	2:06	(60 sec.)	16.34%	2:04	(60 sec.)	18.47%
Statistic	April	% that meets 6 min.		YTD	% that meet 6 min	
Avg. Response Time	11:28	11.11%		10:24	15.54%	
Avg. Response Time	8:49	22.01%		8:55	21.42%	

Fire Impacts CY 2025

Call Type	April	YTD
Wildland calls (140, 141, 142, 143)	20	90
Acres burned	32	222
Structure Fires (110 & 111)	3	25
Property and Contents - Loss	\$172,750.00	\$2,107,050.00
Property and Contents - Save	\$2,490,000.00	\$3,330,600.00
Other fires (all other 100 series)	67	284
Property and Contents - Loss	\$40,000.00	\$66,200.00
Property and Contents - Save	\$0.00	\$4,500.00

Emergency Operations Highlights

Battalion 1, East Hawai'i

- 4/5, Inc #8270; **Brush Fire:** Lehua St/District 8, brush fire approximately 1 acre which threatened multiple structures, however superficial or no damage incurred to structures. No injuries or fatalities.
- 4/7, Inc #8471; **Brush Fire:** Apele Rd/District 5, brush fire less than an acre with no damage incurred to structures. No injuries or fatalities.

Battalion 2, West Hawai'i

- 4/2 Inc# 08000; **Structure Fire:** Dist. 14. Golf cart fire in garage. Responding units were able to confine fire to garage area. No injuries.
- 4/10 Inc# 08665; **Search and Rescue:** Missing Boater South Point. 5 day search with CG, negative findings. More than 1,923 miles covered, with Coast Guard operations extending up to 500 miles south of Hawai'i Island. See map provided:
- 4/27 Inc# 10048; **Search and Rescue:** Missing Kayaker Keauhou. 3 day search with CG. Multiple personal items located, but no victim recovered.



Special Events:

- 4/10: Engine Operations Training at PTA for West HI companies.
- Merrie Monarch Special Service: Assist with tents and EMS Standby 4/23-26
- 4/23: Blessing of temporary Central Fire Station at 1382 Kilauea Ave.

Special Operations

Haz-Mat

- 93rd CST Hazmat training exercises finalized and scheduled for May 1-9.

- Preparing for transfers and promotion of new Hazmat team personnel at Kaumana effective May 1. 2 Captain's promoted to BC's.

Ocean Safety

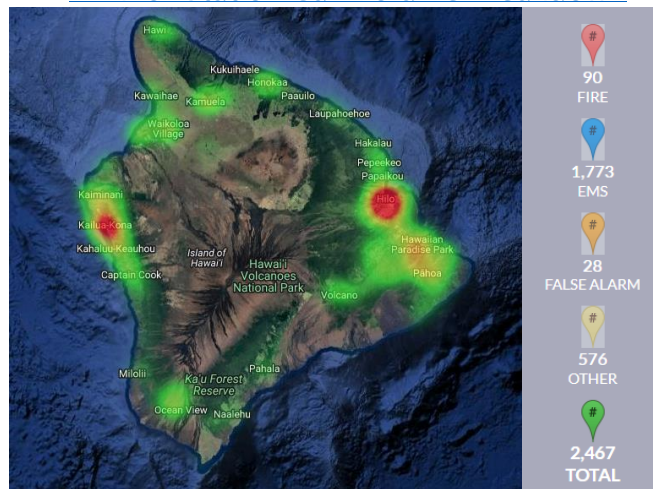
- WSO recruitment update:
- WSO V recruitment: List of candidates received, planning for Assessment.
- WSO I recruitment: PAE planning finalized and scheduled for May 14.
- Making preparations for Kohanaiki tower arrival and start of service. Hopefully in June/July, delivery timeframe not yet confirmed, but tower completed.

Rescue

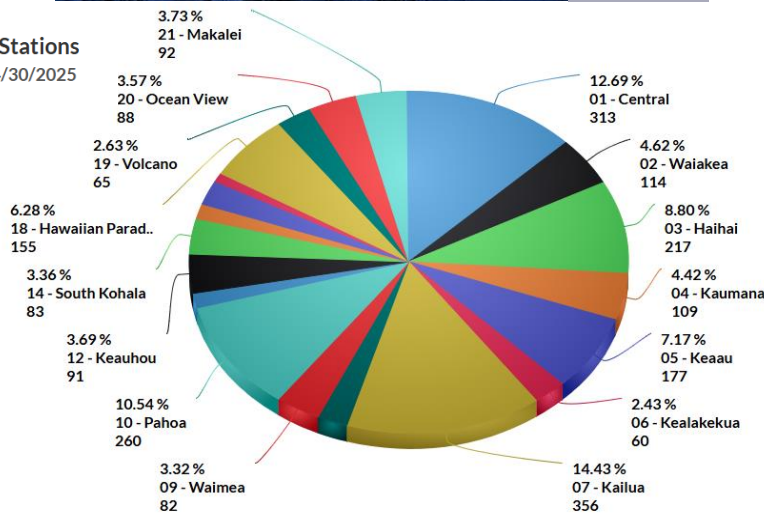
- IFB for RB7-7 (Radon) repower to Outboards continues. Currently with Purchasing.
- Making preparations for solicitation of the annual Daniel R. Sayre Memorial Foundation Equipment requests and award nominations.

Incident heat map and YTD stats for April 2025

[Link for Station Call Volume Breakdown](#)



Incidents by Stations
04/01/2025-04/30/2025



Total of Station: 2,467

SUPPORT SERVICES

Emergency Medical Services Branch

Retirement of Battalion Chief Chris Honda



We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to EMS Battalion Chief Chris Honda as he steps into retirement after 25 years of dedicated service. His steady leadership, integrity, and years of devoted service have shaped the department in countless ways. Mahalo, Chief Honda!

Ambulance Bay Roof Clearance Discussion

EMS Branch personnel met with Hilo Benioff Medical Center's staff to discuss the emergency room ambulance bay roof clearance issue.

Support for Waiakea Health Academy

Waiakea High School hosted their Health Academy senior project presentations on Thursday, April 10, 2025. EMS Branch personnel assisted with judging presentations at this event.

Ambulance Units in Fabrication

The next four new ambulance units are currently in the fabrication process at Braun Northwest and are projected to arrive on island in July. These four new units will be assigned to the stations listed below:

- Station 5 Keaau
- Station 7 Kailua
- Station 10 Pahoa
- Station 18 Hawaiian Paradise Park



Recruit Class EMT Training Completed

The 53rd firefighter recruit class has finished the clinical portion of their EMT training and has taken the NREMT knowledge exam.

Fall 2024 MICT Student Progress

The Fall 2024 MICT students are currently in their second rotation of internship.



Field Death Pronouncement Protocols Implemented

As of April 1, 2025, our field death pronouncement protocols have been implemented.

Fire/EMS Recruit Interview Held

EMS Branch personnel held a Fire/EMS recruit interview on Tuesday, April 8, 2025.

Emergency Medical Responder Recertification

During the month of April, EMS Branch personnel conducted four Emergency Medical Responder recertification classes.

Health Data Exchange Discussions

The EMS Branch met with ESO representatives regarding Health Data Exchange (HDE)

- This provides real time data exchange at the hospital level which EMS providers are able to view. This includes MD notes, diagnostic data, and discharge information, if applicable.
- HDE is currently active with Kona Community Hospital and Queen's North Hawai'i Community Hospital. ESO and the State Department of Health are in talks with Hilo Benioff Medical Center to activate their facility.

Training Services Branch

Firefighter Recruit Interviews

Firefighter Recruit interviews have been completed for thirty candidates. HR Orientation is scheduled for May 16, 2025 where the prospective hires enter into the next phase of the screening process.

Engine Company Operations Program Completion

The Engine Company Operations program is based on the Nozzle Forward curriculum, created by Aaron Fields. Engine Company Operations program completed training for eighteen students and twenty-seven Engine Company Operations Cadre members. Nozzle Forward is a systematic study and methodology for hose line management, movement, and fire attack. It is an immersive two-day course that integrates the three essential pillars of engine company operations: fire behavior, hose management and fire attack. Aspiring instructors also completed an additional two-day workshop entitled "Drilling for Function" which focused on emphasizing key instructional points, methods of instruction, coaching, and interpersonal communication dynamics.



Engine Company Operations Teach Backs

The Engine Company Operations cadre is conducting teach backs in preparation for delivering Engine Company Operations to the first one hundred operations personnel throughout May and June 2025.

53rd Recruit Class EMT Certification

53rd Recruit Class has completed Emergency Medical Technician Basic training at Hilo Community College. The accredited Kapiolani Community College course has been completed, and the Recruits have been nationally accredited.

Volunteer Training Section

1-A (Pepe'ekeo)

Volunteer Company 1A represented the department in the annual Merrie Monarch Parade and continued to make improvements at their station with cleaning and organizing.



5-B (Hawaiian Acres)

Company 5B was among those dispatched to a large brushfire in the Fern Acres Community near the end of April 2025.

5-C (Fern Forest)

Company 5C was among those dispatched to a large brushfire in the Fern Acres Community near the end of April 2025.



5-D (Fern Acres)

Added three new volunteers and performed maintenance on their vehicles. Company 5D also responded to the over 20-acre Fern Acres brushfire in late April.

6-B (Kona Paradise)

One personnel from 6B assisted with an MVA until HFD operations were able to take over.

7-B (Kalaoa)

Volunteer Company 7B was dispatched to assist with a brush fire in District 12. 7B also performed vehicle maintenance and trained on pump operations.

8-A (Pa'auilo)

Volunteer Company 8A was dispatched to multiple brush fires but stood down. They also participated in two community events, including teaching at Honoka'a High School with retired EMS Chief Ralph Yawata and a

public service demonstration with HWMO (Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization). Company 8A also performed vehicle maintenance and attended the quarterly Volunteer Captain's meeting.

9-B (Kanehoa)

Volunteer Company 9B hosted an HWMO meeting for three local neighborhoods. 9B also performed driver training and set up multiple obstacle courses on three occasions to prepare a new driver for the upcoming driver training course in April. In addition, 9B conducted two wildland hose drills.

10-D ('Āinaloa)

One member completed the initial 40-hour classroom and closed course competency requirements with the 53rd Recruit Class. Company 10D also responded to the Fern Acres brushfire.

14-A (Kohala)

Volunteer Company 14A's new 2025 International chassis/OSCO buildout is nearly ready. Features include a PTO-driven 500 GPM pump, 1600-gallon capacity, 4-wheel drive, and a 55HP auxiliary motor. The tanker is expected to be ready for delivery in two weeks. The North Kohala Community raised \$400,000 in 2023 and 2024 to fund the vehicle, which will be driven from Illinois to San Diego and arrive in Hilo in June.



16-B (Pu'uanahulu)

Volunteer Company 16B performed a total of 63 hours of training during April, including wet drills, driver training, and classroom instruction on size-ups.

19-A (Volcano)

Company 19A was among those dispatched to the Fern Acres brushfire at the end of April.

20-A (HOVE)

Volunteer Company 20A was dispatched to multiple fires during the month of April but stood down.

Fern Acres Brushfire – April 2025

At the end of April 2025, a large brushfire erupted in the Fern Acres Community, requiring response from Companies 5B, 5C, 5D, 10D, and 19A. The fire threatened multiple residences and burned over 20 acres. The additional manpower and agility of volunteer apparatus were critical in preventing the potential loss of life and property.



Fire Prevention Section

Fire Inspections

Our current (1) fire inspector is conducting business inspections in designated Area 1. Inspectors will now be split into three designated area groupings assigned permanently that are evenly split between island-wide districts. Inspectors may reach out to identify if a high-hazard inspection is being completed in a fire district ahead of time if station personnel would want to participate.

Community Outreach, Events & Social Media



April 1: Chief Henderson, Captain Goo and Inspector Reuelman participated in several podcasts at Na Leo TV about the upcoming wildfire season, prevention and wildfire preparedness.

April 4: Inspector Reuelman gave an informational class about fire safety in the workplace to a local business in Hilo.

April 8: Captain Goo participated in and highlighted a Haihai Station 3 visit from Ka 'Umeke Ka'eo School students.

April 11: Captain Goo participated in a Haihai Station 3 visitation from Kamehameha Schools preschool.

April 10: Captain Goo participated in the Hilo High School Financial Reality Fair with Hawaii Community Federal Credit

Union.

April 10: Inspector Requelman assisted DOFAW/DLNR and HWMO in a Firewise Community Assessment in the Makolea Community.

April 11: Inspector Requelman and Prevention Clerk J.Carter participated in Kealahou's Hawaii Island Healthcare Career Expo.



April 21-23 : Captain Goo attended a 3-Day National Fire Academy Wildfire Prevention Education course P-101.

April 23-26 : Fire Prevention East personnel were assigned to Fire Inspections throughout all temporary day-operating businesses and craft fairs for the Merrie Monarch as well as Fire Watch throughout the Merrie Monarch performances every evening.

April 24: East Prevention Branch received their recertification through the American Heart Association CPR w/AED course put on by the HFD EMS Branch.

April 30: Captain Goo and Inspectors Ahu and Requelman did the final walkthrough and inspection of the temporary morgue facility in Hilo.

Month of April: Capt.Goo has been completing several Last Interview videos for upcoming 2025 retirements, including a retired Paramedic.

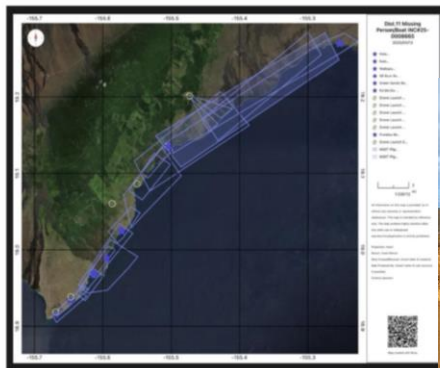
Plan Review / Active Construction

All plans in the epic system and submitted shop drawings have been reviewed and completed within the allotted 14-day turnaround period for the month.

Active construction currently:
No large-scale fire system testing for the month of April.

UAS Response 4/13/25 INC#25-0008665

Mission Objectives: Cliff-side search to 300' out from Halape, Volcano to SP, Kau
-search for missing boat and/or person, search activated 4/11/25
-Callout issued by Captain L.Lindsey



Attached is a screenshot of Mapnova.com
1 day overlay of grid search completed & marked
Blue- Day 1 search areas
W-Circled- Drone Launch sites
Blue stars- UAS marked areas
Purple Book Icon- 8K Panorama view of the area

Fire Investigations/UAS Program



April 1: Captain Goo and Inspector Requelman attended a Zoom meeting with the NOVA team to discuss and implement their new live feed and specialized search and rescue features from their drone mapping system into ours.

April 13: Dist.19 & 11 UAS Search for Missing Boat/Person: UAS team mapped areas from Halape to South Point Boat Ramp: 21

Total Flights with 6HRs,48 mins and 27 seconds utilizing Mapping program NOVA.

April 18: Dist.17 Missing Person's assist with Rescue 2: No Flights, person found.

April 28: Shoreline UAS Search Flights in Dist.7 for missing Kayaker.

Auxiliary Services Section

- Program Support technician position has been filled. New PST to start on 5/16
- Fire ordering for Shopify
 - 396 customers
 - 100 orders for the month of April
 - Approximate gross order sales, 30.2K of products
- Canopy tent at Stn. 18 to be extended to increase coverage
- VFA grant items are continuing to come to warehouse and distributed
- Apparatus and equipment repair
 - Two hundred and sixty-four (264) total repairs/service.
 - Twenty-three (23) service calls or trouble calls.
 - Sixteen (16) contracted out and tows

Emergency Communications

Blessing of the New Emergency Communications Center

Fire Dispatch has finally relocated to the Hawaii County Emergency Communications Center. On April 14, we were honored to have a blessing for the building and those who are working inside of it. Pastor Renee Godoy led the charge with prayers and reminders of the burdens we carry from the work we do. She encouraged all of us to "embrace the new" and "let go of the past" as we move in. Mayor Alameda shared his words of gratitude for the service of our Communications Officers. Both Chief Todd and Chief Moszkowicz expressed their excitement of being part of history for Hawaii County as well as having a new building for our hard-working Fire and Police Communications Officers.





Official Cutover and System Transition

On April 24, we had the official cutover, where we started taking calls from the HCECC. This move has been significant for all FCCC personnel. Not only did we relocate to a new building, we also moved into upgraded systems. We have been working out the kinks and our vendors have been very responsive and supportive in the process. This has been a huge amount of change for our FCCC personnel layered with excitement and a deep exhale for several years of anticipation.

Information Technology Highlights

- Fireworks inventory list received from all stations. Working on addressing items not found, when that is completed, list will be uploaded into FireWorks and station inventory and item checks will be built.
- MDT for E07 received back from repairs with Panasonic. Will send to station and receive Spare MDT back.
- Spare MDT for E15 sent out. E15 MDT to be repaired.
- Faulty power supply wire for E18 MDT replaced.
- MDT for BR10 sent in to troubleshoot FirstNet cellular connection problem.
- Central Fire Station relocation site.
 - Site Survey with Spectrum for Inet fiber install.
 - Terminated and tested existing Cat5e cabling for radio and computer network.
- Continued meetings for the Joint Communication Center.
 - Motorola P25 radio setup completed, and primary site moved from Police to ECC.
 - Dispatch CAD computer testing.
 - Targeted go live date in late April.
- CradlePoint VPN license received, working on server setup and configuration.

SAFETY SPECIALIST REPORT

April 2025 was a focused month for Safety, emphasizing respiratory protection, environmental compliance, and continuity planning.

Respiratory Protection Program

Progress continued on the Respiratory Protection Program despite challenges. Reconciling fit-testing data for upload to MSA FireGrid is ongoing, hindered by slow template updates. PortaCount machines remain out for calibration due to sole-source delays, with an expected return in May. HIOSH permitting for breathing air systems advanced, with applications submitted for Pahoā, Makalei, and Waiākea stations. Pahala's system remains out of service pending valve replacement, with inspections to be scheduled post-repair. Anticipate HIOSH to conduct west-side inspections in June, and east-side in July. A memo on MSA G1 mask inspection and cleaning was distributed on April 21, reinforcing proper maintenance to address prior corrosion issues. The 35 SCBA bottles from Training's cache, linked to March's ARFF incident, were sent for inspection and hydro-testing with final results expected in May.

Class B Foam Disposal

Efforts to comply with HRS §321-604 for Class B foam disposal progressed. An inventory confirmed 155 containers (approximately 750 gallons) from Johnson Controls, 3M, and Hartford Chemical. I met with AKW Environmental on April 30 to estimate disposal costs, with plans to ship foam to the mainland for incineration or lined-landfill disposal.

Continuity of Operations (COOP)

The Active Assailant Emergency Action Plan draft is under review by F1/F2, with revisions expected by mid-May. Planning began for a two-phase COOP exercise tentatively set for September or October, focusing on communication redundancies identified in March's After-Action Report.

Measles Response

A second measles case was confirmed on Oahu, linked to a travel-related case reported on April 7. Distributed Fire Advisory 2025-002 and Bulletin 2025-004, incorporating updated EMS Branch and medical director guidance. Nationally as of April 28th, 96% of 884 cases are unvaccinated, with a 12% hospitalization rate among unvaccinated individuals versus mild symptoms in breakthrough cases. There have been three deaths, all in unvaccinated individuals (two minors, one adult).

Accident and Damage Reporting

To date, two new accident reports and one damage report were received in April.

Other Updates

The Safety Committee meeting was canceled due to lack of quorum. NFPA 1932 ground ladder testing equipment procurement (\$13,650) is progressing, with purchasing request forms submitted for the next fiscal year. A particle counter order was redirected to an alternate vendor after a shipping cancellation. Safety Bulletin 2025-003 (Puainako left turn restrictions) and Advisory 2025-001 (Hands off Hawaii protests) were issued on April 2.

Mahalo for prioritizing safety and supporting these initiatives.

SNAPSHOTS AND STORIES

Temporary Central Fire Station Blessing
On April 23, department leadership joined Mayor Kimo Alameda and community partners to bless the temporary fire station at 1382 Kīlauea Avenue. Thank you to the many individuals who contributed to this lengthy and complex effort. Your hard work and perseverance made this important transition possible.



Waikoloa Community Conversation

On April 28, Fire Chief Kazuo Todd participated in Councilmember James Hustace's Community Conversation held in Waikoloa Village, where he spoke on wildfire preparedness, fire safety tips, and community resources. The evening also included a Q&A session, allowing residents to engage directly on issues important to the community.



Special Meeting of the Committee on Finance
Chief Todd and Chief Volpe presented the Hawai'i Fire Department's proposed budget for FY 25-26 in front of the County Council's Finance Committee on April 8.

Service Retirements

Seven members of our department retired at the end of April, including Battalion Chiefs Keoki Brown and Chris Honda, and Fire Equipment Operator Monn-El Kim. We extend our heartfelt thanks to each of them for their years of service, dedication, and sacrifice. You will be deeply missed, and we wish you all the best in this next chapter.



END REPORT