

**No man can become rich,  
Without himself enriching others.**

**Andrew Carnegie**



## **FIRE CHIEFS REPORT FY 21-22: JULY**

**Hawai'i Fire Department**

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# TO THE FIRE COMMISSION

## Highlights

The following are the highlights for the last month. The complete list of responses will be provided in the Emergency Operations Division Update

- July 5, HFCA Conference Planning Meeting
- July 7, Vendor Meeting Darley Defense
- July 11, Steve Erb Retirement Presentation
- July 11, Emergency Communications Meeting
- July 12, 2<sup>nd</sup> Branch Level Meeting
- July 13, Cabinet Meeting
- July 13, Grant Writing Collaboration
- July 14, Fire Captain Written Test Review
- July 14, Enhanced 911 Meeting
- July 14, Fire Prevention Code Meeting
- July 18, HFD Inventory
- July 18, Dispatch Center Meeting
- July 18, Fire Code Meeting (Zoom)
- July 21, Fire Commission Meeting
- July 23, Physical Agility Test
- July 26, Helicopter Scoping Meeting
- July 27, Cabinet Meeting
- July 27, HWMO/PFX Lunch Hour Meeting
- July 28, Recruitment/Retainment Presentation
- July 29, WAVE Quote Update

## Outreach

- July 3, Commercial Fireworks Support
- July 4, Commercial Fireworks Support
- July 4, 33<sup>rd</sup> Turtle Independence Day
- July 12, HWMO meeting
- July 12, Revitalize Puna
- July 14, Meeting with PTA for Shared Resources
- July 14, Blessing of the Water Safety Craft
- July 15, 50<sup>th</sup> Recruit Class Graduation
- July 16, Relay for Life
- July 21, Ironman Kickoff
- July 27, Sayre Dinner
- July 30, Fireworks Task Force

# BUDGET

## FY 2022-2023

### FY 2021-2022 - County Budget:

Total spending through July 31, 2022, is at 14.04%.

### County funded budget

Salaries & Wages Regular is at 11.96% Fire.

Salaries & Wages Overtime is at 15.51% Fire.

OCE expenditures closed at 16.88% in Fire.

Salaries & Wages Regular is at 11.21% Ocean Safety.

Salaries & Wages Overtime is at 28.92% Ocean Safety.

OCE expenditures closed at 67.60% in Ocean Safety.

### State Funded Budget Items:

Salaries & Wages Regular is at 9.78% EMS.

Salaries & Wages Overtime is at 27.59% EMS.

OCE expenditures closed at 9.99% in EMS.

## Alternative Funding and Grants

### Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant

Federal Grant of \$3,511,641 for six (6) Captain positions and three (3) Fire Fighter positions for 36 months.

### USDA, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region, State & Private Forestry

Federal grant award of \$197,637 (with County match of \$197,637) for FY 2022. The budget is amended to reflect 100% purchases of supplies and the grant period is being extended through February 2023. Current expenditures as of 6/30/22 is \$103,640 plus \$184,346 in encumbrances. There is 27% of the grant award remaining.

### Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program FY 2020 (AFG-S) COVID-19 Supplemental

Federal grant award in the amount of \$379,910.66 for the period 8/6/2020 - 8/5/2022 (\$345,373.33 Federal funds, \$34,537.33 County match). As of 6/30/22, the grant is 100% expended.

### Hāpuna Beach State Park

State grant award of \$895,505 for lifeguard services for FY 2023. Personnel Costs at 8.22% expended as of 7/31/22.

### Kua Bay, Kekaha Kai State Park

State grant award of \$480,000 for lifeguard services for FY 2022. Personnel Costs at 6.26% expended as of 7/31/22.

FY 2021 Assistance to Firefighters: Grant application was submitted 12/17/21 to FEMA to purchase extractors for all fire stations. We have positive news, and we are in the process

of gathering data for submittal to AFG FEMA on the locations that we would install the extractors.

CDBG-MIT: HFD has been allocated \$1.8 million and will be purchase an incident command vehicle, brush trucks, and a trailer.

HMGP - Post Fire Grant: FM-5404-HI is set at \$584,083.00 for post fire recovery. Application submitted to HIEMA on April 29, 2022.

HIEMA HMGP Funding: Request submitted to HIEMA for excess Federal funding to cover station hardening, generators, and a portable station. Ask is approximately \$4,420,000.

Geothermal Fund: Council approved Resolution no. 328-22 on March 23, 2022 to transfer \$300,500 to the Geothermal Fire Equipment account for use by the Fire Department to purchase a mobile self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) compressor unit, 20 SCBA bottles, and an F-450 for towing and transport to be housed at Station 10 in Pahoa.

CDBG: We will be submitting our proposals for 2023 CDBG on August 12<sup>th</sup> with the Office of Housing and Community Development.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### Internal Recruitment within Department

- Fire Captain - Written exam scheduled on August 22, 2022 in Hilo and Kona.
- Fire Equipment Operator - MQ review. Incomplete application and missing documents are due by August 10, 2022.
- Clerk III (Training Bureau) - Submitted Request to Fill Form for Intra-departmental transfer.

### Open-Competitive Recruitment

- Fire Fighter Recruit - Application packets are due August 5, 2022 by 4:30 p.m.
- Fire Communications Officer I - Two applicants scheduled for pre-entry medical examination. Targeted hire date is September 1, 2022.
- Fire Communications Officer I - Five names were referred. Two applicants scheduled for interview/assessment on August 10, 2022. Targeted hire date is September 1, 2022.
- Storekeeper - Pending referred names from DHR.
- Clerk III (Fire Prevention Bureau) - Submitted Request to Fill Form for Open Recruitment.
- Clerk III (Auxiliary Services Bureau) - Submitted Request to Fill Form for Open Recruitment.

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## Classification

- Reallocation of one Water Safety Officer I (1/2T) to Water Safety Officer II (1/2T) effective August 1, 2022.
- Reallocation of 14 Fire Fighter Recruit (Temp) to Fire Fighter (Temp) effective August 2, 2022.

## Employee Development and Training

- New Hire Orientation scheduled for August 12, 2022 - Three employees to attend.
- PAR Training - Ongoing for supervisors.

# EMERGENCY OPERATIONS DIVISION

## Total Calls for CY 2022

Type	July	YTD
Fire	103	619
Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion- no fire	0	1
Rescue and EMS	1,869	12,337
Hazardous Cond. (no fire)	23	126
Service Call	144	1,070
Good Intent calls	343	2,372
False Alarm / False calls	48	239
Severe Weather	0	2
Special Incident Type	2	11
Other (not completed yet)	4	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,536</b>	<b>16,781</b>

## Turn-Out Times CY 2022

Call type	July	% that meet 80 sec.	YTD	% that meet 80 sec.
Fire Suppression	1:61	16.90%	1:50	22.01%
EMS(1 min.)	2:04	15.02%	2:04	14.14%

## Fire Impacts CY 2022

Call Type	July	YTD
Wildland calls (140, 141, 142, 143)	34	130
Acres burned	509	1,119
Structure Fires (110 & 111)	11	61
Property and Contents - Loss	\$722,600.00	\$6,021,680.00
Property and Contents - Save	\$366,400.00	\$3,223,400.00
Other fires (all other 100 series)	59	429
Property and Contents - Loss	\$260,500.00	\$549,352.00
Property and Contents - Save	n/a	n/a

### Battalion 1, East Hawai'i

- June 27, 2022, Inc#14015, **Fire:** HPP 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue - Dist. 18, Structure Fire, one (1) patient and no fatalities.
- July 6, 2022, Inc#14793, **Brush Fire:** Discovery Harbor subdivision - Dist. 11, multi day incident. Juvenile that started the brushfire was arrested and charged. Approx. 15 acres burned
- July 10, 2022, Inc#15117, **Search & Rescue:** Swimmer in Distress Ha'ena beach - Dist. 5, C-1 extricated and transferred to M-5. One (1) fatality, Drowning.
- July 19, 2022, Inc#15830; **Search & Rescue:** Swimmer in Distress, Kehena Beach - Dist. 10, one (1) injured female treated and transported to Hilo Medical Center.
- July 24, 2022, Inc#16244; **Brush Fire:** Ka'alualu - Dist. 11, multi day incident. Approx. 300 acres burned.



### Battalion 2 West Hawai'i



- July 4, 2022, Inc# 14621; **Brush Fire:** Hwy 270 9mm. Dist. 14, multi day incident. Approx. 60 acres burned.
- July 13, 2022 INC# 15326 **Structure Fire:** Plumeria Dr. Dist7. Single occupant 3 bedroom structure fire, fully engulfed. Fire contained to house of origin, no deaths or injuries. Scene turned over to inspectors for possible arson case.
- July 15, 2022 Inc# 15511; **Search and Rescue:** Paddle Boarder in distress fronting Puako. Dist. 14. Person located and brought to shore by SKI-2.
- July 17, 2022, Inc# 15696; **Rescue/EMS:** Paddle Boarder face down fronting Hale Halawai. Dist. 7. Approx. 60's male found unresponsive and brought to shore, in

Cardiac Arrest. CPR and ACLS initiated and transported to KNER. *(Incident occurred during Large South Swell event)*

- July 21, 2022, Inc# 16030; **Brush Fire**: DKI at 50mm. DKI closed until next day, detour through old saddle. Coordinated response with, and to support, PTA and DOFAW. Fire contained by 0200 on 7/22/2022. HPD was on scene with initial responsible party, transported to NHCH with partial burns. Caused by distraut party throwing a burning shirt into brush area. Approx. 100 acres burned.

## Special Operations:

### Hazmat

- Working with LEPC to fund replacements of Hazmat personnel personal radiation monitors.
- Various other equipment and supplies have been purchased for both stations.

### Ocean Safety

- PT to FT conversions status: Executive staff met HGEA to discuss increasing part time positions to full time status. Awaiting formal response from HGEA.
- USLA RWC Training Program Certification still pending.
- iWaterman RWC operator training scheduled for the week of August 15-19 has been rescheduled for September 19-22. Still on track for 8 personnel attending.

### Rescue

- Rescue Boat 2 (Force) engine replacement. Contract has been awarded to winning bidder.
- New lifejackets ordered for RB-2
- PFD's for Sealegs 7 has been received and issued.

### Sayre Foundation

- July 14: Held the Blessing ceremony for 2 new rescue Watercraft donations from the Daniel R. Sayre Memorial Foundation.
- Received donations of Ocean Safety equipment. Foul Weather jackets for all personnel, fins, binoculars, and megaphones.

### Other Events

- July 2nd, Company 11 and volunteer companies participated in Na'alehu Independence Day Parade.
- July 2nd: Volunteer Company 10D along with BC-1 and 2 FF's did an EMS standby and volunteer recruitment at the Activate Puna Block Party in Old Pahoia town.
- July 4th: Company 14 attended the 33rd Annual Honu Independence Day at the Mauna Lani Resort.
- July 4th: Company 7 and Volunteer Co. 7B participated in the annual Kailua Kona Idependence Day Parade.
- July 14: Company 6 participated in RIMPAC excercises at Kona Scenic park to secure LZ for Blackhawk aircraft simulating a Mass Casualty transfer of patients from KCH to Oahu.
- July 14: Company 16 attended Live Ordinance Training



# SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

## Emergency Medical Services Branch:

- The 50<sup>th</sup> recruit class completed their EMT training and have successfully completed all of their national and state testing.
- The 51<sup>st</sup> recruit class will begin EMT training on August 22, 2022. We have two State trained and licensed EMTs in this class who will be put through our department's EMT evaluation process starting in early July.
- The fall 2021 MICT class has completed their state exams and psychomotor testing with Kapi'olani Community College. Two of these individuals are scheduled to complete their internship in August and the third will be done in September.
- We have 5 personnel who will be participating in the upcoming fall 2022 MICT class which begins on August 22, 2022. We will also have one more individual who will be joining this class during the internship phase of training.
- The EMS Branch participated in an MICT recruitment and retention presentation that offered some great ideas. Thank you very much to this recruitment and retention steering committee for all your continued hard work and dedication.
- As we are entering into the first quarter of this fiscal year, the EMS Branch is coordinating multiple large purchases:
  - We currently have 5 new medics out for bid. These new medics will replace the units listed below. We will have an update on cost once this bid is awarded.
    - Medic 3
    - Medic 6
    - Medic 8
    - Medic 10
    - Medic 11

The 2 new medics procured last fiscal year that will be assigned to Station 5 and 15 are tentatively scheduled to be completed in November 2022. Per Braun N. West this delay is due to a production lag of Ford F-Series trucks.
  - We are going through the sole source process to purchase 5 new Pro 28Z FERNO gurneys with mounting hardware for the new medics and an additional 5 spare gurneys. The estimated cost for this purchase will be \$123,000.
  - 5 dual head fire radios and 5 dual head Medicom radios. The estimated cost on this purchase is \$70,000.
  - Paperwork has been submitted to the expenditure review committee for a new cargo delivery truck. We have completed the specs and are ready to move forward with this bid if approved. This vehicle will replace our 2011 EMS cargo delivery truck that is used weekly to deliver supplies island-wide.
  - We have submitted our proposal to the Hawai'i County Standardization Committee to purchase new medication pumps. We are requesting the purchase of Sapphire Multi Therapy IV Infusion Pumps. This is one of the most popular pumps used in prehospital settings across the country, as well as Hawaii. Projected cost for this purchase will be approximately \$60,000.

- We are also looking into purchasing more LUCAS compression devices this fiscal year.
- The EMS Branch has been busy working with the new chopper 2 steering committee. Capt. Kanae recently went up to Reno Nevada to visit the REMSA Care Flight aeromedical operations to evaluate the different medivac patient loading systems. He also met with their aeromedical operations administrators to discuss their current policies and procedures.
- The EMS Branch had a meeting with Panasonic sales and the IT team in regards to laptops. New laptops have been purchased by the State Department of Health and we should be receiving them within the next three months. These new laptops will be used to replace the CF-20's that are currently being used in the field for our patient care reports. The model they have purchased is the Panasonic FZ-G2 laptop. Our current CF-20 laptops will remain under current warranty until the new ones are put into service.
- The EMS Branch participated with Community Paramedicine education at the National Night Out held at the Lei Ohana Housing in Kona. Other community partners that participated at this event were The Big Island Community Health Center, Family Support Services and the Hawai'i Police Department Community Policing Division.
- The EMS Branch had a face-to-face quarterly meeting with the North Kohala Community Hospital. Topics discussed included operational updates, emergency contact information, Medicom communication procedures, patient transfers and training.
- Our Quarterly Base Station Meeting is set for 0900 - 1100 hrs on August 25<sup>th</sup> at the Queens North Hawaii Community Hospital. A Zoom option is available. For further information please see Training Announcement No. 2022-018.
- Our EMS Captains have been assisting operations with FMS II coverage island wide.

## Training Branch:

- Training Branch staff and the 50<sup>th</sup> Recruit Class attended a training presentation by Maui Fire Department Retired Battalion Chief Amos Lonokailua-Hewett hosted by the 50<sup>th</sup> State Chapter of the Fraternal Order of Leatherheads. The presentation centered on lessons learned during the Hurricane Lane Brush Fire pertinent to incident command, resource management, and training. The 50<sup>th</sup> State "FOOLS" is a non-profit chapter of an international 501c3 that contributes to the future growth of the Fire Service through service and professional development opportunities.
- The 50<sup>th</sup> Firefighter Recruit Class graduation ceremony was held on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The class consisted of 14 Hawai'i Fire Department personnel and 7 State of Hawaii DOT Aircraft Rescue Firefighting personnel. Firefighter Chris Bergner was given the prestige to be named "Most Outstanding Recruit" for overall excellence in academics, drill ground performance, and consistent leadership. Firefighter Tobe Ka'ilimai was awarded "Combat Firefighter Fitness" honors for being the fastest recruit to complete a battery of firefighting tasks in full personal protective equipment and SCBA. Firefighter Leona Lyons was recognized for "Highest Physical Training Score", a monthly assessment which includes a two-mile run, push-ups, pull-ups, planks, and 500 meter swim. We are honored to welcome the members of the 50<sup>th</sup> Recruit Class into our fire service family.
- Twenty Personnel attended National Fire Academy training titled "Decision Making for Initial Company Operations". This two-day course is designed to develop the decision-making skills needed by Company Officers to accomplish assigned tactics at structure fires.

- The Firefighter Recruit Physical Assessment Exercise was held on July 23 at Hilo High School. Of 89 candidates, 53 passed and will move on in the application process. Interviews may be scheduled in October, with the next recruit class slated for February 2023.
- The 51<sup>st</sup> Firefighter Recruit Class has completed the classroom portion and closed course of the Driver Training Program, to obtain their HFD Driver Training Permit. The closed course was also opened up to Emergency Operations companies, to include our Volunteers.

## Volunteer Training Section:

- Volunteers from both East and West Hawaii have been taking advantage of the County of Hawai'i's Training Catalog opportunities obtaining Defensive Driving and First Aid/CPR/AED certificates.
- Company 1A participated in the Independence Day Parade and assisted the Make-a-Wish Foundation in building a batting cage for Hilo youth.
- Company 10D & 18A set up a static display at the "Activate Puna" event sponsored by County Councilwoman Ashley Kierkiewicz. This doubled as a recruiting opportunity with many new potential volunteers expressing interest.



- Companies 11A, 11C, 11D participated in the Ka'u Independence Day Parade and fought several brush fires in Discovery Harbour & South Point.
- Company 5D - Fern Acres set up and manned an information and recruiting booth at the Fern Acres picnic, Engine 5D was retired from service and towed to the mechanic's base yard freeing up much needed space in the Fern Acres Station.
- Company 19A - Volcano set up an information booth at their station at the Cooper Center complex during the Independence Day Celebration.
- Company 9B responded to 3 brush fires in July at Waiula, Akoni Pule, and Daniel K. Inouye Highway. They also had 2 members drive over to Hilo to complete the Driver Competency Course along with one other volunteer firefighter from Company 16B.
- Company 9A also responded to the Daniel K. Inouye Brush Fire with their newly donated brush truck.
- Company 14A responded to 2 brush fires on Akoni Pule Hwy, one on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and the second one a week later.
- Volunteer Firefighter Louie Morua 7B is assisting the Volunteer Training Branch in getting volunteers their American Heart Association Heartsaver First Aid/CPR/AED certifications, until the department can implement and fund our own program. Firefighter Morua is a retired Fire Captain/Paramedic from California and an EMT and Fire Academy instructor for Modesto Junior College, Regional Fire Training Center. We thank him for his time and financial support for the training and certifications for Company 7B.

- Company 7B hosted their annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Pancake Fundraiser for the Sayre Foundation with a significant turnout. Company 7B also responded to the Discovery Harbor Brush Fire and an aircraft emergency landing at Kona International Airport.
- Company 20B responded to the Discovery Harbour Brush Fire and Ka'alu'alu Bay Brush Fire.



## Fire Prevention Branch:

- The Fire Prevention Branch investigated 5 structure fires during the month of July. The fires were located in Districts 6, 7, and 10. For FY 2021-2022, Fire Prevention Branch conducted more structure fire investigations for FY 2021-2022 (40) compared to fiscal year 2020-2021 (24).
- 48 Plans were reviewed for Hawai'i Island. Plan Review statistics for FY 2021-2022 were approximately 874 plans reviewed as compared to 483 plans reviewed for FY 2020-2021.
- Two Fire Inspector I positions were promoted to Fire Inspector II positions who are responsible for Plan Review. In June 2022, one of those Fire Inspector II personnel was promoted to Fire Prevention Captain, leaving a vacancy in the Fire Inspector II position.
- Fire Prevention Branch personnel conducted 256 inspections to include 79 commercial inspections, 61 commercial reinspection's, 13 Certificate of Occupancy, 11 Educational, 50 Fire Protection System Acceptance Testing, 6 Site Inspections, 4 Fireworks shows, 2 Tent inspections, and 9 Tank inspections.
- Prevention Branch conducted 43 Request-For-Information and Comments Reports combined.
- The Fire Prevention Branch investigated 19 complaints. This is a large increase compared to last month (7 complaints) as the public is increasingly concerned with overgrown vegetation, brush, and mulch on their neighboring property during the summer months and brush fire season. These types of complaints take a significant amount of time to investigate and write reports which, unfortunately, reduces time for other duties such as Plan Review and inspections.
- 23 fire investigation records/reports were researched and sent to the requested party.
- The Fire Prevention Branch conducted 6 Public Education Presentations.

## Logistics, Emergency Communication Section, and Vehicle Maintenance Sections:

- The remaining Fire Communications Officer I is scheduled to complete training at the end of August.
- Fire Communication Officer I interviews scheduled for August 10<sup>th</sup>, there are two candidates.
- The annual inventory was coordinated by IT C. Cerrone. It was turned into finance, a police report was made for 376 missing items. We are confident next year's inventory will run much smoother.
- The warehouse Storekeeper position is still vacant, and we have not received any updates from DHR on applications. Light duty FF R. Kawazoe is filling in and doing good work.

- Captain Domingo conducted hands only CPR at Waiakeawaena school for over 100 employees. It was a success and principal Ochi was very appreciative of the class.
- Apparatus and equipment repair:
  - Seventy two (72) total repairs/service.
  - Twenty two (22) service calls or trouble calls.
  - Nine (9) contracted out and tows.

## **End of Report**