

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA

2509067



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
AND REHABILITATION**  
*Ka 'Oihana Ho'omalu Kalaima  
a Ho'oponopono Ola*  
1177 Alakea Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**TOMMY JOHNSON**  
DIRECTOR

**Melanie Martin**  
Deputy Director  
Administration

**Vacant**  
Deputy Director  
Correctional Institutions

**Sanna Muñoz**  
Deputy Director  
Rehabilitation Services  
and  
Programs

No. \_\_\_\_\_

September 16, 2025

TO: The Honorable Josh Green, M.D.  
Governor, State of Hawaii

From: Tommy Johnson, Director  
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Subject: Hawaii Paroling Authority's Report – January – June 2025

Pursuant to HRS §353-62(b)(3), please find attached the Hawaii Paroling Authority Report, which is transmitted for your information and review.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Encl.

ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIPT:

 **SEP 23 2025**  
Josh Green, M.D., Governor Date  
State of Hawaii

c: Gene DeMello, Jr.  
HPA Chairman

Corey J. Reincke  
HPA Administrator

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I  
**HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY**  
*Ka 'Ākena Palola o Hawai'i*  
1177 Alakea Street, First Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GENE DEMELLO JR.  
CHAIRMAN

MILTON H. KOTSUBO  
JENNIFER M. MERKLE  
LINDA L. RICH  
VACANT  
MEMBERS

COREY J. REINCKE  
ADMINISTRATOR

No. \_\_\_\_\_

## **Report to the Governor January–June 2025**

The Hawai'i Paroling Authority (HPA) is an independent quasi-judicial body, which is attached to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) for administrative purposes. HPA serves as the central paroling authority for the State of Hawaii and is responsible for the administration and discharge of all parole and community supervision programs for the State. The mission is to:

Protect the personal safety and property of each member of the community and determine the degree of self-control, dependability, and dangerousness the prisoner presents to himself and/or others.

Protection of the community and rehabilitation of the prisoner is sought by the Authority's fixing of appropriate minimum terms of imprisonment; granting or denial of parole; revocation of parole whenever necessary; and properly supervising those on parole.

### **Board**

The Chairman and Parole Board Members were appointed by the Honorable Joshua Green, M.D., and confirmed by the Senate on 4/24/2025:

Gene DeMello Jr., Chairman. Term expires 6/30/2028.  
Milton Kotsubo, Board Member. Term expires 6/30/2026.  
Jennifer Merkle, Board Member. Term expires 6/30/2028.  
Linda Rich, Board Member. Term expires 6/30/2028.  
Vacant position – recruitment in progress

### **Board Hearings**

The Parole Board conducts in-person hearings to establish minimum terms of imprisonment, determine readiness for release on parole, revoke parole, and Program Determination Hearings to determine when an inmate could benefit from the Sex Offender Treatment Program.

The Parole Board conducts Administrative Hearings and reviews Pardon and Commutation applications and makes recommendations to the Governor; suspends parole when a parolee's whereabouts is unknown; determines Early Discharge from Parole; renders decisions for Intrastate and Interstate transfers; determines reduction of minimum terms of imprisonment; and makes decisions for Compassionate/Medical Releases.

### **Hearing Statistics for January–June 2025**

#### **Parole Hearings – 718**

Denied: 327 (\*46%)  
Approved: 233 (32%)  
Continued: 141 (20%)  
Rescheduled: 17 (.02%)

### **Top three reasons for denied parole**

1. \*Does not want parole: 75 (23%)
  - a. Inmate wants to max out.
  - b. Inmate wants to complete programs/work furlough.
  - c. Inmate does not have a verifiable parole plan.
2. Waitlisted/participating in substance abuse treatment: 55 (17%)
3. Misconduct: 44 (13%)

### **Parole Violation Hearings – 220**

#### **Top five violations:**

1. Drug use: 45 (20%)
  2. Change of residence/unknown whereabouts: 37 (17%)
  3. Failure to truthfully answer PO inquiries: 33 (15%)
  4. Failure to report to and maintain contact with PO: 17 (.08%)
  5. Unreported contact with law enforcement: 16 (.07%)
- These five violations represent 67% of the types of parole violations.

### **Minimum Terms of Imprisonment**

The HPA guidelines for setting minimum terms serve as the criteria used to establish minimum terms of imprisonment. The guidelines provide significant factors within three levels of punishment and an applicable range of imprisonment. Although specific weights are not assigned to each factor in the criteria, the areas of focus include the nature of the offense, the degree of injury/loss to person or property, and the offender's criminal history.

For the period of January through June 2025, the Parole Board set minimum terms of imprisonment for 66 Offenses Against Property, 39 Offenses Against Persons, 18 Drug Offenses, 16 Firearms Offenses, 10 Other Offenses, and 9 Sex Offenses. Attached is a detailed description of the crimes in each category, class of Felony, Level of Punishment, and average sentence imposed.

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## **HPA Field Services Branch**

### **Initiatives**

#### **Offender Re-entry**

HPA has prioritized transitioning inmates from incarceration to parole. HPA uses a collaborative re-entry approach with stakeholders including the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) and community resource agencies to affect a handoff between agencies. The handoff is created through collaborative planning that: identifies an inmate's needs; addresses criminogenic risk factors and needs; secures necessary community resources such as housing and treatment; facilitates establishing community-based pro-social networks; creates release opportunities; and coordinates wrap-around services for an inmate's successful transition into the community.

The HPA Pre-parole team undertake release planning individually through in-person contacts with inmates in our local facilities and telephone contacts with inmates in Saguaro Correctional Facility in Arizona. The officers collaborate with facility case managers and develop comprehensive parole release plans. This collaboration ensures gaps in the release planning process are filled and the necessary resources and services are in place prior to release. Critical elements include securing vital documents and identification cards, transportation, psychotropic medication, and up to \$200 of Gate Money for qualifying inmates. The enhanced re-entry planning better prepares inmates for release and facilitates informed release decision

making by the Parole Board. The Parole Board is philosophically aligned to the re-entry principles and are very supportive in creating release opportunities to facilitate a proper transition through final discharge from the criminal justice system.

#### **Program Contracts**

HPA secured contracts with multiple community resource agencies primarily for housing and treatment services for the male and female post-conviction supervision population. These contracts operate by allocated funding.

#### **HPA current housing contracts**

WIN (Kauai) Total Beds: 0 (Pending WIN securing a facility)

WIN (Oahu) Total Beds: 27

Makana O Ke Akua (MOKA) Total Beds: 25

#### **HPA current Drug/Alcohol Treatment Contracts**

Contract Island

BISAC #70314 Hilo/Kona

BISAC TLP #70315 Hilo/Kauai

Kline Welsh (SITC) #70337 Oahu

Lokahi #70316 Hilo/Kona

SAATS Violent #70338 Oahu

SAFTS SLP Oahu

SAATS M/F #71440 Oahu

WIN (DCR/ACT 117 Funds) Oahu

#### **Community Based Mental Health Housing, Programs, Resources**

There is a significant inmate population with mental illness and diagnoses that hinder progression through the correctional system. Inmates with severe mental illness are often unable to conform to program requirements in a correctional institution. Their mental illness requires a therapeutic approach with psychological and psychiatric services that meets their needs. When their mental health needs are not met, inmates are prone to decompensation, behavior regression, misconduct, escalated custody classification and an inability to participate in mainstream programs, all of which diminishes readiness for release on parole.

HPA is attempting to collaborate with the Department of Health, Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD), community resource agencies, and DCR to engage in joint efforts to address these needs. The Parole Board is in a unique position to fashion the setting of minimum terms of imprisonment and effect parole release to suitable programs. HPA believes in a therapeutic approach to transition the mentally ill population from incarceration through re-entry and into the community with appropriate housing and mental health programs and services. Historically, the barrier to parole release has been the availability of community-based housing and programs and services. HPA has also reached out to our legislative partners about this issue.

#### **Leverage Technology**

HPA's technology infrastructure and use of technology could be significantly improved. HPA currently does not maximize use of available technology for creating automated documents, e-signatures, and lacks a case management database for supervision operations and data collection.

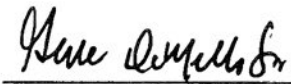
In the last year, the Parole Board Members migrated from using hard copy documents to Microsoft One Drive. This enhanced document availability and review and significantly enhanced our efficiency. The One Drive access facilitates more timely distribution of late arriving documents and makes them available during hearings. HPA will enhance our use of technology and seek future budget allotments for these improvements.

### Equipment

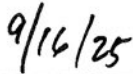
As HPA expands our use of technology, we are in the process of purchasing a POLYCOM or similar system and television monitor for parole officers release planning work with inmates at Saguaro Correctional Facility in Arizona. This system will also be used for team meetings with our neighbor island offices. HPA also purchased the OWL device to accommodate Parole Board hearings, staff meetings, and meetings with stakeholders.

### Capital Improvements

HPA continues to seek office space for the Specialized Services Section that supervise sex offenders, severely mentally ill, and high-risk felons. Our budget request for funding office space continues to go unmet and this remains a barrier. HPA is also looking into creating interview space in our main office. Currently, parole officers meet with parolees fronting the office on Alakea Street. Due to safety concerns, parolees do not enter secure office space. A dedicated interview space adjoining our lobby space could be used for parolee check-ins, to confidentially and safely address non-compliance, and to conduct on-demand programming. Other capital improvements include flooring and window covering replacements to improve staff safety and improve our professional appearance.



Gene DeMello, Jr  
Chairman



Date



Corey Reincke

Paroles and Pardons Administrator



Date



Category	Crime	Class	Level of Punishment	Average Sentence in Months	Count of Hearings
Drug Offenses	Attempted PDD 2	B	Level II	37	3
Drug Offenses	Attempted PDD 2	B	Level III	84	3
Drug Offenses	HOV - Influence of Intoxicant	B	Level II	42	1
Drug Offenses	HOV - Influence of Intoxicant	C	Level I	18	4
Drug Offenses	HOV - Influence of Intoxicant	C	Level II	36	3
Drug Offenses	PDD 1	A	Level II	66	1
Drug Offenses	PDD 1	A	Level III	121	1
Drug Offenses	PDD 2	A	Level III	73	1
Drug Offenses	PDD 2	B	Level I	30	1
Drug Offenses	PDD 2	B	Level II	39.5	6
Drug Offenses	PDD 2	B	Level III	72	11
Drug Offenses	PDD 2	C	Level III	48	1
Drug Offenses	PDD 3	C	Level I	12	12
Drug Offenses	PDD 3	C	Level II	30	39
Drug Offenses	PDD 3	C	Level III	42	27
Drug Offenses	Prohibited Acts Related to Drug Paraphernalia	C	Level II	25	1
Drug Offenses	Promoting Prison Contraband 1	B	Level III	66.5	2
Drug Offenses	Unlawful Use of Drug Paraphernalia	C	Level III	42	1
Firearm Offenses	Carrying/Possessing Loaded Firearm on Public Highway	B	Level II	42	1
Firearm Offenses	Carrying/Use of Firearm in Commission of Separate Felony	A	Level III	174	2
Firearm Offenses	Manufacturing/Purchasing/Obtaining Firearm to Assemble Firearm w/ No Serial Number	C	Level III	48	1
Firearm Offenses	Ownership of Automatic Firearm Prohibited	B	Level I	36	1
Firearm Offenses	Ownership/Possession Firearm/Ammunition Person Convicted of Certain Crimes	A	Level III	180	1
Firearm Offenses	Ownership/Possession Firearm/Ammunition Person Convicted of Certain Crimes	B	Level II	37	1
Firearm Offenses	Ownership/Possession Firearm/Ammunition Person Convicted of Certain Crimes	B	Level III	75	4
Firearm Offenses	Ownership/Possession Prohibited	B	Level II	51	2
Firearm Offenses	Ownership/Possession Prohibited	B	Level III	72.5	2
Firearm Offenses	Ownership/Possession Prohibited	C	Level I	24	1
Firearm Offenses	Ownership/Possession Prohibited	C	Level II	27.5	2
Firearm Offenses	Ownership/Possession Prohibited Firearm/Ammunition	B	Level I	30	1
Firearm Offenses	Place to Keep Pistol/Revolver	B	Level II	38.5	2
Firearm Offenses	Place to Keep Pistol/Revolver	B	Level III	66.5	4
Firearm Offenses	Place to Keep Unloaded Firearms Other than Pistols/Revolvers	C	Level II	30	2
Firearm Offenses	Possession of Prohibited Detachable Ammunition Magazine	C	Level III	37	1
Offenses Against Persons	Abuse of Family/Household Member	C	Level I	18	1
Offenses Against Persons	Abuse of Family/Household Member	C	Level II	30	5
Offenses Against Persons	Abuse of Family/Household Member	C	Level III	42	5
Offenses Against Persons	Accomplice to Robbery 2	B	Level II	48	1
Offenses Against Persons	Assault 1	B	Level II	50	2
Offenses Against Persons	Assault 1	B	Level III	90	4
Offenses Against Persons	Assault 2	C	Level I	24	2
Offenses Against Persons	Assault 2	C	Level II	30	5
Offenses Against Persons	Assault 2	C	Level III	42	15
Offenses Against Persons	Assault Against Law Enforcement Officer/Police Officer 1	C	Level I	24	1
Offenses Against Persons	Assault Against Law Enforcement Officer/Police Officer 1	C	Level II	30	5
Offenses Against Persons	Assault Against Law Enforcement Officer/Police Officer 1	C	Level III	37	1
Offenses Against Persons	Attempted Assault 1	B	Level III	84	1
Offenses Against Persons	Attempted Assault 2	C	Level II	30	1
Offenses Against Persons	Attempted Assault on Law Enforcement Officer	C	Level III	37	1
Offenses Against Persons	Attempted Manslaughter	A	Level II	84	1
Offenses Against Persons	Intimidating a Witness	C	Level II	25	1
Offenses Against Persons	Kidnapping	A	Level III	420	1
Offenses Against Persons	Kidnapping	B	Level II	48	1
Offenses Against Persons	Manslaughter	A	Level II	93	2
Offenses Against Persons	Manslaughter	A	Level III	174	2
Offenses Against Persons	Manslaughter	C	Level II	90	1
Offenses Against Persons	Murder 2	Life	Level II	144	2

Offenses Against Persons	Murder 2	Life	Level III	270.5	2
Offenses Against Persons	Negligent Homicide 1	B	Level II	48	1
Offenses Against Persons	Negligent Homicide 2	C	Level II	30	1
Offenses Against Persons	Negligent Injury 1	C	Level II	25	1
Offenses Against Persons	Reckless Endangering 1	B	Level III	61	1
Offenses Against Persons	Reckless Endangering 1	C	Level II	30	1
Offenses Against Persons	Reckless Endangering 1	C	Level III	42	1
Offenses Against Persons	Robbery 2	B	Level I	36	3
Offenses Against Persons	Robbery 2	B	Level II	37	8
Offenses Against Persons	Robbery 2	B	Level III	72	7
Offenses Against Persons	Terroristic Threatening 1	B	Level I	30	1
Offenses Against Persons	Terroristic Threatening 1	C	Level I	18	1
Offenses Against Persons	Terroristic Threatening 1	C	Level II	30	9
Offenses Against Persons	Terroristic Threatening 1	C	Level III	45	6
Offenses Against Persons	Unlawful Imprisonment 1	C	Level II	30	1
Offenses Against Persons	Unlawful Imprisonment 1	C	Level III	48	2
Offenses Against Property	Attempted Burglary 1	B	Level II	37	1
Offenses Against Property	Attempted Theft 2	C	Level I	24	1
Offenses Against Property	Attempted Theft 2	C	Level II	30	3
Offenses Against Property	Attempted Theft 2	C	Level III	48	1
Offenses Against Property	Attempted UCPV	C	Level III	42	1
Offenses Against Property	Burglary 1	B	Level II	48	12
Offenses Against Property	Burglary 1	B	Level III	72	10
Offenses Against Property	Burglary 1	C	Level III	37	2
Offenses Against Property	Burglary 2	C	Level I	21	2
Offenses Against Property	Burglary 2	C	Level II	30	12
Offenses Against Property	Burglary 2	C	Level III	42	25
Offenses Against Property	Burglary Dwelling During Emergency	B	Level II	60	1
Offenses Against Property	Computer Fraud 3	C	Level II	30	1
Offenses Against Property	CPD 1	B	Level I	30	1
Offenses Against Property	CPD 1	B	Level II	42	1
Offenses Against Property	CPD 1	B	Level III	61	1
Offenses Against Property	CPD 2	C	Level I	18	1
Offenses Against Property	CPD 2	C	Level II	36	1
Offenses Against Property	CPD 2	C	Level III	42	1
Offenses Against Property	Forgery 2	B	Level III	72	1
Offenses Against Property	Forgery 2	C	Level I	21	2
Offenses Against Property	Forgery 2	C	Level II	30	9
Offenses Against Property	Forgery 2	C	Level III	48	9
Offenses Against Property	Forgery 3	C	Level II	30	1
Offenses Against Property	Fraudulent Use of Credit Card	C	Level II	27.5	4
Offenses Against Property	Fraudulent Use of Credit Card	C	Level III	37	2
Offenses Against Property	Habitual Property Crime	C	Level II	30	5
Offenses Against Property	Habitual Property Crime	C	Level III	37	1
Offenses Against Property	Identity Theft 2	B	Level II	48	5
Offenses Against Property	Identity Theft 2	B	Level III	72	2
Offenses Against Property	Identity Theft 2	C	Level III	48	1
Offenses Against Property	Identity Theft 3	B	Level II	60	1
Offenses Against Property	Identity Theft 3	C	Level II	30	8
Offenses Against Property	Identity Theft 3	C	Level III	38.5	10
Offenses Against Property	Robbery 2	B	Level I	36	1
Offenses Against Property	Theft 1	B	Level I	30	1
Offenses Against Property	Theft 1	B	Level III	72	1
Offenses Against Property	Theft 1	C	Level III	48	2
Offenses Against Property	Theft 2	B	Level II	37	1
Offenses Against Property	Theft 2	B	Level III	72	1
Offenses Against Property	Theft 2	C	Level II	30	25
Offenses Against Property	Theft 2	C	Level III	42	21

Offenses Against Property	Theft of Credit Card	C	Level II	25	1
Offenses Against Property	Theft of Credit Card	C	Level III	37	1
Offenses Against Property	Theft, Forgery, Etc., of Credit Cards	C	Level II	30	1
Offenses Against Property	UCPV	C	Level I	18	3
Offenses Against Property	UCPV	C	Level II	30	20
Offenses Against Property	UCPV	C	Level III	39.5	8
Offenses Against Property	UCPV 1	C	Level I	18	2
Offenses Against Property	UCPV 1	C	Level II	30	11
Offenses Against Property	UCPV 1	C	Level III	42	11
Offenses Against Property	UCPV 2	C	Level II	30	2
Offenses Against Property	UEMV	C	Level I	18	1
Offenses Against Property	UEMV	C	Level III	48	1
Offenses Against Property	UEMV 1	C	Level I	12	1
Offenses Against Property	UEMV 1	C	Level II	30	14
Offenses Against Property	UEMV 1	C	Level III	37	9
Offenses Against Property	Unauthorized Entry into a Dwelling	C	Level II	25	1
Offenses Against Property	Unauthorized Entry into a Dwelling 1	B	Level III	96	1
Offenses Against Property	Unauthorized Entry into a Dwelling 1	C	Level I	18	1
Offenses Against Property	Unauthorized Entry into a Dwelling 1	C	Level II	25	1
Offenses Against Property	Unauthorized Entry into a Dwelling 2	C	Level II	33	2
Offenses Against Property	Unauthorized Entry into a Dwelling 2	C	Level III	37	1
Offenses Against Property	UPCPI	B	Level II	60	1
Offenses Against Property	UPCPI	C	Level I	18	2
Offenses Against Property	UPCPI	C	Level II	30	20
Offenses Against Property	UPCPI	C	Level III	42	15
Other Offenses	Arson 2	B	Level II	48	1
Other Offenses	Arson 2	B	Level III	96	1
Other Offenses	Arson 3	C	Level III	42	1
Other Offenses	Bail Jumping 1	C	Level II	27.5	4
Other Offenses	Bail Jumping 1	C	Level III	37	1
Other Offenses	Escape 2	C	Level II	30	1
Other Offenses	Escape 2	C	Level III	45	4
Other Offenses	Resisting Order to Stop 1	C	Level II	30	3
Other Offenses	Resisting Order to Stop Motor Vehicle 1	C	Level II	30	1
Other Offenses	Switchblade Knives; Prohibitions; Penalty	C	Level III	48	1
Sex Offenses	Attempted Sexual Assault 3	C	Level II	30	1
Sex Offenses	Continuous SA of a Minor Under Fourteen	A	Level III	192	1
Sex Offenses	Electronic Enticement of a Child 1	B	Level I	30	1
Sex Offenses	Failure to Comply w/ Covered Offender Registry Requirements	C	Level II	30	1
Sex Offenses	Failure to Comply w/ Covered Offender Registry Requirements	C	Level III	42	1
Sex Offenses	Sexual Assault 2	B	Level I	36	1
Sex Offenses	Sexual Assault 2	B	Level II	60	3
Sex Offenses	Sexual Assault 2	B	Level III	72	4
Sex Offenses	Sexual Assault 3	C	Level III	48	7
Total				37	614