



**Fire Department**  
**Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**  
**July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**

Steven R. Goble  
Chief

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

### **I. MISSION STATEMENT**

To preserve and protect life, property and the environment of Kaua'i County from all hazards and emergencies.

### **II. DEPARTMENT GOALS**

The Kaua'i Fire Department (KFD) is dedicated and highly motivated to make our community safe. The KFD team has effectively carried out duties to achieve the department's goals of preventing, suppressing and extinguishing all types of fires; responding to and mitigating any and all types of emergencies (medical, HAZMAT, search and rescue, disasters) in a highly trained, professional and safe manner; administering first aid and CPR to the basic life support level (EMT) and to make Kaua'i a safer place by supporting and promoting training for the community; enforcing the National/Hawai'i Fire Code and promote fire prevention through educational programs and community outreach; maintaining our vehicles and equipment for emergency response through a preventive maintenance program; and providing safe, guarded beaches through an effective and dynamic ocean safety program.

### **III. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

To achieve departmental goals, the Kaua'i Fire Department has an authorized staff of 213 employees--146 uniformed fire personnel, 59 uniformed ocean safety personnel and eight (8) civilians assigned to five (5) major service bureaus, eight (8) fire stations, eleven (11) lifeguard towers located throughout the island, one roving beach patrol, and three (3) Roving Jet Ski Patrols one in each of the three districts (North, East, South/West).

The department prioritizes preventative measures to avert emergencies before they happen. Community risk reduction activities including fire code enforcement, fire investigation, fire safety programs, ocean safety awareness, and targeted programs like fall prevention, smoke detector installation, and fire extinguisher training.

Emergency response is a core capability that the department provides at a high level to the community. Our responders are highly trained and skilled to deliver emergency response through the air, on the land, and in the water. Search, rescue, and fire suppression is supported by the department air operations helicopter. Fire operations crews are trained in fire suppression, emergency medical, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and water rescue. Specialty teams for hazardous materials and technical rescue are deployed to manage these complex highly specialized responses. The Ocean Safety Team provides initial response to emergencies in and around the water through land-based and on-water rescue teams. Roving jet-ski teams are strategically located around the island to provide rapid response to off-shore emergencies.

The Fire Commission appoints the Fire Chief and reviews and provides input for the annual budget.

The five major service bureaus are Administration, Operations, Training Prevention, and Ocean Safety.

### **OPERATIONS BUREAU**

Fire Operations is comprised of 3 Battalion Chiefs, 135 Fire line personnel, 21 Fire Suppression Captains, 3 Hazmat Captains, 3 Rescue Captains, 27 Fire Apparatus Operators, 9 Fire Rescue Specialists, 9 Hazardous Materials Technicians, and 63 Fire Fighters. They respond to fire and hazmat/rescue incidents and assist in all 911 emergency medical calls.

Fire fighters work 24 hour shifts for an average of 56 hours per week. They are assigned to 3 platoons, each consisting of 45 fire fighters. Each platoon staffs 8 fire stations with crews consisting of a Fire Apparatus Operator and Fire Fighters and /or Fire Fighter Trainees under the command of a Fire Captain, with the exception of the Līhu'e Fire Station which has a Suppression Captain and Rescue Captain, two Fire Apparatus Operators and three Fire Rescue Specialists. The Līhu'e Fire Station is the designated home base for the Rescue team.

Fire Fighters are stationed at the Hanalei (E-1), Kapa'a (E-2), Līhu'e (E-3), Kōloa (E-4), Kalāheo (E-5), Hanapēpē (E-6), Waimea (E-7), and Kaiākea (E-8) Fire Stations. Staffing for all of our fire stations are at five with the exception of Līhu'e which is a nine person station.

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **July 2020**

7/2 – E8, T8, E2, T2R3, Air1, BC: Brush fire off Kukuihale Rd in Anahola

7/5 – E8, T8, R3, Air1, BC3; Hoopii Falls to extricate injured hiker

7/6 – E8, T8, T2, R3, T3, Air1; Anahola brush fire

7/8 – E2, T2, E8, T8, HM8; Phosphorous fluid in jetty by Lihi

7/12 – Bike vs vehicle Inc #3123

7/14 – E6, T6, E5, T5, E7, T7, T3; Structure fire on Ahi Rd in Hanapēpē

7/14 – E8, T8, E2, T2; Structure fire on Hoku Rd

7/18 – E7, T7, R3, Air1; airlifted injured hiker on Waipoo Falls trail

7/23 – E6, T6, Radon1; assisted adrift boat in Port Allen Harbor

7/26 – E7, T7, E6, T6, P3; Single room structure fire, out on arrival

### **August 2020**

8/4 – E6, T6, T7, Air1; Brush fire Kaumakani

8/10 – E2, T2, E8, T8, E3, R3, T3, BC1; Structure Fire in Wailua Homesteads

8/17 – E7, T7, R3, BC, Air1, KFD Training w drone, DOFAW 9 personnel; 17yo missing hiker on the Mohihi trail

8/21 – E3, R3; 1 car accident fronting Lihue Texaco, male ejected, CPR initiated

8/27 – E3, R3, T3, HM8, E8, BC2; Propane leak, big tank behind Duke's, Hawai'i Gas mitigated

### **September 2020**

9/2 – E7, T7, E6, T6, R3, T3, BC3, Prevention; Structure fire, Hoonani St

9/2 – Air1; Inc#3899 Haupu Mountain Base

9/3 – R3, Air1, E1, T1; Airlifted female hiker from Hanakoa LZ

9/4 – E7, T7, E6, T6, E5, T5, R3, T3, BC3, Prevention; Structure Fire, Ala Wai Rd

9/5 – E8, T8, R3, Air1; Male w neck injury in Anahola Motorcycle Track, extricated

9/7 – E3, R3, T2, T6, E5, Air1, Air2, BC2; Large brush fire Ninini

9/11 – E6, T6, T5, T7, R3, T3, BC3, Air1; Brush fire Salt Pond area

9/15 – E8, T8, E2, T2, R3, Air1, BC3; Brush fire Anahola

9/15 – E3, R3, Air1; extricate pt out of field, LZ set up by E3

9/16 – E7, T7, T6, Air1; Brush fire Kokee MM 11

9/18 – E1, T1, E8, T8, Prevention; Structure fire middle of taro patch

9/19 – E5, T5, T6, Prevention; Garage fire in Lāwā'i

9/23 – E8, T8, E2, T2, E3, R3, T3, BC1, Prevention; Structure fire Anahola Rd

### **October 2020**

10/2 – E8, T8, E2, T2, R3, Air1, BC2; 2 Brush fires south Anahola

10/3 – E8, T8, E2, T2, R3, BC3, Public Works; Brush fire vicinity of Crack 14

10/4 – E8, T8, R3, Air1; Anahola brush fire

10/4 – E2, T2, E8, T8, E3, T3, BC2, Prevention; Structure fire Kapa'a

10/5 – R3, Air1, E1, T1; 2 subjects picked up in Kalalau

10/5 – E2, T2, E8, T8, R3, BC, Air1; Anahola brush fire Donkey beach area

10/11 – E2, T2, E8, T8, E3, T3, BC, Prevention; Structure fire Kumole St

10/11 – R3, Air1, E8, T8; Injured hiker on Makaleha trail. Medics transported

10/19 – R3, E2, T2, BC3; Hoopii Falls injured hiker

10/19 – E2, T2, KPD; Kitchens beach DOA in water near shore

### **November 2020**

11/19 – E7, T7, R3; Carried injured visitor out of Pihea trail, injured ankle

11/23 – R3, Air1; Hiker fell 30' on Kalalau Trail rescue to continue the following morning

11/24 – R3, Air1; Extricated injured hiker, wife and child by air

11/24 – E3, BC3, ARFF; Structure fire old papaya plant near transfer station

11/26 – E5; Structure fire, under control, all other units were cancelled

### **December 2020**

12/4 – E1, T1; Female hiker injured ankle Blue Hole

12/7 – R3, Air1, E2, T2; Short haul hiker from Sleeping Giant

12/24 – E3, R3, E5, E2; Structure fire Humane Society Minor roof damage

12/24 – L4, T4, E5, T5, R3, T3; Head on TC, 5 pts, 5 medical units

12/26 – T5, E5, E6, R3, T3, E3, BC; Came in as structure fire, bus on fire, cancelled other units

### **January 2021**

1/8 – E8, T8; 69yo male struck by vehicle while in crosswalk on Kūhiō Highway, Highway shutdown

1/15 – E1, R3, Air1; injured hiker at 8mm on Kalalau Trail airlifted to Princeville AP

1/16 – R3, Air1; Airlifted 2 hikers from Kalalau, pts refused medical treatment

1/19 – E1, T1, OSB; used jet ski to transport 12yo female to Princeville side of bridge in need of meds

1/22 – E7, T7, Air1, R3; 2 acre brush fire Waimea Canyon drive

1/24 – E1, T1, BC; Structure fire, Hanalei, Yert completely destroyed

1/27 – E3, T3, R3, M21, M23; TC w 2 pts in district 3

1/28 – E8, T8; Brush fire Anahola

1/30 – E8, T8, E2, T2, Prevention; Shed fire in Kapahi

### **February 2021**

2/10 – E3, T3, R3, Air1, OSB Rove, BC; Search and retrieved body of missing fisherman at

Ahukini Pier

2/28 – E3, R3, T3; Structure fire on Hopena Rd Puhi. Extinguisher used, Prevention responded

### **March 2021**

3/1 – E8, T8; near drowning at Donkey Beach, 50yo female

3/3 – E5, T5; 2 car TC head on, Maluhia and Kaumuali'i, 2 injured

3/3 – E1, T1, North Roving; 15yo swept out Queens Bath, NRU made the grab

3/10 – E5; 2 car TC overturned vehicle fronting Kalaheo LDS church with injuries

3/11 – Rain 21; Hā'ena Roving Unit activated

3/17 – E3, R3; 2 car TC Kaumuali'i and Nuhou

3/21 – E8, T8, R3, Air1; Injured hiker short hauled 46yo male resident from Hopii Falls trail

3/24 – E1, T1, OSB; Rescued female swimmer at 'Anini, Air1 and R3 stood by at hanger

3/31 – E1, T1, OSB; CPR at Black Pot Beach

### **April 2021**

4/1 – E1, T1, Air1, R3; Short hauled injured female hiker from Hanakoa

4/4 – E1, T1, Z1, R3, Air1, East Rove, BC2, Coast Guard; Swimmer in distress, Hanakāpī'ai, victim recovered DOA

4/5 – L4, E5; Man trapped by machinery

4/12 – R3, T7, Air1; Fire personnel hiked hiker out of Awaawapuhi Trail, pt released at scene

4/18 – E1, T1, Jetski1, R3, Air1, BC2, North Ski, Kē'ē Tower; Swimmer in distress, all parties safe on land per North Ski

### **May 2021**

5/7 – E8, T8; Couple lost Makaleha Trail, couple made their way out

5/12 – R3, Air1; Spent the night in Kalalau due to battery malfunction

5/14 – E3, R3, BC3; Wailua Falls search for potential injured person

5/18 – E7, T7, E6, T6, E5, T5, R3, T3, BC1, Prevention; Structure fire in Kekaha, Ulili Rd, Def operation

5/19 – E8, T8, E2, T2, R3, T3, Tender 2, BC2; Brush fire Anahola

5/26 – E6, T6, R3, Air 1; 63yo male short hauled out of Kukui Trail 1 mile in

5/30 – R3; Assisted PD w/ search of missing person in Kokee area, Kalalau and Waimea Valley area

**June 2021**

6/2 – R3, Air 1, E1, T1; visiting couple airlifted out of Kalalau, female sore back

6/2 – R3, T7, Air 1; male subject rescued from Alakai Swamp

6/2 – R3, E1, T1, Air 1; female subject w head injury recued out of Kalalau

6/4 – R3, Air 1, T1, E1, Medics; 2 pts airlifted out of Hanakoa

6/5 – R3, Air 1, E7, T7; assisted PD with missing person in Kokee

6/6 – L4, T4, R3, Air 1, BC2, KPD; Search for missing 16yo male on Shipwrecks Trail

6/13 – E2, T2, E8, T8, E3, R3, T3, BC2; Structure fire Kapa’a

6/16 – OSB, E1, T1; Male subject at Lumaha’i in distress, Medic 22 transported

6/18 – E7, T7, R3, Air1; Airlifted injured female hiker from Awaawapuhi Trail, medics transported

6/21 – E6, T6, PD, BC, OSB, East Roving, Ai r1, R3; Search of ocean with negative findings

6/22 – R3, Air 1, PD, E6, T6, Coast Guard; Search for missing diver from previous day w/ no findings

6/28 – R3, Air 1; Dehydrated male hiker at MM6 of Kalalau Trail airlifted to Princeville AP, deniedtransport with medics

6/29 – E2, T2, R3, Air 1, BC2; LZ @ Wailua Houselots 35yo female fell off sleeping giant trail, airliftedto park and transferred care to medics

6/30 – E7, T7, R3, Air 1; Short hauled injured female subject from Waipoo Falls trail to awaitingmedics

**EMERGENCY CALL REPORT BY INITIAL DISPATCHED UNIT**

<b>Incident Type</b>	<b>Sta 1</b>	<b>Sta 2</b>	<b>Sta 3</b>	<b>Res 3</b>	<b>Sta 4</b>	<b>Sta 5</b>	<b>Sta 6</b>	<b>Sta 7</b>	<b>Sta 8</b>	<b>Total</b>
Fire	42	73	38	16	10	23	28	33	131	<b>394</b>
Rupture/Explosion	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
EMS/Rescue	411	609	556	482	330	434	334	311	581	<b>4048</b>
Hazardous Condition	5	4	3	2	1	3	0	4	5	<b>27</b>

Service Call	45	48	60	42	55	31	18	73	41	<b>413</b>
Good Intent	145	73	134	91	83	26	13	22	86	<b>673</b>
False Call	38	15	38	7	34	8	8	10	13	<b>171</b>
Severe Weather	6	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	<b>8</b>
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>5738</b>

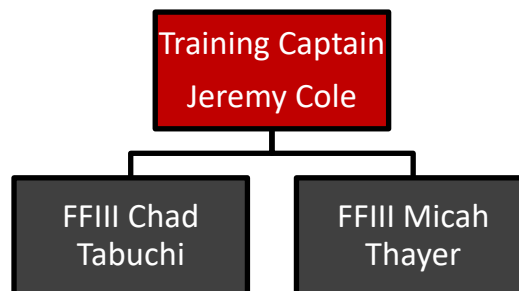
**TRAINING BUREAU**

**PURPOSE**

The Training Bureau assists training cadres with planning annual program budgets, developing new training, and assuring all mandatory trainings are provided.

In FY 2020 to 2021 the Training Bureau began the execution of the 2021 Training Plan. This plan was built to encourage consistent and coordinated training across the department. Areas of focus on the plan address training needs identified by the Chief Staff.

A Fire Captain and two Fire Service Trainers (FFIII) staff the Training Bureau. They are tasked with coordinating the training of all Fire Fighter Trainees and line personnel.



Mission Statement: The Training Bureau’s motto is “Commitment to Excellence”.

This motto is realized through pursuit of three main goals.



## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- “Create a culture where people are hungry to learn.” The objective is to provide exciting and interesting training in a positive atmosphere where we stretch our capabilities to fail forward. These instances are teaching points to help encourage a positive mindset and a desire to learn.
- “Every Day we get a little bit better.” This supports the idea that Kaua’i Fire Department members can strive daily for personal and department wide improvement. This is in alignment with the Kaua’i Fire Department Strategic Plan; which highlights the need for a *continuous improvement mindset*.
- “Be a full stack.” The objective is for crews, including the Training Bureau, must function as a full stack or crew capable of achieving all-hazards response. Everyone works trains, exercises, and brainstorms together to encourage continual improvement. Fostering teamwork influences the design of all classes created in the Training Bureau.

## ACTIVITIES AND TRAINING

- I. Program Descriptions
  - a. ASHER/NFPA 3000 – this training program is working to improve KFD’s interactions with KPD and EMS at active shooter events.
    - i. Training of Recruit Class 30
  - b. Blue Card – Program implemented to standardize department communications at emergency scenes.
    - i. All captains are BCC certified officers
    - ii. One remaining classes to finish FFIII in the department
    - iii. One officer class conducted in FY 20-21
    - iv. Introductory training provided as part of Recruit curriculum
  - c. Driver Training – Provides initial training to DOT standards for new hires. Also conducts refresher training.
    - i. Annual refresher for all personnel conducted in stations on duty
    - ii. August 2020, one week with RC30
  - d. Extrication – In service training for crews every other year. Cadre also trains new hires for a week in recruit training.
    - i. Biannual refresher took place in February/March 2021
  - e. Fire Ground Initial Attack – Program provides initial attack training for Fire Fighter Recruits.
    - i. Trained Recruit Class 30

- f. Fire Ground Survival/RIT – Program created with assistance from IAFF to train all personnel in surviving and responding to fire ground maydays and emergencies.
  - i. FGS and Pittsburg drill introduced to the department in early 2020.
    - 1. Keystone 2: Pittsburgh/RIT added to the KFD Training Plan to be executed in all stations
  - ii. Pittsburgh Props and IAFF Fireground survival props tour the department annually for company level drills
  
- g. HAZMAT
  - i. Joint training with 93<sup>rd</sup> CST team
    - 1. Result of this training is leading to the creation of new decontamination SOGs
  
- h. Helicopter – Program conducts on duty refresher training to keep line personnel up to date on best practices in a high-risk low occurrence aspect of fire department duties. The cadre has also implemented standardized training for line personnel and has refined the skills introduction process for new hires.
  
- i. EMS – Program has implemented annual refresher and in station training for EMS continuing education. EMS cadre assists KCC staff with training new hires in initial NREMT certification. Program also oversees annual refresher needs of the department.
  - i. NREMT recertification:
    - 1. 44 renewals in 3/2021
  - ii. New NREMT Certification:
    - 1. 7 total – 5 new hires, 2 incumbent
  
- j. PADO/AADO – Cadre tasked with training line personnel to IFSAC standards for Pumping Apparatus Driver Operator. New curriculum added in 2019 in an effort to raise department skill levels with using Pumping Apparatus to supply water on the fire ground.
  - i. Skill sheets created and used to hold new standard. Continuing progress towards IFSAC certification
  - ii. New in 20/21 PADO class attendees were assigned mandatory homework prior to training.
  - iii. Additional classes added in 20/21 due to demand from line personnel.
  
- k. Ropes – Program trains the department in the use of new rope rescue skills and equipment. The cadre also trains new hires in basic ropes rescue operations.
  - i. Cadre is writing basic ropes SOG for department wide consistency.
  - ii. Cadre also working to standardize rope rescue equipment department wide.
  
- l. Swift Water
  - i. Recruit Class Training to Dive Rescue International standard

- m. USLA – Program oversees the annual refresher training for line personnel and a one-week water lifesaving training for new hires. The cadre is also tasked with maintaining Kaua'i Fire Department's USLA ARRT (Aquatic Resource Rescue Team) certification.
- II. Budget - FY 2020 – 2021
    - a. Original budget: \$1,328,341.
    - b. Total expenditures: \$1,298,756.91

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- III. IFSAC Certifications offered in FY 2020 – 2021. Certificates were awarded in the following disciplines.
  - a. Firefighter I and II
  - b. HAZMAT Awareness and Operations
  - c. Airport Rescue Fire Fighter (ARFF) – Recruit Class 30
  - d. NREMT – 5 in Recruit Class 30 and 2 incumbents.
- IV. KFD hosted *Nozzle Forward* training at Coco Palms property with fire fighters from agencies around the state. Select members from training cadres across KFD also attended.
  - a. Three day, twenty four hour training
  - b. Class supported the 2021 Training Plan and the KFD Strategic Goal of continuous improvement mindset
  - c. Hosting this training resulted in many crews and other agencies requesting one on one Nozzle Forward Training with the KFD Training Bureau.
    - i. These drills were conducted at the former Coco Palms resort from 3/2021 to 7/2021.
- V. Recruit Training
  - a. Recruit Manual reviewed and signed by the Union.
  - b. RC30 was the first training to include online learning portions in response to COVID protocols.
  - c. Overarching goal of Recruit Training is to instill a service-oriented mindset. Training has the goal of creating a workforce united towards a goal of career long service and improvement.
- VI. Converted nearly all annual refresher training to on duty sessions
  - a. Resulted in fiscal responsibility and improved quality of training.
  - b. USLA Annual refresher was the only refresher training conducted off duty.
- VII. Implementation of the 2021 Annual Training Plan. This plan focuses on quality training of core firefighting skills and incremental improvement through expanded skill development.
  - a. Creation of KFD specific Skills Sheets
    - i. These sheets are used for recruit skill testing and for line personnel to maintain a consistent base level of skills.

- b. Introduction of Keystone Evolutions
  - i. Company level drills designed to tie together multiple Task Performances from the training plan.
  - ii. Evolutions also introduced the idea of time standards for crews.

## **FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU**

### **PURPOSE & INTENT**

The Fire Prevention Bureau is tasked with the reduction and prevention of fires and life-safety hazards that lead to personal injury and property damage. Raising public awareness through fire safety education that prevents hazardous conditions from occurring, and heightening the public's awareness of fire prevention is the primary focus of the Prevention Bureau. The Prevention Bureau is also challenged with the timely inspection of schools, hospitals, care homes and other commercial occupancies to minimize hazardous fire conditions; the review and approval of commercial building construction plans to ensure compliance with the County Fire Code and required fire protection features and systems; to review, update, and enforce the County Fire Code; to investigate and determine the origin and cause of fires for statistical data and seek the prosecution of person(s) who cause incendiary fires; and to maintain inspection and investigation records for the assessment of Fire Prevention Bureau objectives in creating a fire-safe environment for the County of Kaua'i.

### **DUTIES**

1. To promote fire prevention and life safety awareness in the community.
2. To reduce and minimize fire hazard conditions.
3. To investigate the origin and cause of fires.
4. To enforce the Kaua'i County Fire Code.

### **ACTIVITIES**

This Fiscal year was challenging for the Bureau. COVID-19 and all the restrictions that came with it forced the Bureau to pivot strategies for fire safety and fire prevention education. Early on, the Emergency Operations Center used Bureau staff to assist with planning and logistical functions. Priorities for the Bureau were shifted away from inspections and education toward the battle against COVID-19.

The Bureau used an expanded social media outreach on Facebook and Instagram to replace large traditional activities like: Fire Prevention Week, job fairs, career fairs, fire safety education workshops and fire safety displays. In person group events were conducted in smaller groups for community risk reduction activities like: fire extinguisher training, hands only CPR, stop the bleed, and fall prevention.

Personnel change brought the next challenge for the Bureau. Retirements shuffled the personnel in KFD and the Bureau brought in a new staff of Inspectors and Captain. Only one Inspector remained through the year. This change brought in opportunities to implement new ideas and skill sets that could help the Bureau evolve. Old processes were evaluated, audited, and revised to take advantage of new technology and become more efficient. However, extensive training requirements for the new staff slowed progress. The broad spectrum of knowledge Inspectors are required to know is difficult. Inspectors must be educated in the fields of: Building Plans Review, Sprinkler and Alarm Systems, Commercial Inspections, Fire Investigation and Public Education.

With travel restricted, the Bureau could not take advantage of academies and conference events that traditionally immerse staff in the required training. Instead, the Bureau brought in previous Inspectors for training sessions using their old notes from Conferences. Although effective in cost and time savings, quality was lost in the expertise of a true expert instructor at training events. Inspectors looked toward online training in the various fields to enhance their qualifications to do tasks with more accuracy. These online courses reduced costs related to travel and were convenient to accomplish periodically during the work week. The Bureau is researching online options to develop a certification program for Fire Inspector, Fire Plans Reviewer, and Fire Investigator.

Electronic plans review (EPR) was the most difficult process for the new staff to learn. Although very efficient in tracking plans, EPR requires administrative skill sets firefighters are not accustomed to using. With a minimal administrative support, Inspectors struggled to learn multiple software systems and sort through the accounting practices of previous Inspectors. While auditing the process, Captain Jeremie Makepa recognized that existing processes were inefficient, resulting in a significant amount of uncollected funds. Previous practices would conduct plans review first and wait until the buildings were completed to collect fees. Since many projects do not go through to completion, these reviews went unpaid. Captain Makepa immediately implemented a “denied pending payment” review priority. To eliminate future losses, new procedures require payment before any plan reviews are conducted.

The audit also identified that payment collection processes are not customer friendly and burden Inspectors. With offices closed for remote work of administrative staff due to COVID-19, Inspectors had difficulty meeting clients to collect payments. Inspection and Public Education activities needed to be limited so that Inspectors could be at the office to receive hand delivered checks. The Bureau searched for an online payment system with credit card payment capabilities to provide better customer service. After months of research and negotiation, the Bureau partnered with NIC Hawai'i to provide online payment services. The platform build process is expected to complete by December 2021.

The Bureau reviews all plans related to commercial occupancies. Ordinance allows for residential plans to be reviewed if needed. Captain Makepa examined the need for residential reviews and found that water supplies, vehicle access and travel distances for many residential development projects fall short Fire Code requirements. He also discovered that alternative energy homes like Photovoltaic (PV) systems fail to provide adequate warning to firefighters when they have batteries and generators. Residential

plans review is being slowly incorporated by the inspectors. Photovoltaic residential plans have started to test the EPR routing. More residential plans will be expanded as the procedures and EPR interactions develop with IT and Building Departments.

The Statewide School Fire Inspection Program was delayed due to Distance Learning requirements. Although the Department of Education (DOE) is outside of the County's jurisdiction, the Fire Prevention Bureau is required to assist their staff with one annual inspection. When students and staff returned to classrooms, the Bureau immediately completed the required annual inspection. Multiple schools were found to have fallen out of compliance due to faulty fire protection systems and other deficiencies. The goal of the DOE is to meet all Fire and Life Safety concerns. They are working diligently toward compliance.

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual brushfire mitigation meeting was held virtually at the beginning of the summer season for the major landowners and other stakeholders of Kaua'i. This is an opportunity to remind the landowners of their responsibilities per the fire code as it relates to wildland urban interface. Contacts are updated, as well as a list of resources that may be available in fire situations. A meteorologist from NOAA also gave a presentation on the weather outlook for the calendar year. Firewise Hawai'i shared data collected at Kaua'i meetings over the last 5 years to show trends and problem areas.

During the meeting, Anahola was identified as a major hazard due to the considerable amounts of abandoned cars and illegal dumping in the area. Community safety, Firefighter health, emergency vehicle access, response times, and emergency escape routes were items of concern for the Fire Department. The Bureau investigated this area and found over 200 abandoned cars, illegal camps and years of dumping created an elevated fire hazard for the community and fire fighters. The Bureau partnered with Department of Hawai'ian Homelands (DHHL), Police Department, Public Works, Family Life Services, State Forestry and Wildlife, State Department of Transportation and several private contractors and non-profits to start mitigation in this area. The systematic clean-up of this area will continue into the next fiscal year.

Concerning brushfires, stakeholders inquired about the possibility of prescribed burning to help reduce flammable vegetation. The land owners on the west side have requested exploration of prescribed burns as a solution for uncontrolled wildfires. Old sugar fields in problem areas like Kekaha, Kokee, and Kaumakani could be ideal candidates for this if procedures can be implemented safely. DHHL approved KFD training on State lands for prescribed burning in Anahola. The Bureau is partnering with DOWFA and Maui Fire Department to develop wildland firing procedures for KFD. The required procedures and preparation are being developed to possibly start prescribed burns in FY2021-22.

There are multiple programs under development for the Bureau going into the next fiscal year. The Multimedia Team will expand the educational outreach lost to in-person outreach using the Fire Safety Trailer. Expansion beyond social media into online learning platforms like YouTube will create on demand experiences for the community. The Multimedia Team will be looking to build its own Learning Management Systems (LMS) to provide an online library of Fire Safety Education and Certifications to manage programs like Fire Extinguisher training and life safety awareness.

Other areas of technological development are: Online fireworks permitting, Land Information Management Systems (LIMS), App based Inspections and Communication with Fire Protection Service (FPS) providers.

### **Fire Prevention Week – October 4-10, 2020**

Fire Prevention Week Activities took place during the week of October 9 in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. The National Fire Protection Association’s Fire Prevention Week theme was “**Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen**” as, as cooking remains a leading cause of home fires.

The Fire Fighter’s Safety and Health Guide Program (FFSHG) has been utilized throughout the State for twenty-five years. The Guide features a multi-page booklet with fire prevention messages, fire safety guidance and problem-solving activities. Students in grades K through 5 draw individual home fire escape plans with the assistance of parents and teachers. Students are also encouraged to practice a fire escape plan with their families to ensure that the proper procedures are followed in the event of a fire emergency.

As an incentive for student participation, the FFSH guides contained a coupon book with a number of valuable coupons. The Fire Fighter’s Safety and Health Guides are distributed in the Fall, for Fire Prevention Week.

The Fire Prevention Week message was distributed in The Garden Island newspaper in a number of different languages: English, Japanese, Hawai’ian, and Filipino. A special in the Sunday paper profiled all of the members of the fire department at their respective work assignments, as well as fire safety tips.

The Kaua’i Family Magazine featured Fire Prevention Week in a full-page layout in their Fall issue.

### **Structure Fire Investigations**

Fire investigations conducted by the Bureau during the fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Fires with minimal monetary damage are not listed here:

#### **July 2020**

07/14/20	Residential Structure 3562 Ahi Rd. Hanapēpē	Accidental \$37,200
07/27/20	Residential Structure 10398 Kaumuali’i Hwy, Makepa	Accidental \$11,000

#### **August 2020**

08/10/20	Residential Structure	Accidental
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	4805 Iiwi Rd. Kapaʻa	\$500
<b>September 2020</b>		
09/02/20	Residential Structure 7962 Hoomau St. Kekaha	Undetermined \$150,000
09/05/20	Residential Structure 4625 Alawai Rd. Waimea	Undetermined \$400,000
09/19/20	Residential Structure 3411 Hailima Rd. Lāwaʻi	Accidental \$5,000
09/21/20	Storage 4316 Anahola Rd, Anahola	Accidental \$300,000
<b>October 2020</b>		
10/5/20	Residential Structure 169 Wailua Rd, Kapaʻa	Incendiary \$90,000
10/11/20	Residential Structure 5359 Kumole St. Kapaʻa	Undetermined \$245,000
<b>November 2020</b>		
<b>December 2020</b>		
<b>January 2021</b>		
01/01/20	Storage/Residential Structure 1780 Pee Rd, Poʻipū	Accidental \$45,000
01/25/21	Residential-Yurt 5-551 Kūhiō Hwy, Hanalei	Undetermined \$3,700
<b>February 2021</b>		
<b>March 2021</b>		
03/01/21	Residential Structure 4469 Hopena Rd, Puhi	Undetermined \$25,000
<b>April 2021</b>		
<b>May 2020</b>		
05/18/21	Residential Structure	Accidental



8023 Ulili Rd. Kekaha

\$200,000

**June 2020**

06/15/20 Residential Structure Undetermined  
4540 Ananalu Rd. Wainiha \$185,000

**Total Damage Amount \$ 1,697,400**

**Fire Safety Trailer**

- Cancelled due to Social Distancing Requirements

**Total Encounters – 0**

**Fire Extinguisher Training**

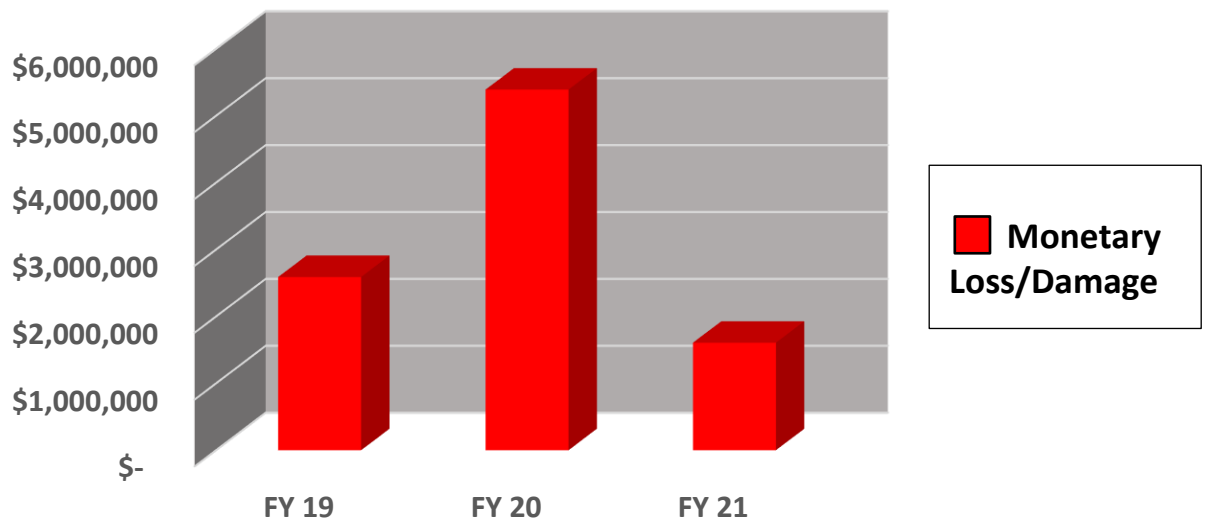
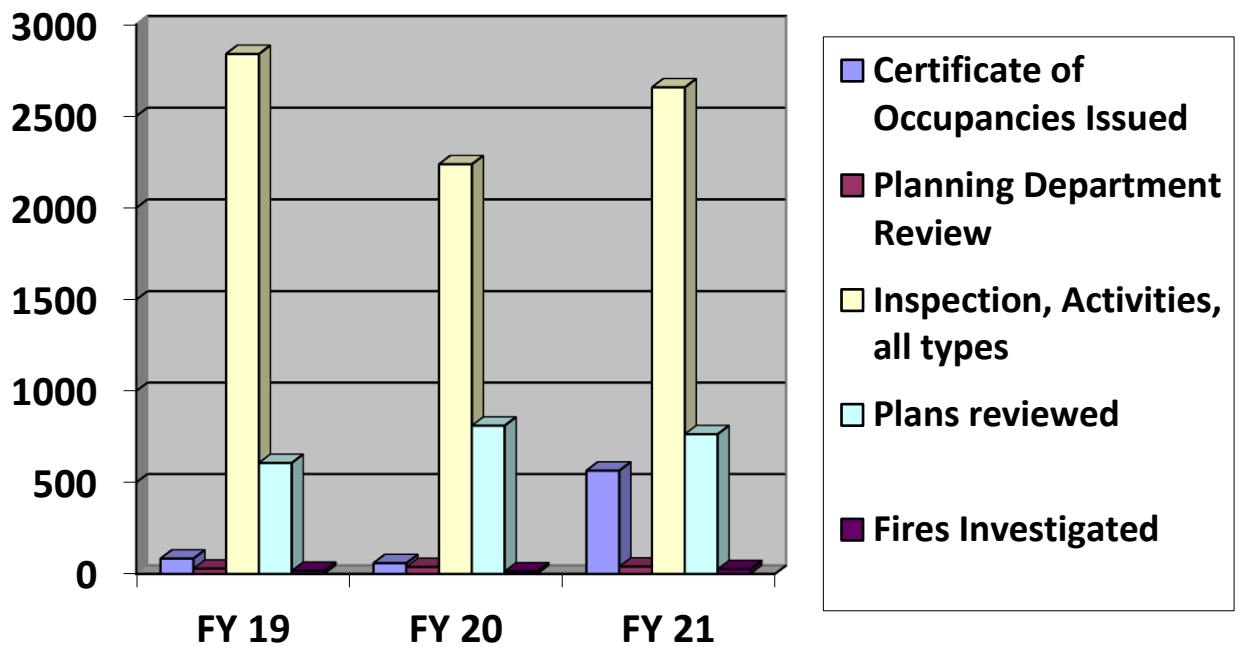
- Kaua'i Community College –34
- Glover – 27
- Hale Kupuna – 43
- Hawai'i Gas – 21
- Kaua'i Care Center – 70
- Kaua'i Coffee – 20

**Total Encounters - 215**

**INSPECTIONS/ACTIVITIES – ALL TYPES**

Fire Investigations	26
Additional Dwelling Unit/Additional Rental Unit	52
Building Permit Plan Review	764
Planning Department Review	40
Certificate Of Occupancy	565
Business Occupancy Inspection	71
Witness Acceptance Test	37
Fire Extinguisher Training	7
Fire Safety Presentation	3
Telephone Inquiries	1038
Complaint Investigations	7
Sparky Presentations	3
Fireworks Displays & Inspections	44
<b>Total Activities</b>	<b>2657</b>

<b>PREVENTION ACTIVITY</b>	<b>FY 19</b>	<b>FY 20</b>	<b>FY 21</b>
Certificate of Occupancies Issued	84	59	565
Planning Department Review	29	38	40
Inspection, Activities, all types	2,839	2,238	2,657
Plans reviewed	607	811	764
Fires Investigated	17	14	26
Monetary Loss/Damage	\$2,589,500	\$5,391,000	\$1,607,400



## **OCEAN SAFETY BUREAU**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Ocean Safety Bureau is to provide a comprehensive ocean safety and lifeguard program for the island of Kauaʻi. That includes prevention, response, rescue and public education components.

### **PROGRAM**

The Kauaʻi Fire Department, Ocean Safety Bureau has the responsibility to provide ocean safety awareness, safeguard beach patrons, respond to emergencies, and provide medical aid. The bureau takes great pride as a professional lifeguard service protecting Kauaʻi's residents and visitors. The Ocean Safety Bureau program also includes prevention, risk management, ocean rescue, documentation, training, maintenance of equipment, and public education. With support of different community groups, such as the Kauaʻi Lifeguard Association, Hawaiʻian Lifeguard Association, The Kauaʻi Visitors Bureau, State Drowning and Spinal Cord Injury Prevention Committee, and the Rotary Club, the goal of raising ocean awareness is being realized.

Highly trained, professional staff is the most vital component to any life guarding service. There are 53 full-time positions, and 6 part-time positions, in the Ocean Safety Bureau. OSB has a three district operation, District #1= North, District #2 = East, and District #3 = South/West. Each district has one working supervisor (OSO III), and one Captain (OSO IV). A prevention/training OSO IV Captain and an OSO III are responsible for providing and maintaining all mandatory certifications, training, prevention and education programs. The Ocean Safety Bureau also has an office support technician/clerk assisting with administrative support. The Bureau is led by the Ocean Safety Bureau Chief overseeing operations.

There are a total of eleven (11) Lifeguard Towers in full-time operation, and a rove team at Wanini Beach. The North District towers are located at Hanalei (Pavilion), Hanalei (Pine trees), Hāʻena Beach Park, Kēʻē Beach, and includes the Wanini Rove Team. The East District has towers at Anahola, Keālia, and Lydgate Beach. The South/West District towers are located at Poʻipū, Nukumoi, Salt Pond, and Kekaha Beach.

There are currently three Roving Patrol Jetski Teams, one assigned to each district. These teams along with the Fire Department water assets ensure the Island of Kauaʻi is well protected by ocean going vessels. All-terrain vehicles (ATV) are also used in the OSB's operations at Keālia, Hāʻena, Kēʻē, Lydgate, Anahola, and Kekaha Beach. , which are utilized to speed response and extend coverage. Three utility vehicles (Mules) are also stationed at various locations to assist with patrols and response times.

### **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

- To promote ocean safety awareness in the community and develop a drowning prevention educational program.

- To provide lifeguard services at beach areas around Kauaʻi as determined by risk management, demographic analysis and resource allocation.
- To maintain and develop training programs to assure our personnel are at the highest effective level.
- To develop and implement an effective management structure with an appropriate span of control.
- To increase personnel to a more effective level.
- To reduce response times and increasing the chain of survival by upgrading to the state of the art equipment.
- To integrate smoothly with current emergency response units

## **ACTIVITIES**

The COVID-19 Pandemic created extra challenges for the bureau. OSB sought to remain active in the community while prioritizing the health and safety of our personnel and our residents. OSB started its Keiki and Jr lifeguard program at a scaled down level to minimize the size of the gatherings and maintain safety for our young participants. Four classes were conducted at Salt Pond, Hanalei, Wanini, and Kalapakī beaches. The Keiki & Junior programs had a total of 25 students per group instead of the normal 50. OSB staff served over 180 students during the 2021 season.

Beach attendance and visitor counts dropped dramatically during the early stages of the pandemic but rose considerably once transpacific travel restrictions were reduced more incidents and rescues have required response during this time.

Kēʻē Beach lifeguard operations have been renewed and funded with a newly signed memorandum of agreement with the State.

A newly formed Bargaining Unit, HGEA BU#15, has been approved through State Legislation. This new unit represents all State and County lifeguards and ocean safety officers.

The prevention mission enhances through ocean safety presentations to community groups. Organizations such as the Waipa foundation, Anahola School, Saint Raphael in Kilauea, and Kanuikapono have been recipients of valuable water safety information regarding Kauaʻi's beaches, pools, and rivers.

The Nukumoi Tower on the south shore has seen the highest demand for and first aid treatment. It also has the highest beach attendance of all the towers.

OSB provides coverage of the Wanini beach area on the north shore as a roving lifeguard operation. The beach is very busy resulting in numerous preventative actions, rescues, and beach attendance has elevated due to limited access to the Hanalei area because of the landslide. The ocean safety bureau plans to covert this roving team to a permanent lifeguard tower to protect the high number of visitors that participate in beach and water activities all year.

North district operations have gone to a temporary 4/10-hour work schedule due to the limited road accessibility and the Hanalei land slide road closures.

The Queens Bath trail in Princeville has been an ongoing issue due to high traffic during hazardous ocean conditions. OSB continues to monitor daily ocean forecasts and partners with Princeville security to open and close the Queens Bath pedestrian access gate. The trail will be closed during winter months from Oct thru March due to high surf conditions and safety concerns. A safety information kiosk has been installed at the trail head for educational purposes to outline the hazards of the area.

Training has been mandated for all staff to maintain the highest level of a professionalism. Mandatory training includes Open Ocean Lifesaving training following the guidelines of the United States Lifeguard Association (USLA), annual First Responder recertification, and annual CPR/AED certifications. Other training involves ATV safety rider's course, Emergency Vehicle Driver training and Boating Safety training.

The OSB has a well-established electronic data collection program. Each tower and roving patrol unit has an iPad for documenting daily ocean conditions, preventative actions, rescues, first aids, and medical reports. A beach activity and attendance census is taken 3 times daily by all towers and roving patrols. These stats are available in real time on the Hawai'i Beach Safety Website for the public to view.

The roving patrol units have become a permanent part of ocean safety and have affected numerous outstanding rescues, reduction of drowning incidents and the increase of community preventative actions and safety awareness. The Rescue Craft Program has enhanced ocean safety services by reducing response times, extending beach coverage, and lifesaving techniques. This program is a setting the standard for rescue craft programs worldwide. Additional rescue craft training was provided by the Ocean Safety staff. Future goals are to work together with the neighbor Islands and HGEA to establish rescue craft operator as a stand-alone position. A supplemental agreement is in place currently to address operator and crew member compensation.

All trucks are equipped with AED's, medical oxygen, first aid kits, and all proper ocean rescue equipment. All the trucks are available to respond to any ocean related emergencies and will not have to use the tower equipment.

There were four deaths, related to drowning in swimming pools, snorkeling, fresh water, and/or scuba diving accidents. All four drownings occurred at unguarded beaches. With 188 rescues/assists, we had the potential for a much higher count with expanded beach coverage. Of note, OSB rescue statistics do not include the Fire Department rescues, local surfer rescues, or other public assistance rescues.

## **ACTIVITY SUMMARY**

The fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the OSB stats has dropped dramatically.

**Tower Activity – Summary**

Drownings	4
Rescues/Assist	149
Public Contact	106,563
Major Medical	43
Preventative Action	37,606
Minor First Aid	1,452

**Roving Mobile Units - Summary**

Jet Ski Rescues/Assist	39
Other Rescue/Assist	18
Public Contact	24,988
**Preventative Actions	7,863
Minor First Aid	131

**Total participants on Guarded Beaches and Mobile Patrol: \*968,440**

\*\* Preventive Action and Minor First Aid counts are included in Public Contact totals.

Note: Participants on guarded beaches & unguarded beaches: Physical counts are taken three times daily at 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. The figures reflect the average of these physical counts.

**IV. BUDGET**

KAUA'I FIRE  
DEPARTMENT  
APPROPRIATION  
BALANCE - FY 2020-  
2021  
As of June 30, 2021

Includes payroll dates 06/30/2021 & 07/15/2021

Percent of FY Expended	100.00%
Percent of FY Remaining	0.00%

ACCOUNT	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Total Expenses To Date	Bal of Appropriation Incl Encumbr
<b>ADMINISTRATION TOTALS</b>	\$ 2,311,729.00	\$ 2,799,943.00	\$ 2,771,062.37	\$ 28,880.63
<b>OPERATIONS TOTALS</b>	\$ 25,569,306.00	\$25,429,321.00	\$ 25,258,853.87	\$ 170,467.13
<b>PREVENTION TOTALS</b>	\$ 995,224.00	\$ 854,386.00	\$ 853,950.20	\$ 435.80
<b>TRAINING BUREAU TOTALS</b>	\$ 1,371,405.00	\$ 869,326.00	\$ 851,299.23	\$ 18,026.77
<b>OCEAN SAFETY TOTALS</b>	\$ 5,725,960.00	\$ 6,020,648.00	\$ 5,993,063.89	\$ 27,584.11
	<b>\$ 35,973,624.00</b>	<b>\$35,973,624.00</b>	<b>\$ 35,728,229.56</b>	<b>\$ 245,394.44</b>

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL

June 30, 2021

**ADMINISTRATION**

Fire Chief	1
Deputy Fire Chief	1
Fire Assistant Chief	1
*Administrative Services Officer	1
*Accountant II	1
*Private Secretary	1
*Secretary	1
*Accountant I	1

**MAINTENANCE**

*Lead Fire Equipment Mechanic	1
*Fire Equipment Mechanic	1

**TRAINING BUREAU**

Fire Captain	1
Fire Fighter III (Trainer)	2

**FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU**

Fire Captain	1
Fire Prevention Inspector II	1
Fire Fighter III (Prevention Inspector)	3

**FIRE SUPPRESSION & HAZMAT/RESCUE**

Battalion Chief	3
Fire Captain	27
Fire Fighter III	27
Fire Fighter II (Rescue)	6
Fire Fighter II (HazMat)	9
Fire Fighter I	58
Fire Fighter Trainee	5

**OCEAN SAFETY BUREAU**

Ocean Safety Officer V	1
Ocean Safety Officer IV	4
Ocean Safety Officer III	4
Ocean Safety Officer II	42
Ocean Safety Officer I	8
*Program Support Technician II	1

**SUB-TOTALS**

Uniformed Personnel – Fire	146
Uniformed Personnel – Ocean Safety	59
*Civilian Personnel	<u>8</u>

**GRAND TOTAL**

**213**