KPD honors dispatchers during National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

LĪHU‘E — The Kaua‘i Police Department honored its dispatchers during National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (NPSTW), which runs from April 12 to 18.

Approximately 20 employees work within the Communications Section of KPD and provide the quick response that is needed for those who call 911 and the non-emergency line. They are the first to respond to a multitude of calls of distress every day, including medical emergencies, fires, assaults and traffic crashes.

“As National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week comes to a close, I’d like to say a huge ‘mahalo’ to our dispatchers who have been working tirelessly during this unprecedented time to ensure the safety of our community, as well as our police, fire and medical ‘ohana,” said Sgt. Stacy Perreira. “As our community’s first first responders, I thank you, appreciate you and celebrate you, not only during this week of recognition, but all year long.”

NPSTW is a yearly event that occurs the second week of April. It was initiated in 1981 in an effort to express gratitude toward telecommunicators within the public safety sector who dedicate their work toward serving the community.

“I commend them for their professional ability to remain calm and keep their composure when people call during a crisis,” said Chief of Police Todd G. Raybuck. “It’s one of the most difficult jobs to do on any given day, much less during a pandemic. I salute them for their
tenacity and appreciate their willingness to wake up every day and choose to continue to do this important work."

Photos courtesy KPD: Chief Todd G. Raybuck and Mayor Derek S. K. Kawakami presented tokens of appreciation to all of KPD’s dispatchers this week.

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