Hawai‘i National Guard to assist KPD with checkpoints

The Hawai‘i National Guard will be assisting Kaua‘i police at two checkpoints on island on Tuesday in order to help monitor compliance of state and county emergency orders that are in place to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

This collaboration, which is under the unified command of Kaua‘i Emergency Management Agency’s COVID-19 Incident Management Team, will be the start of more routine checkpoints around the island at various times.

Individuals who have essential work or activities should consider additional travel time in anticipation of lengthy traffic delays.

Violations of the stay-at-home or 14-day quarantine orders are considered misdemeanors and could mean a fine of up to $5,000 and/or up to one year in jail.

The National Guard soldiers will not be armed and will defer all enforcement action to Kaua‘i police.

“I would like to thank Governor David Ige and Major General Kenneth Hara for providing additional resources to supplement KPD’s efforts,” said Kaua‘i Police Chief Todd G. Raybuck.

“We have reached a critical moment in the pandemic, as case counts climb. Our island has very limited healthcare resources and we must all give careful consideration to how our individual actions may cause the virus to spread further throughout our community.

“I know that if there’s any community that can pull together and do this, it’s ours.”
To review essential travel exemptions, visit http://kauai.gov/COVID-19.

A recent KPD checkpoint on Kaumuali‘i Highway near Halfway Bridge where almost 4,000 vehicles passed through. The majority of drivers stated that their travel was essential.  

Photo courtesy KPD.

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