News Release
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Man dies in waters off Major’s Bay

KEKAHA – A 70-year-old man died Friday in waters off Waiokapua Bay, also known as Major’s Bay, in Kekaha.

Police have identified the man as Washington Bennett IV, of Utah.

According to a preliminary report, the man was body boarding in waters off Major’s Bay when he was seen unresponsive in the shore break. Beachgoers brought the man to shore and began to administer CPR.

Pacific Missile Range Facility emergency crews were first on scene around 1 p.m., and continued efforts until Waimea firefighters and responding AMR medics arrived.

AMR medics took over advanced resuscitation efforts while in transport to Kaua’i Veterans Memorial Hospital, but the man could not be revived. He was pronounced dead by a medical doctor at KVMH.

An autopsy is pending to determine the cause of his death. However, foul play is not suspected.

Volunteers from Life’s Bridges, a grief counseling service, assisted the man’s family.

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