



THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I

DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

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News Release

For Immediate Release: October 29, 2019

KAUA'I POLICE DEPARTMENT
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Man arrested in connection with the murder of Līhu'e man

LĪHU'E – A Puhi man was arrested Monday night after he allegedly assaulted a man who later died from his injuries.

Kulueti Taulanga, age 27, of Puhi, is being held in police custody on suspicion of second-degree Murder and first degree Robbery. His bail is set at \$600,000.

According to a preliminary investigation, Taulanga met with a 56-year-old Līhu'e man shortly before 7:50 a.m. Saturday at Puhi Park. Soon after, nearby witnesses found the man with severe injuries to his head, and called 911.

Responding medics transported the victim, identified as Leonard Guttman, to Wilcox Hospital in critical condition. Guttman was later medevaced to Queen's Hospital on O'ahu, where he died from his injuries Sunday evening.

Police initiated a homicide investigation, which led to the arrest of Taulanga on Monday night.

The investigation of this incident remains ongoing.

Anyone with information on this incident is urged to call Captain Paul Applegate at 241-1696 or Police Dispatch at 241-1711. Those wishing to remain anonymous can call Crime Stoppers Kaua'i at 246-8300.





Kulueti Taulanga, age 27, of Puhi

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