



## THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I

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### News Release

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#### **Multi-agency search continues for missing helicopter**

NĀ PALI – Multiple agencies are continuing to search Friday for a commercial helicopter that was reported missing Thursday evening.

At approximately 6 p.m. Thursday, officials were notified of an overdue Safari Helicopter that was conducting a tour over the Nā Pali area. The helicopter, with six passengers and a pilot on board, was scheduled to arrive around 5:30 p.m. at the Līhu'e landing pad. According to a preliminary report, the last contact with the helicopter was made at approximately 4:40 p.m., when the pilot relayed that the tour was leaving the Waimea Canyon area.

Upon notification, a multi-agency search was launched Thursday night with the U.S. Coast Guard responding via air and sea, and personnel from the Kaua'i Fire Department, Kaua'i Police Department, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawai'i Air National Guard, and Pacific Missile Range Facility joining the effort on land. However, there have been no sign of the helicopter.

Search operations continued early Friday morning with air searches being conducted by the Kaua'i Fire Department, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Navy, Civil Air Patrol, and private helicopter companies. The U.S. Coast Guard is also continuing its sea-based search. A land and shoreline is also being coordinated at this time.

All agencies will continue search efforts throughout the day.

Updates on the search will be given as information becomes available.

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