



Department of Liquor Control

Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

Gerald T. Rapozo
Director

DEPARTMENT OF LIQUOR CONTROL

I. MISSION STATEMENT

To protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Kaua'i County by effectively and fairly enforcing Federal and State laws and County liquor rules as they apply to the manufacture, sale, and distribution of alcoholic beverages.

II. DEPARTMENT GOALS

The goals of the Department of Liquor Control are:

- A. To meet the public's expectations by monitoring the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcoholic beverages in the County of Kaua'i.
- B. To provide the highest level of service to the licensees in the County of Kaua'i and assist them in conducting a lawful and profitable business.

Powers, Duties, and Functions of the Department

The department provides the administrative services for the commission. It investigates all applications for liquor licenses and compiles all the facts and statistics on all matters before the commission.

The department has police powers to enforce the liquor laws. It inspects all liquor licensed premises to ensure compliance with the liquor laws and the commission's rules and regulations. It investigates all alleged violations and complaints of alleged violations and reports all violations to the commission.

The department, upon request, provides instructions on the liquor laws and the commission's rules and regulations to the Police Department, to servers' classes, and to employees in liquor licensed premises.

Staff (as of June 30, 2025)

Gerald T. Rapozo	Interim Director
Stacy Iwasaki	Assistant Chief
Kenneth Herman	Investigator III
Shania Zablan	Investigator Trainee
Malialani Kelekoma	Private Secretary
Clarence Sales	Accountant II
Shellsie Marshall	Asst. Program Coordinator

III. PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS
LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION

<u>June 30, 2025</u>	<u>For Term Expiring</u>
Gerald Matsunaga	December 31, 2027
Paul Endo	December 31, 2027
Leland Kahawai	December 31, 2025
Gerald Bahouth	December 31, 2025
Chad Pacheco	December 31, 2025
Lorna Nishimitsu	December 31, 2026
Tess Shimabukuro	December 31, 2026

Liquor Control Commission Goals:

The goal of the Liquor Control Commission is to fairly enforce all provisions of Section 281 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes and the Rules and Regulations of the Liquor Control Commission of the County of Kaua'i.

Duties, Powers, and Functions of the Commission:

The basic function of the commission is to control, supervise, and regulate the manufacture, importation, and sale of liquor within the county.

Article XVI of the Charter of the County of Kaua'i states in part:

"Section 16.04. Powers and Duties of Commission. The liquor control commission shall:

- A. Adopt rules and regulations having the force and effect of law for the administration of liquor control in the county and to enforce the liquor control laws.
- B. Grant, refuse, suspend and revoke any license for the manufacture, importation, and sale of liquors.
- C. Investigate violations of liquor control laws through its inspectors, hear and determine all complaints and citations regarding violations of liquor control laws and impose such fines or penalties as may be provided by law upon conviction thereof."

The commission meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month to carry out its duties and responsibilities. Special meetings are scheduled as needed.

ADMINISTRATION

Program Description:

The administrative branch consists of the Director, Private Secretary and an Accountant II. This branch provides services to the regulatory and enforcement branches, the Liquor Commission, as well as licensees, and the general public.

Program Highlights:

The department received 235 applications for license renewal for fiscal year 2024 - 2025. During the year, the commission issued 12 new licenses, 56 one-day transient vessel licenses, 106 special licenses, and two solicitor's permits. The commission also approved six transfers of license applications and five temporary licenses.

ENFORCEMENT BRANCH

Program Description:

The enforcement branch is comprised of an Assistant Chief who serves as the immediate supervisor, senior investigator and field investigators who are responsible for conducting daily inspections and investigations on possible liquor law violations. They also assist the licensees to interpret and understand the liquor laws that regulate their operation.

All licensees are offered training sessions and workshops for servers of alcoholic beverages. Public information sessions and presentations are available to the public. Overall, this past year, the department conducted 651 required manager certification exams.

Inspections of liquor licensed premises are conducted daily by the liquor control investigators. Inspections are conducted to ensure compliance with the laws and to assist licensees in preventing violations from occurring. The investigators made a total of 4897 inspections during the year.

Program Highlights:

There were 13 violation reports filed, 309 field investigations conducted, and 14 warnings given to licensees by the investigators. Investigations include, but are not limited to license applications, alcohol related fatality investigations, special requests by licensees, and complaints. As a result of violation hearings, the commission collected a total of \$3,400.00 in fines.

The enforcement branch investigated no case involving illegal liquor sales to minors and adults purchasing for minors. Investigators also conducted surveillances on 77 occasions.

REGULATORY BRANCH

Program Description:

The regulatory branch is primarily responsible for the licensing process, which involves applications for the eighteen classes of liquor licenses and collecting all mandatory information as required by State law and the liquor commission rules. The regulatory branch investigates all license applications before they are submitted to the commission for disposition. A total of 82 investigations on applications for liquor licenses were conducted during this fiscal year. The regulatory branch, in coordination with the enforcement branch, also processes citations for hearings before the commission.

PERSONNEL POSITION SUMMARY

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>FY 2024 E/P</u>	<u>FY 2025 E/P</u>
Director	1.0	1.0
Assistant Chief Liquor Investigator	1.0	1.0
Department Staff Assistant	--	--
Secretary	1.0	1.0
Liquor Control Investigator III	1.0	1.0
Liquor Control Investigator II	1.0	--
Liquor Control Investigator I	--	--
Liquor Control Investigator I	--	--
Liquor Control Investigator Trainee	1.0	1.0
Accountant II	1.0	1.0
Asst. Program Coordinator	1.0	1.0
TOTAL	8.0	7.0

Equivalent Personnel (E/P) = Full-time equivalents of full- and part-time personnel.

IV. BUDGET

	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>
Salary and Wages	\$ 664,260.00	\$ 646,551.00
Benefits	\$ 458,332.00	\$ 437,248.00
Utilities	\$ 6,630.00	\$ 6,700.00
Vehicle/Equip, Lease	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Operations	<u>\$ 375,586.00</u>	<u>\$ 369,610.00</u>
	\$ 1,512,808.00	\$ 1,460,117.00

GROSS LIQUOR SALES AT CONSUMER LEVEL

YEAR	ON PREMISE	OFF PREMISE	TOTAL
2024	\$ 103,081,843.02	\$ 73,642,201.41	\$ 176,724,044.43
2025	\$ 101,621,156.79	\$ 72,041,280.72	\$ 173,662,437.51

APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUOR LICENSES 2024-2025

TYPE	Pending 6/30/25	Filed FY 2024 - 2025	Total Applications	Licenses Issued	Applications Withdrawn	Applications Denied	Applications Pending 6/30/25
RENEWALS		235	235	235			
NEW		15	15	12			3
CHANGE OF LOCATION							
CHANGE OF CATEGORY							
TRANSFER		6	6	6			
TEMPORARY (INCLUDES RENEWAL)		5	5	5			
TRANSIENT VESSEL:							
ANNUAL		2	2	2			
2-DAY							
1-DAY		56	56	56			
SPECIAL:							
3-DAY GENERAL							
2-DAY GENERAL							
1-DAY GENERAL		106	106	106			
3-DAY BEER & WINE							
2-DAY BEER & WINE							
1-DAY BEER & WINE							
1-DAY BEER							
SOLICITOR'S PERMIT:							
GENERAL		2	2	2			
BEER & WINE							
TOTAL		427	427	424			3

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES
FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025**

LIQUOR FUND REVENUES:

	<u>License</u>	<u>% Fees</u>	<u>Total</u>
Brewpub:	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 11,503.55	\$ 14,203.55
Small Craft:	\$ 900.00	\$ 4,636.69	\$ 5,536.69
Cabaret:	\$ 600.00	\$ 3,537.84	\$ 4,137.84
Club:	\$ 240.00	\$ 5,234.85	\$ 5,474.85
Dispenser:			
General	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 60,793.37	\$ 70,393.37
Beer & Wine			
Hotel:	\$ 11,700.00	\$ 219,195.51	\$ 230,895.51
Manufacturer:			
Beer			
Wine	\$ 408.00	\$ 812.98	\$ 1,220.98
Other Liquors	\$ 1,944.00	\$ 447.95	\$ 2,391.95
Restaurant:			
General	\$ 45,120.00	\$ 278,126.55	\$ 323,246.55
Beer & Wine	\$ 720.00	\$ 1,027.18	\$ 1,747.18
Retail:			
General	\$ 33,600.00	\$ 411,742.41	\$ 445,342.41
Beer & Wine	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 10,414.99	\$ 12,214.99
Tour or Cruise Vessel:	\$ 2,640.00	\$ 2,988.20	\$ 5,628.20
Transient Vessel:	\$ 1,800.00		\$ 1,800.00
Wholesale:			
General	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 114.57	\$ 7,314.57
Beer & Wine			\$ -
Temporary:	\$ 300.00		\$ 300.00
Solicitors' Permit:	\$ 720.00		\$ 720.00
Direct Shipment:	\$ 85,065.00		\$ 85,065.00
		LIQUOR FUND REVENUES	<u>\$ 1,217,633.64</u>

OTHER LIQUOR REVENUES

Filing Fees	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00
Fines Imposed	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400.00
Sale of Pamphlet's	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
Managers Card Exam	\$ 3,880.00	\$ 3,880.00
Managers Card Exam - Online	\$ 2,630.00	\$ 2,630.00
Manager's Card Fee	\$ 4,080.00	\$ 4,080.00
Manager's Card Fee - Online	\$ 1,690.00	\$ 1,690.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00
	OTHER LIQUOR FUND REVENUES	<u>\$ 18,180.00</u>

**TOTAL 2024-2025 LIQUOR FUND
REVENUES**

\$ 1,235,813.64