

**Quarterly Issues Programs List for Station KGU-AM-AM760/95.1FM**  
**January 1 – March 31, 2023**  
**Placed in Public File, April 6, 2023**

**Section 1. Issues.**

**The station has identified the following as significant issues and concerns to our listeners and community during this quarter:**

- 1. Increase in Crime:** Provided coverage of escalating crime in Hawaii.
- 2. Coronavirus Pandemic:** How Hawaii has been affected and how it is returning to normal.
- 3. Red Hill Fuel Spill:** How the spill has been affecting residents.
- 4. Rail:** How the Honolulu Rail System is affecting O'ahu.
- 5. Misc:** Other topics of interest.
- 6. PSA:** Public Service Announcement.

## **Section II. Responsive Programs**

**This station broadcast programming dealing with the above-referenced issues as follows:**

### **1. Increase in Crime:**

**1/4/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Honolulu Mayor Rick Blangiardi and Police Chief Joe Logan are calling for major changes after a radical night of New Year's Eve fireworks on Oahu. Both expressed the need for systematic, long-term changes on Tuesday, but didn't outline exactly how it would be done. Logan says federal, state and local authorities need to work together to figure out how illegal fireworks are getting to Oahu and look at how they can "curb or eradicate" what's coming in. Honolulu County banned most fireworks, including sparklers, 12 years ago. But, first responders had one of their busiest New Year's Eves in years. Mayor Blangiardi calls the night "disturbing."

Fireworks kept the Honolulu Police Department busy in the final hours of 2022 and in the first hours of 2023. Chief Joe Logan says the HPD received more than 24-hundred fireworks-related calls on New Year's Eve. Officers also issued 17 citations, made three arrests, and confiscated close to 300 pounds of illegal fireworks. Logan says, even though there were issues, his officers did an "amazing job" given the circumstances. Honolulu EMS reported eight people were seriously injured by illegal fireworks during New Year's celebrations.

Authorities are investigating after almost 100 pounds of illegal fireworks were confiscated from the mailroom at Oahu Community Correctional Center. A corrections officer is accused of having the fireworks shipped to the jail in an inmate's name. Court records show three large boxes were delivered to O-Triple-C on December 6th. All of the boxes were addressed to the same inmate and had been shipped from Las Vegas. Earlier in the day, the mailroom staff reported a corrections officer walked in looking for the boxes. Investigators say he claimed the packages were Christmas gifts. It's unclear if that corrections officer still has his job.

**1/9/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Police are investigating a huge fight that ended with a shooting in Maili. More than 20 people were fighting near Maili Community Park at about 3:30 Sunday morning. Officers heard at least three gunshots when they pulled up to the scene. Then, people ran off or sped away in vehicles. A woman in her 30's was found shot in the right leg and was hospitalized in serious condition. No arrests have been made and it's unclear what the big brawl was about.

**1/10/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** A suspect is behind bars following a stabbing at a rental car facility at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport. A 23-year-old man was stabbed several times in the Consolidated Rental Car Facility at about 6:30 Monday night. He was hospitalized in serious condition. The suspect was arrested about two hours after the attack. The motive is not clear.

There's new information about a man who was shot outside a bar in the heart of Waikiki. KHNL-TV reports the 25-year-old man was recently found not guilty in an attempted murder case. He was accused of shooting a driver on the H-1 Freeway in 2019 and was acquitted by a jury in late November. The man remains hospitalized in critical condition

**1/11/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** A suspect is behind bars on suspicion of brutally attacking a 77-year-old woman during a home invasion in Mililani. Police say the woman was beaten and thrown down a flight of stairs late Monday night. Citing law enforcement sources, KHNL-TV reports the suspect also broke into the home next door before targeting the woman. The 32-year-old man reportedly broke in through an upstairs window. Officers found the man in a bedroom and used a Taser on him during the arrest. The victim is in a hospital but is expected to recover.

**1/13/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The man charged on suspicion of attacking a 77-year-old woman inside her home in Mililani was once convicted of murder. Court records show the 32-year-old man was sentenced to life in prison in 2011, after being found guilty of stabbing his neighbor to death in Kalihi. But, the conviction was overturned by the state Supreme Court a year ago, allowing him to walk free. Justices cited issues involving a language barrier during his trial. The man is accused of beating the elderly woman and throwing her down a flight of stairs after breaking into her house on Monday night. He's jailed on 100-thousand-dollars bail.

**1/16/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Five people have been arrested on suspicion of first-degree criminal trespassing at a home in Makiki. The home they allegedly went to late Saturday night is infamous among neighbors. For years, they have complained of squatters, littering and property damage. Meanwhile, the property owner has been hit with three notices of violation during the last year-and-a-half. Honolulu City Councilmember Tyler Dos Santos-Tam says the city is still trying to get in touch with the landlord.

**1/18/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Hawaii County prosecutors have charged a 21-year-old man with two counts of first-degree murder in connection with the deaths of his grandparents. His grandparents, both 68-years-old, were stabbed to death in their home in Hilo on Monday morning. The man has also been charged with two counts of second-degree murder, and one count of second-degree attempted murder after allegedly attacking his 28-year-old brother as well. The brother is suffering from potentially life-threatening head injuries. The suspect's bail has been set at two-point-seven-million-dollars.

A couple from Honolulu have been charged on suspicion of selling knock-offs of centuries-old art. The 60-year-old man and 31-year-old woman were charged with fraud in Pennsylvania on Tuesday. Prosecutors say they deceived art collectors with inauthentic woodblocks, which they tried to pass off as being several centuries old. The couple is facing the charges of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, mail fraud, and money laundering.

A new text message scam is targeting Hawaii residents. Scammers are posing as members of the U.S. Postal Service. The phony text goes to people who recently mailed out a package, telling them the return address is incorrect. Authorities are calling it "smishing" because it's a phishing attempt using an SMS text message. Some people are getting the text just a few minutes after sending their packages out.

**1/19/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Oahu's new red-light cameras are helping police and transportation officials lay down the law. The cameras are responsible for 416 citations sent to drivers since November. Three intersections have red-light cameras actively dishing out citations. A fourth intersection will join the list at the end of this month. That camera will be at Pali Highway and Vineyard Boulevard.

The man accused of stabbing his grandparents to death in Hilo has formally been charged with first-degree murder, a rare charge in Hawaii. The 21-year-old made his first court appearance on Wednesday. Court documents show his mother was the first person who called 911 on Monday. She told the dispatcher her son has schizophrenia and was having an episode with a knife. His older brother tried to take the knife away, but suffered a major head injury during a brief struggle. The suspect was restrained by his father until police arrived. Both grandparents were 68-years-old.

**1/20/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** A Honolulu man is being found guilty of murder and kidnapping in a gruesome North Shore murder. After less than a day of deliberations, a jury agreed Stephen Brown was guilty of killing Telma Boinville in 2017. Prosecutors argued Boinville had walked in on Brown and his girlfriend at the time Hailey Dandurand burglarizing a house, at which point they tied her up and killed her with a machete and other objects. Brown and his girlfriend also tied up Boinville's daughter, but she was left unharmed. Dandurand will have her own trial soon, while Brown faces the possibility of life in prison without parole.

**1/24/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The Hawaii Attorney General's Office is now investigating reports of an illegal fireworks delivery at Oahu Community Correctional Center. A corrections officer is suspected of having nearly 100 pounds of illegal fireworks delivered to the OCCC mail room on December 6th. The fireworks were shipped to the jail from Las Vegas using an inmate's name, and the guard claimed they were Christmas presents. The state Department of Public Safety is also conducting its own internal review.

**2/3/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Charges are pending against a man jailed on suspicion of brutally attacking two people in a Walmart parking lot in Mililani. The man is accused of intentionally running over a woman who was pushing a six-month-old baby in a stroller on Wednesday, then dragging her 15-feet. Witnesses say he then got out of the car and beat her repeatedly with a tire iron or crowbar. A man was also hit several times with the same weapon after trying to intervene. The woman and man were taken to hospitals in critical condition, while the child was not hurt. The suspect is facing the potential charges of two counts of second-degree attempted murder, second-degree

assault on a law enforcement officer, resisting arrest, and criminal contempt of court. He was injured while officers were arresting him.

**2/8/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** New data showing that Honolulu Police took over 700 calls last week regarding crime. That's according to CrimeMapping which notes 210 of those calls involved larceny. Most of the incidents took place on Oahu. In that time frame, most of the calls were received on a Friday, Saturday or Wednesday.

An arsonist has been sentenced to ten years in prison for destroying the public surfboard racks in Waikiki. He also has to pay more than 414-thousand-dollars in restitution. And, once he's out of prison, he won't be allowed inside the Waikiki Safe and Sound area. The man destroyed more than 500 surfboards in October of 2021. A camera caught him picking up a lighter he found behind a police substation in the area. Moments later, the fire started.

**2/9/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Honolulu police are warning courier drivers to be alert after a string of recent armed robberies in the Waipahu area. At least three drivers have been robbed in the past two weeks. Each time, they were threatened with handguns or tasers. At least one of the victims was assaulted. Police say the suspects are working in groups, with the robbers fleeing in getaway cars each time, possibly a gray Honda Accord or white Toyota Sienna.

Police have recovered one of the five vehicles stolen from a used car dealership in Kalihi earlier this week. The Nissan pickup truck was found abandoned in a grocery store parking lot on Wednesday. Thieves broke into Excellent Motor Group late Monday night and made off with the five vehicles plus keys to more than 100 others.

A former Punahou School girls basketball coach is under investigation for being an alleged child predator. Dwayne Yuen was arrested last week and charged with possession of child pornography. Federal prosecutors say he should remain in jail until his trial on February 23rd. Assistant US Attorney Christine Olson said Yuen was "a prolific and aggressive child predator" who had a history of preying on young girls. He's facing up to ten years in prison.

**2/10/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Honolulu police have now recovered two of the five vehicles stolen from a used car dealership in Kalihi on Monday night. Officers found a Mercedes SUV in Kakaako early Thursday morning. A Nissan pickup truck was found less than 24 hours earlier. Police say there is no major damage to the SUV, but the interior was littered with trash and bottles. The thieves who robbed Excellent Motor Group also made off with more than 100 keys, which still haven't been recovered. No arrests have been made.

**2/13/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Honolulu officials are shutting down an illegal gun range in west Oahu. The gun range on private property doesn't have permits. Residents who live in the area say the shooting started in mid-January and kept going for three Sundays after that. It lasted for about five hours each Sunday, frustrating residents. They contacted Honolulu City Councilmember Andria Tupola,

who forwarded the complaints to the HPD. Last week, the city Department of Planning and Permitting issued a violation to the owner of the property, saying he can't have a gun range on land zoned for agriculture.

**2/14/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The suspect who attacked a woman pushing a baby stroller is pleading not guilty. According to officials, Desmond Kekahuna pleaded not guilty to attempted murder and second-degree assault. He's accused of intentionally crashing into a 37-year-old mother while she was pushing her baby in a stroller earlier this month. Police also say Kekahuna also used a tire iron to beat her and a good Samaritan rushed to help her. The baby was not injured. Kekahuna is set to stand trial on April 17th with a one-million dollar bail.

**2/15/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Police are looking for a suspect involved in a hit-and-run that left a 17-year-old girl dead and another injured. Honolulu police say the incident happened on Kapiolani Boulevard this morning while the girls were walking to McKinley High School. A silver pickup was recovered but the suspect is still at large. The second girl was hurt but is in stable condition. Authorities want to remind residents to be vigilant on the roadways. This is the third traffic fatality this year.

**2/16/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** A suspect is in custody after he allegedly attacked an officer in Kahuku and then stole his police vehicle, setting off a dramatic pursuit. The officer was taken to a hospital and is in critical condition. Police confirmed a male suspect was taken into custody about 8:30 a.m. and transported to a hospital. The suspect has non-life-threatening injuries. The attack on the officer happened about 5 a.m. near Iosepa Street and Naniloa Loop. Honolulu EMS responded, administering advanced life support to THE officer in his mid-40s who sustained a possible head injury.

State lawmakers are considering a bill that would allow drones to monitor illegal fireworks activity on the islands. The bill would free up money for the Department of Law Enforcement to buy the drones. Supporters say the measure would help keep kids and pets safe, prevent injuries, and help reduce environmental and health issues connected with fireworks. But, opponents say the plan is just too expensive, at a million dollars to fund the next fiscal year.

**2/17/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The man accused of hitting and killing a 16-year-old girl who was walking to school on Wednesday morning has turned himself in to Honolulu police. The 45-year-old hit-and-run suspect was arrested Thursday night on first-degree negligent homicide charges. The girl who died and another student were hit while walking across the street toward McKinley High School. The second victim is hospitalized.

**2/20/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The man accused of hitting and killing a 16-year-old girl last week has a long history of run-ins with the law for his driving. Court records show, dating back to 1996, he has at least 164 traffic infractions and crimes on his record. And, in the past five years, police have stopped him

a dozen times on suspicion of driving without a license. He was convicted of driving without a license six times, but was never sentenced to jail time for it.

**2/23/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The Department of Transportation is introducing some safety improvements after a recent deadly hit-and-run. After a string of fatal accidents on Oahu roads, an elevated crosswalk will be put on Pensacola Street between King Street and Kapiolani and at the Kamakee-Kapiolani intersection. A study is also being put together to determine how a left turn signal could be put in at that intersection to prevent future accidents.

**3/9/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** There are new details about Tuesday night's shooting that left three men wounded in Ewa Beach. All three victims have serious injuries. Honolulu police say a man was hosting a small party outside of his apartment to introduce his two-month-old baby to family and friends. The man says he told a neighbor to stop lighting fireworks. That man allegedly responded by walking onto the victims' lanai with two guns. The new father was shot in the face, his father-in-law was shot in the neck, and a friend was shot in the ribs. The baby was not hurt. The neighbor is behind bars and faces three counts of attempted murder.

**3/10/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Five women are behind bars on suspicion of trying to smuggle illegal drugs and contraband into Oahu's prisons through the mail. The Department of Public Safety announced the arrests Thursday, saying they're connected with three different cases. Authorities say two of the cases involve drug-laden paper. A controlled substance was soaked into sheets of paper that the women allegedly used to write letters to inmates. The other case involves another letter intercepted by corrections officers on Oahu, but that one allegedly contained meth. The women are each facing ten years in prison, if convicted.

The suspect in Tuesday night's shooting that left three men wounded at an apartment in Ewa Beach has been charged. The 38-year-old man is facing one count of first-degree attempted murder, three counts of second-degree attempted murder, and three gun charges. One of the victims says he was hosting a small party to introduce family and friends to his new baby when he told his neighbor to stop lighting fireworks. The suspect allegedly returned with two guns and started shooting at the partygoers.

**3/14/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** There's new information connected with Monday morning's murder arrest in the Mililani High School parking lot. A 25-year-old man was arrested after a woman's body was found in a burning car. Investigators now say the man was seen slamming the car's doors shut, then running away with a bladed weapon in hand. Witnesses followed the man until police arrived and arrested him. It's unclear if the woman was already dead before the fire started.

**3/15/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Prosecutors have charged a suspect with second-degree murder and first-degree arson following the discovery of a body in a burned-out car in Mililani. Samuel Jones, 25, is accused of killing a woman and allegedly setting a car on fire at Mililani High School on Monday. His



bail is set at \$1 million. The family has identified the victim as Jordan Laulusa, 21. They say she died from a stab wound to her neck. Laulusa was a supply specialist in the Hawaii Army National Guard. She joined in 2019.

**3/16/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Four Honolulu police officers are being charged in connection to a 2021 car crash. All four are facing felony charges related to the incident that took place on the Farrington Highway that September. The officers were called to a noise complaint at a nearby park when three of them began an unannounced pursuit of a Honda sedan. The Honda lost control and crashed into a private property, injuring six people, some critically. The officers drove past the crash without stopping. They were later dispatched to the scene where they acted as if they didn't know what happened. Three of the officers also lied on their reports of the incident.

**3/17/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Court documents reveal more details about the man accused of killing his girlfriend in Mililani. His 21-year-old girlfriend was found dead in a burning car in the Mililani High School parking lot on Monday morning. The documents say the 25-year-old man had visible burn marks and smelled strongly of burned plastic. The victim was found with cuts on her neck and puncture wounds to her armpit. She was found inside her own car.

**3/20/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** A suspect has been arrested Sunday in connection to a murder in the Ala Moana area, Authorities said Kendall Gray, 23, was arrested for second-degree murder. Officers responded to “a defib type call” aROUND 3:30 p.m. on the sidewalk fronting an apartment complex at 620 Sheridan St. According to the Honolulu Police Department, it was determined that the altercation appeared to have started as the 64-year-old victim was attempting to evict the suspect’s girlfriend from her unit.

**3/23/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Newly released court documents reveal more information about a landlord's beating death outside an apartment building in the Ala Moana area. The 23-year-old suspect Kendal gray has been charged with second-degree murder. Surveillance footage allegedly shows him stomping on 64-year-old alvin matsumoto's head and chest several times, then dragging his body onto a sidewalk on Sunday afternoon. The landlord was in the middle of evicting the suspect, and possibly his girlfriend as well,. Court documents say gray owed matsmoto 32-hundred-dollars in past due rent. Last month, the court ordered possession of the unit be returned to matsumoto, effective Monday. But, he was killed the day before.

**3/24/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Four suspects are behind bars and a fifth is still on the loose after an attempted murder in Kalihi this month. Honolulu police say they've managed to track down four of the people involved in the March 16th incident, which began with a robbery and escalated to a violent assault. The suspects attacked a 37-year-old man with an unidentified weapon and stole his belongings. Police say the suspects include four teenage boys and one man in his early 20s, although they haven't revealed who is still on the run.



**3/27/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** A man is behind bars and facing an attempted murder charge on suspicion of intentionally hitting his girlfriend with his car in Aiea. Honolulu police say the man and woman were in a heated argument on Saturday afternoon. The man is accused of driving directly into the woman, causing her to fly over the car and land on the asphalt. She's now hospitalized in serious condition. The man was arrested after driving off.

**3/29/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The wife of a former Honolulu union leader has been sentenced to nearly six years behind bars for fraud. Marilyn Ahakuelo, the wife of former IBEW leader Brian Ahakuelo, was sentenced on Tuesday. Prosecutors say the couple stole money from union members by rigging a vote that approved higher monthly dues, then taking the extra cash for themselves. After Marilyn was charged with fraud in 2019, she went out and bought a Porsche and a Mercedes. The couple also used the stolen money to take first-class international trips. Brian Ahakuelo's sentencing is delayed because of an attorney change.

## **2. Coronavirus Pandemic:**

**1/5/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Hawaii is reporting four new COVID-19 deaths from last week. The new number from the state's Department of Health puts the statewide toll at one-thousand-765 since the pandemic began. Additionally, one-thousand-316 infections were reported within a seven day span. Out of that number, 856 were on Oahu.

**1/18/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Hawaii on Wednesday reported five additional coronavirus deaths and 1,068 new cases in the past seven days. The latest number brings the statewide total since the start of the pandemic to 375,925. The state's COVID figures don't include positives from at-home tests, so the real number is likely higher. Meanwhile, the additional fatalities bring the state's COVID death toll to 1,775.

**1/19/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Public health officials confirm the highly contagious COVID-19 Kraken variant is now in three major counties in Hawaii. The variant also known as XBB-point-one-point-five, is in Honolulu, Maui and Hawaii Counties. It was found in Honolulu's wastewater in late December. Now, genome sequencing of positive COVID test samples shows it in Maui and Hawaii Counties. The Kraken variant makes up an estimated five-percent of the COVID strains circulating in Hawaii. The Omicron subvariant BQ-point-one-point-one is the most common variant in the state, making up 45-percent of positive tests recently analyzed by the Department of Health.

The number of coronavirus hospitalizations in Hawaii is on the rise this week. The Healthcare Association of Hawaii reports an average of 94 hospitalized patients per day during the past week. That's up from 88 per day last week and 84 per day the week before. The seven-day average of COVID patients in intensive care is also up to eight per day compared with five per day two weeks ago.

**2/2/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Hawaii's COVID-19 positivity rate is at four-point-seven-percent this week. That's an improvement from an even six-percent last week. The state's seven-day daily average of new COVID cases is also down from 134 last week to 109 this week.

**2/15/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Hawaii on Wednesday reported 17 additional coronavirus deaths and 619 new cases in the past seven days. The latest number brings the statewide total since the start of the pandemic to 379,100. The state's COVID figures don't include positives from at-home tests, so the real number is likely higher. Meanwhile, the additional fatalities bring the state's COVID death toll to 1,822.

**2/21/23– Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Hawaii's timeshare occupancy rate has returned to its pre-pandemic level. The average timeshare occupancy rate was nearly 93-percent during the third quarter of 2022. It was at 92-percent in the third quarter of 2019. That's better than the performance of traditional hotels and resort condominiums, which reached an occupancy rate of more than 77-percent during the third quarter of 2022. The data comes from the state Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

**2/23/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Hawaii's hospitals are still operating at full capacity. That's despite the average number of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 hitting a new low during the past week. The Healthcare Association of Hawaii says two-thousand-526 total patients were hospitalized across the islands on Wednesday. So far this year, the average daily patient count is two-thousand-481. That's higher than every year since 2019. Last year, the daily average was two-thousand-350 patients.

**3/2/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** About 156-thousand Hawaii residents will see their extra pandemic-related EBT benefits expire this month. The people enrolled in the state's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program will keep receiving their regular monthly food stamp benefits after mid-March. But, thousands of people have been relying on the extra EBT benefits to deal with the rising cost of groceries like eggs and milk. More than 83-thousand families will be affected by the change.

Hawaii's COVID-19 numbers continue to improve. The seven-day average of new cases is down from 89 to 70 since February 15th. And, the average positivity rate is down from four-point-seven-percent to four-point-four-percent in that same time period. The state Department of Health skipped last Wednesday and didn't provide updated case counts or metrics.

**3/8/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Hawaii on Wednesday reported 7 additional coronavirus deaths and over 510 new cases in the past week. The latest number brings the statewide total since the start of the pandemic to 380,608. The state's COVID figures don't include positives from at-home tests, so the real number is likely higher. Meanwhile, the additional fatalities bring the state's COVID death toll to 1,841.

**3/24/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Arizona had the highest death rate from COVID-19 in the United States. That's according to a report published in the medical journal The Lancet. The death rate in the Grand Canyon State was 581 deaths per 100-thousand. Washington, DC's was 526 deaths per 100-thousand. Hawaii, New Hampshire, and Maine had the lowest rate of deaths. The report looked at data from January 2020 when the virus first appeared to July of last year.

### **3. Red Hill Spill:**

**1/20/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The Honolulu Board of Water Supply wants to test the Navy's water wells, but it appears the military won't allow it. A frustrated BWS Chief Engineer and Manager Ernie Lau spoke with KHNL-TV on Thursday. Lau says the testing is necessary to get more information about a contamination plume from the Navy's Red Hill fuel spills in 2021. Lau says the BWS doesn't know where the contamination lies underground, and he's concerned about the BWS's three wells sucking in that contamination. Lau adds that he's asked for permission to test the Navy's water wells, but his request has been denied. The Board of Water Supply's Halawa Shaft has been shut down for more than a year because of contamination concerns following the Red Hill spills.

**1/25/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The Secretary of the Army is on Oahu and facing questions from families affected by the Red Hill fuel spill crisis. Christine Wormuth held a town hall meeting at Schofield Barracks on Tuesday. It was supposed to be about aging infrastructure and quality of life issues. But, several of the nearly 500 service members and their families in attendance asked questions about Red Hill. Retired Army Colonel Ann Wright asked if military members who have been poisoned will receive hazardous duty pay. Wormuth said that is not being considered right now. Wormuth also had questions about the military's hotline to set up appointments at a dedicated clinic for Red Hill families. The hotline ended up being a national number, which caused more frustration.

**2/8/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The Navy has missed the deadline to publish a report about the late-November chemical spill at the Red Hill fuel storage facility. The EPA set a Monday deadline for the report that is

supposed to provide details about cleanup efforts and past spills. The Navy has told federal regulators it needs another five weeks to provide the information.

**2/9/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Video of November's toxic firefighting foam spill at Red Hill hasn't been released to the public yet. But, the next best thing is now available. A state Department of Health investigator who has seen the video is speaking out. Fenix Grange, the DOH's Groundwater Lead, tells KHNL-TV that DOH and EPA officials viewed footage of the 13-hundred-gallon chemical spill in early December. She says the camera is focused on a door, and the firefighting foam starts running under the door, before moving outside of the facility. Grange says the release happened from a bypass valve, which was put on to prevent releases.

**2/14/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The EPA says groundwater contamination at the military's Red Hill fuel storage facility dates back to at least 2005. The state Department of Health also says it's likely some old fuel is tucked away in the nearby aquifer due to the nearly two decades of contamination. The military first reported a spill at Red Hill to the state 25 years ago, a year after Hawaii's environmental law kicked in. Contaminated soil was found under each of the underground fuel tanks. But, environmental regulators, citing Navy reports, say the history of the spills dates back to 1947, just four years after the facility was built. The most recent chemical spill happened last November, when 13-hundred-gallons of toxic firefighting foam leaked out of the facility.

**2/16/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** There's more trouble for the hundreds of families affected by the Navy's tainted water crisis. The Red Hill families forced to live in hotels for months because the tap water at their homes was tainted are now facing huge tax bills. The reimbursements on hotel costs they received from the military are considered income, and the amounts are now being taxed. One Navy retiree and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam resident tells KNHL-TV she got a tax form showing 22-thousand-dollars in extra income. This comes after she and her family lived at the Sheraton Hotel and Resort in Waikiki for four months early last year.

**2/28/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Experts with the CDC are in Hawaii reviewing medical records of military families who got sick following the 2021 Red Hill fuel spill. The visit comes after the CDC surveyed the affected families. Many of them reported worse health conditions after the spill that poisoned the Navy's drinking water system that serves thousands of people near Pearl Harbor. The eleven-member CDC team is made up of toxicology and epidemiology experts. They're working to identify potential patterns of symptoms and health concerns. The findings will be posted on the CDC's website once the study is done.

**3/15/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The EPA is proposing federal limits on toxic "forever chemicals" in drinking water. It would be the first such limits on the chemicals, also known as PFAS. Forever chemicals were in the toxic firefighting foam that spilled at the Red Hill fuel storage facility last November. There are still concerns about the groundwater in the area being contaminated. The EPA proposal

would limit two common types of PFAS to four parts per trillion. That equals four droplets in an Olympic-sized swimming pool.

**3/21/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am,7am,8am,9am,10am** Military families were exposed to more than petroleum after the Red Hill fuel spill in 2021. The Hawaii Department of Health now reports families also drank antifreeze that was contained in the contaminated tap water. The claim was included in an internal health department memo, made public on Monday. Lawyers suing the U.S. government have already amended their lawsuit to include the antifreeze claim. Thousands of people who live near Pearl Harbor were sickened by drinking water following the fuel spill in November of 2021. There was another spill at Red Hill in May of that year. Many of the victims say they're still dealing with health effects.

#### **4. Rail:**

**2/28/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Members of a Hawaii state Senate committee are doing damage control after apparently passing a bill by mistake. The bill would let Honolulu extend the excise tax surcharge for rail to raise more money for the project. The bill was passed by the powerful Senate Ways and Means Committee on Monday. However, an hour later, Senator Donovan Dela Cruz said the handling of the bill was an "oversight." He is planning to hold a new hearing to reconsider the committee's vote and possibly defer the bill to next year.

**3/14/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Honolulu Mayor Rick Blangiardi delivered his third State of the City address Tuesday, putting an emphasis on efforts to bolster affordable housing and expand the ranks of first responders.

- Blangiardi touched on several affordable projects that were recently finished or that are soon to be underway. He also outlined plans to expand the city's CORE program, which helps homeless people —
- He also made a Honolulu rail announcement, saying the system will begin interim operations in July, offering service from East Kapolei to Aloha Stadium, as the rest of the line is built through the urban core.

**3/15/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Honolulu's long awaited rail line is expected to partially open to the public in July. Mayor Rick Blangiardi made the announcement during his State of the City Address on Tuesday, calling it an interim opening. There will be service between East Kapolei and Aloha Stadium. Service is scheduled to extend past Pearl Harbor and Daniel K. Inouye International Airport by the summer of 2025. The announcement follows years of delays and financial setbacks.

**3/28/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** The long-awaited Honolulu rail line is getting closer to partially opening. On Monday, the

Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation released drone video of a train running from the West Loch Station, along Farrington Highway near the Leoole Street and Leoku Street intersection. That's the fourth station along the 18-point-nine-mile route into Honolulu. HART is conducting a final series of tests as it gets the trains ready to run full-time.

**3/29/23 – Newscast (30 sec. 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm)** Construction of four Honolulu rail stations is expected to be done by the end of this year. The four stations -- Makalapa, Lelepaua, Ahua and Kahauiki -- are in the project's airport segment. Nearly seven years ago, the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation awarded a joint-venture company 875-million-dollars to build the elevated rail stations from areas east of Halawa to Kalihi. In all, it's building five-point-two-miles of elevated guideway, four stations and associated facilities from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to the Middle Street transit center. On Tuesday, a spokesperson said 97-percent of the project is now finished.

## **5. Mics:**

## **6. PSAs :**

1. Doctors Without Borders – 4x/day (:60/:30)
2. Help Heal Vets – 4x/day (:60/:30)
3. Starlight – 4x/day (:60)
4. Adopt US Kids – 4x/day (:60)
5. Mercy Ships – 4x/day (:30)
6. Oxfam – 4x/day (:30)
7. Mental Health – 4x/day (:60)
8. Cancer Screening – 4x/day (:30)
9. Caregiver Assistance – 4x/day (:60)
10. Online Pharmacies – 4x/day (:60/:30)
11. V Foundation – 4x/day (:60)
12. Pests – 4x/day (:30)
13. Parkinsons – 4x/day (:60/:30)
14. Colt Brennan Legacy Fund – 01/01/23-03/31/23 – (6x/day)
15. Are You A Chameleon – PSA AD Council – 01/01/23-03/31/23 – (4x/day)
16. AUW – Society of Young Leaders – 01/01/23-03/31/23 – (4x/day)
17. Board of Water Supply – Red Hill Water – 01/01/23-03/31/23 – (4x/day)
18. Diversifying Talent – PSA – 01/01/23-03/31/23 – (4x/day)
19. Ending Hunger – PSA AD Council w/ Danica Patrick – 01/01/23-03/31/23 – (4x/day)