



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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State Law Enforcement Officials Warn Against Exorbitant Gasoline Prices

Attorney General Earl I. Anzai and Stephen H. Levins, Executive Director of the Office of Consumer Protection, today expressed their concern about reports of gasoline price gouging in various states on the U.S. mainland, and announced that their offices will investigate reports of unwarranted increases in the retail price of gasoline.

"Both Steve and I are heartened that no complaints have been received thus far, and we are hopeful that gasoline retailers in Hawaii will not use a national tragedy to take advantage of Hawaii's consumers," said Anzai. But both Anzai and Levins added that "charging exorbitant prices for gasoline in the wake of national tragedy, without clear justification, is immoral and unconscionable, and our offices will take appropriate actions against such retailers." Anzai and Levins said consumers can help by not patronizing any gasoline retailer charging exorbitant prices.