April 5, 2022

**Hawai‘i Attorney General Shikada Supports Governor Ige’s Proclamation Recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month**

HONOLULU – Hawai‘i Attorney General Holly T. Shikada supports Governor David Ige’s upcoming Proclamation recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in Hawaii. SAAM is a nationwide campaign to raise awareness about sexual violence.

The theme for Hawaii’s 2022 SAAM is “Roads to Reconnection.” As we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, we recognize the importance of connecting people and communities to information on 1) the culture, behaviors and norms that allow sexual violence to continue, 2) resources and services for survivors, 3) the importance of holding offenders accountable, and 4) how to prevent sexual violence.

In 2021, more than 1,016 adults and children received specialized services from sexual assault centers in Hawaii and nearly 1,800 calls were made to the 24-hour sexual assault hotline. However, we know that sexual violence is an underreported crime and victims and survivors may not seek help, or do not know what services are available to them, and struggle alone with the trauma caused by the offender.

Sexual violence is widespread and impacts members of our community regardless of age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religion, or socio-economic background. Sexual violence thrives when survivors are not supported, are not believed, and are silenced. Sexual violence is a serious public health issue in Hawaii that has significant and lasting consequences for victims, families, and our communities.

The Hawai‘i Sexual Assault Response and Training Program, within the Department of the Attorney General, supports a coordinated, victim-centered and trauma-informed approach, where the sexual assault survivor is at the center of decision-making regarding recovery and involvement with the criminal justice system.

“We must support every effort to raise awareness about the crime of sexual assault and
the unacceptable impact it has on victims, survivors and our community as a whole," Attorney General Shikada said. “SAAM is just one small, yet significant part of the continuing effort to prevent sexual assault and provide support for victims and survivors, and I applaud all of our partner agencies and organizations in what they do on a daily basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.”

Together, we can all make a difference by both preventing sexual violence and giving survivors the support they need to heal.

For a calendar of SAAM events, go to http://ag.hawaii.gov. These events are being presented in partnership with the Hawai‘i State Department of Health - Sexual Violence Prevention Program, the Hawai‘i State Department of the Attorney General - Community and Crime Prevention Branch, the University of Hawai‘i - PAU Violence Program and Thompson School of Social Work and Public Health, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney - City and County of Honolulu, the Hawai‘i Coalition Against Sexual Assault, The Sex Abuse Treatment Center, and Nā Leo Kāne.

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For more information, contact:

Gary H. Yamashiroya  
Special Assistant to the Attorney General  
Email: ATG.PIO@hawaii.gov  
Web: http://ag.hawaii.gov  
Twitter: @ATGHIgov

Valerie Mariano  
Branch Chief, Community and Crime Prevention Branch  
Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division  
Department of the Attorney General  
(808) 586-1444  
Valerie.S.Mariano@hawaii.gov
VIRTUAL STATEWIDE EVENTS

Webinars
A Journey in Mindfulness, Aloha and Hana: Reconnecting to ourselves, each other and our surroundings with Dr. Ashley Ono
Wednesday, April 13 | 2 - 3 p.m.
Registration and details

‘Ulu Disaster Response Cultural Training Series Part 5: Violence Prevention Roads to Reconnection with Kaipo Kukahiko and Kanoe Enos
Thursday, April 14 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Registration and details

Embodied Self-Compassion: Reconnecting to Self-Worth After Trauma with Chia Werger and Nichole Shiraishi
Wednesday, April 20 | 2 - 3:30 p.m.
Registration and details

The Stories We Share: Roads to Reconnection with Nā Leo Kāne
Thursday, April 28 | 9 - 10:30 a.m.
Registration and details

Podcasts
SATC’s The [respect] Room
New episode every Sunday in April
Listen on Amazon Music, Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or at SATCHawaii.com

Online Presentations & Trainings
DOE Parent Presentations hosted by SATC
Offered to all DOE public and charter schools statewide throughout April
For more information contact: Llasmin Chaine at llasmin.chaine@hawaiipacifichealth.org

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OAHU IN-PERSON EVENTS

Honolulu Hale Teal Lighting for SAAM
Friday, April 1 - Friday, April 8 | Sunset
Honolulu Hale (City Hall)

SAAM Sign Waving and Community Awareness Event
Wednesday, April 6 | 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Hawai‘i State Capitol Building Crossroads of S. Beretania and Punchbowl St
For more information contact: Llasmin Chaine at llasmin.chaine@hawaiipacifichealth.org

Denim Day 2022: Annual Sexual Violence Prevention Campaign
Global Event
Wednesday, April 27 | All day
For more information on Denim Day visit: denimdayinfo.org

UH Mānoa Events

Roads to Reconnection SAAM On- and Off-Campus Resource Fair
Wednesday, April 6 | 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Campus Center Courtyard

Roads to Reconnection Standing Together Student Group Resource Fair
Thursday, April 14 | 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Campus Center Courtyard

TEAL Thursday Display
Thursday, April 14 | 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Queen Lili‘uokalani Center for Student Services (QLCSS)

For more information on UH Mānoa SAAM events visit: hawaii.edu

Fort Shafter Resource Event for Military Service Community with SATC
Thursday, April 28 | 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
For more information contact: Llasmin Chaine at llasmin.chaine@hawaiipacifichealth.org