



# KOA RECIDIVISM STUDY, CY 2017

Juvenile Justice Information System  
 Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division  
 Department of the Attorney General, State of Hawaii

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Kokua, Ohana, Aloha (KOA) is an early intervention and drug awareness program hosted by the State of Hawaii Department of Defense in conjunction with the Department of Health, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division. The program initially consisted of two consecutive classes held once a month tailored specifically for first time status offenders and their families to address youth's behavior, the consequences that arise from it, and how to make better choices in the future. However, in August 2017, the KOA program transitioned from a two-session program to a three-session program. This allows KOA to better impart principles taught during the sessions. KOA provides youth and their families with tips, tools, and information to help strengthen family relationships and communication in order to handle conflicts and address problems that do not require the intervention of the police or family court. The program also helps youth in understanding the risks of drug abuse, stress management techniques, and encourage youth to develop long-term goals.

This recidivism study analyzed 172 individual (unduplicated) participants who were referred to the KOA Program in calendar year 2017 and presents data on gender and race/ethnicity. This study also shows data on offense type and offense severity for those who recidivated within 6-months and 12-months post program completion. Recidivism is defined as any arrest subsequent to a KOA program compliance date and participants were tracked over a 6-month and 12-month follow-up period. Arrest data from the Hawaii County Police Department was not included in the analysis as it was not available at the time the report was compiled.

The data for this study were drawn from the KOA Program and the Department of the Attorney General's Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS). JJIS is a statewide information system that combines juvenile data from all county police departments, family courts, offices of the prosecuting attorney, and the juvenile correctional facility.

A little over a third (36.6%) of the youth referred to KOA demonstrated understanding of class materials and were marked as complete. On the other hand, more than half (63.4%) of the youth referred to KOA failed to demonstrate understanding of the materials, KOA was unable to connect with due to inaccurate contact information, and were no shows (KOA was able to contact but ultimately failed to report to a scheduled class) and were marked as incomplete (refer to Table 1). More than half of the youth referred to the KOA program were females (57.6%) while 42.4% of total referrals to the program were males.

**TABLE 1: NUMBER OF YOUTH REFERRED TO KOA, CY 2017**

<b>Gender</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Female	99	57.6
Male	73	42.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Caucasian	17	9.9
African American	7	4.1
Latino/Hispanic	7	4.1
Chinese	1	0.6
Filipino	17	9.9
Japanese	5	2.9
Korean	0	0.0
Mixed/Other Asian	5	2.9
Hawaiian/part-Hawaiian	77	44.8
Samoaan	7	4.1
Mixed/Other Pacific Islander	10	5.8
Mixed Race	16	9.3
Unknown	3	1.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>100.0</b>

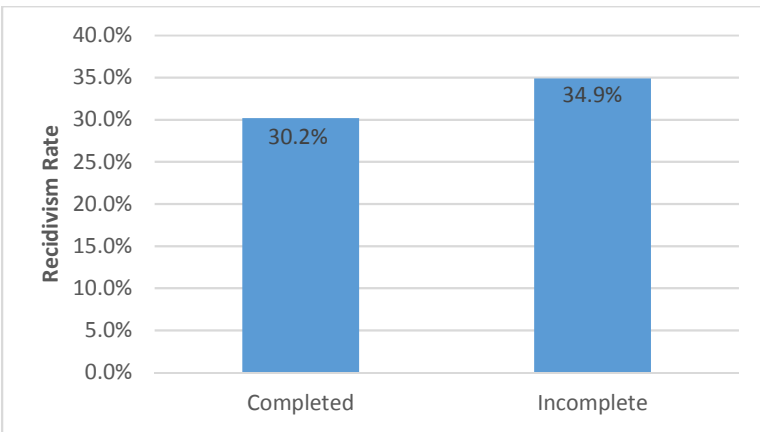
<b>Compliance Code</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Completed	63	36.6
Incomplete	109	63.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Hawaiian/part-Hawaiian youth were the group with the largest referral at 44.8%, followed by Caucasian and Filipino at 9.9%, and Mixed Race at 9.3%.

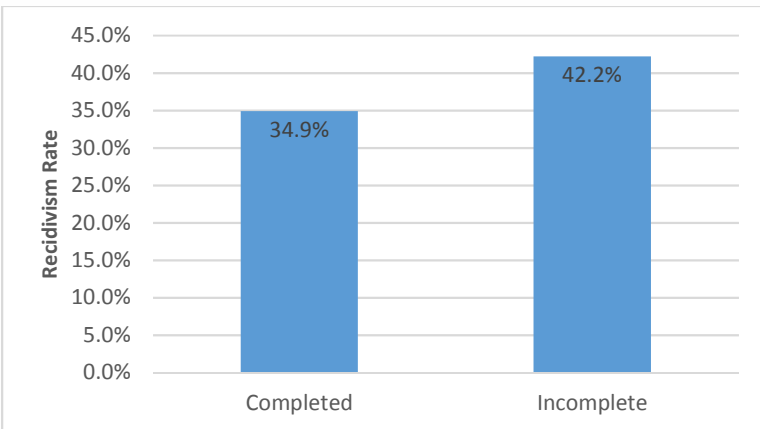
**TABLE 2: KOA RECIDIVISM RATES, CY 2017**

Follow-Up Period	Completed (N=63)		Incomplete* (N=109)		Total (N=172)	
	No. of Recidivists	Recidivism Rate	No. of Recidivists	Recidivism Rate	No. of Recidivists	Recidivism Rate
6-month follow up	19	30.2%	38	34.9%	57	33.1%
12-month follow up	22	34.9%	46	42.2%	68	39.5%

**FIGURE 1: KOA RECIDIVISM RATES, 6-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PERIOD, CY 2017**



**FIGURE 2: KOA RECIDIVISM RATES, 12-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PERIOD, CY 2017**



\*Incomplete includes youth referred to KOA but did not demonstrate understanding of the materials, KOA staff was unable to contact due to incorrect contact information, and youth KOA was able to contact but ultimately did not show up for the scheduled classes (no show).

**FINDINGS**

- As shown in Table 2, 33.1% of the total number of youth referred to KOA were rearrested after 6 months, while 39.5% were rearrested after 12 months.
- Of those who completed the program successfully, 30.2% recidivated after 6 months and 34.9% recidivated after 12 months.
- Those who did not complete the program had a recidivism rate of 34.9% after 6 months and 42.2% after 12 months.
- Looking at Figures 1 and 2, youth who completed the KOA program has a lower recidivism rate than those who did not complete the program.
  - After a 6-month follow-up period, 21.1% of those who completed the KOA program recidivated with law violations (felonies, misdemeanors, and petty misdemeanors) while 23.7% of those who did not complete the program recidivated with the same higher severity offenses.
  - Looking at a 12-month follow-up period, 22.7% of participants who completed the program recidivated with law violations while 26.1% of those who did not complete the program recidivated with the same higher severity offenses.

**COMPLETED KOA PROGRAM**

**TABLE 3: RECIDIVATING OFFENSE TYPES AND OFFENSE SEVERITY OF THOSE WHO COMPLETED KOA, CY 2017**

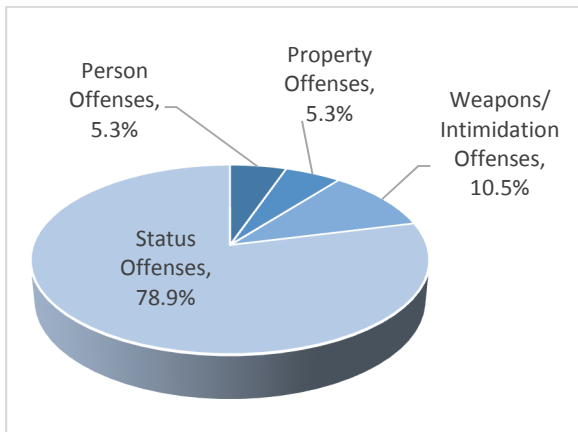
Recidivating Offense Types	6-month Follow-up Period		12-month Follow-up Period	
	%	No. of Recidivists	%	No. of Recidivists
Person Offenses	5.3%	1	9.1%	2
Drug Offenses	5.3%	1	4.5%	1
Property Offenses	10.5%	2	9.1%	2
Status Offenses	78.9%	15	77.3%	17
Total	100.0%	19	100.0%	22

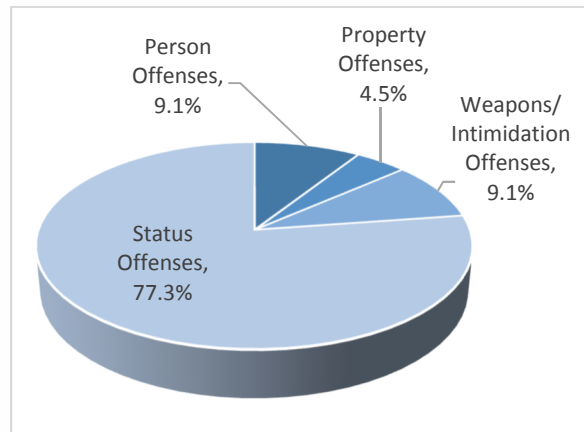
Recidivating Offense Severity				
Felony	0.0%	0	18.2%	4
Misdemeanor	15.8%	3	0.0%	0
Petty Misdemeanor	5.3%	1	4.5%	1
Status Offense	78.9%	15	77.3%	17
Total	100.0%	19	100.0%	22

- Table 3 displays the types of offenses (see Appendix) and offense severities for which KOA recidivists that successfully completed the program were arrested by 6-month and 12-month follow-up periods.

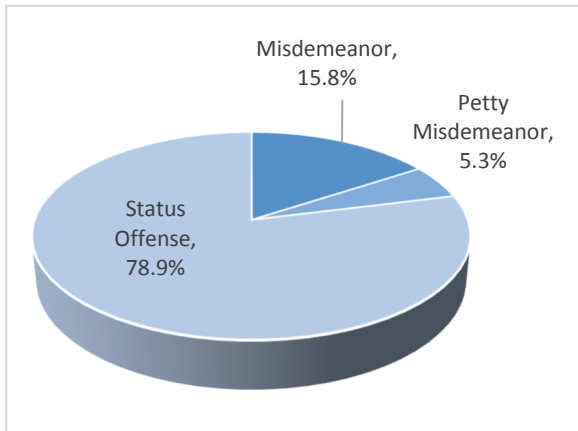
**FIGURE 3: RECIDIVATING OFFENSE TYPES, 6-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PERIOD, CY 2017**



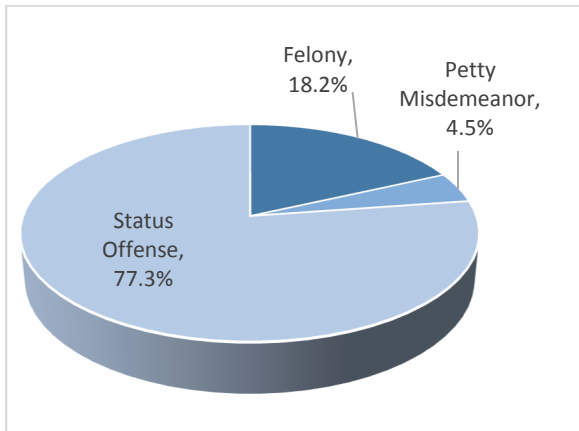
**FIGURE 4: RECIDIVATING OFFENSE TYPES, 12-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PERIOD, CY 2017**



**FIGURE 5: RECIDIVATING OFFENSE SEVERITY, 6-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PERIOD, CY 2017**



**FIGURE 6: RECIDIVATING OFFENSE SEVERITY, 12-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PERIOD, CY 2017**



**FAILED KOA PROGRAM**

**TABLE 4: RECIDIVATING OFFENSE TYPES AND OFFENSE SEVERITY OF THOSE WHO DID NOT COMPLETE KOA, CY 2017**

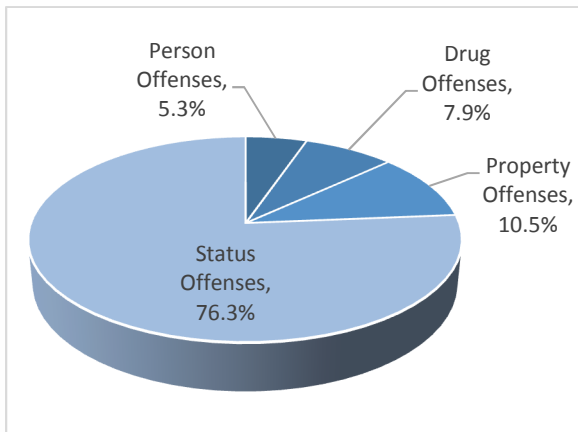
Recidivating Offense Types	6-month Follow-up Period		12-month Follow-up Period	
	%	No. of Recidivists	%	No. of Recidivists
Person Offenses	5.3%	2	4.3%	2
Drug Offenses	7.9%	3	6.5%	3
Property Offenses	10.5%	4	10.9%	5
Weapons/ Intimidation Offenses			2.2%	1
Status Offenses	76.3%	29	65.2%	34
Other Offenses			2.2%	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>46</b>

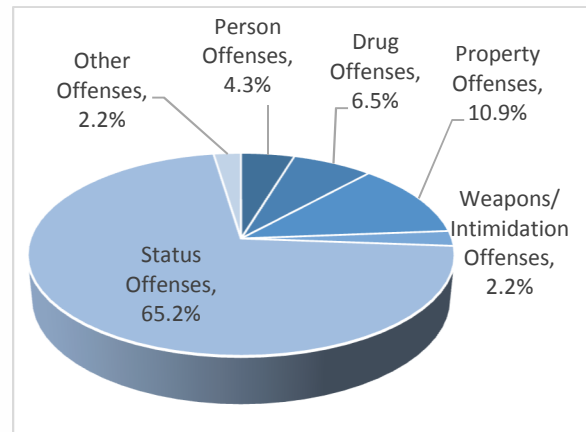
Recidivating Offense Severity				
	%	No. of Recidivists	%	No. of Recidivists
Felony	7.9%	3	6.5%	3
Misdemeanor	5.3%	2	8.7%	4
Petty Misdemeanor	10.5%	4	10.9%	5
Status Offense	76.3%	29	73.9%	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>46</b>

- Table 4 displays the types of offenses (see Appendix) and offense severities for which KOA recidivists that did not complete the program were arrested by 6-month and 12-month follow-up periods.

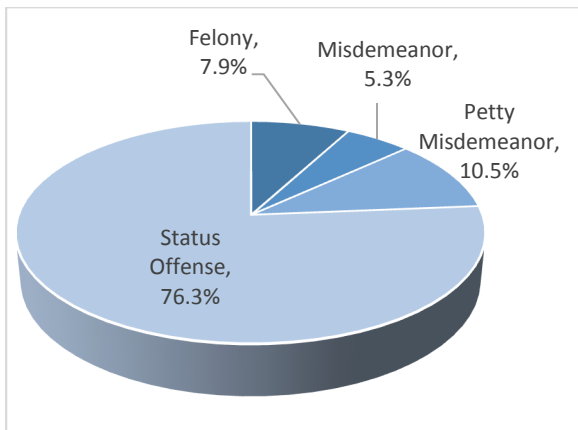
**FIGURE 7: RECIDIVATING OFFENSE TYPES, 6-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PERIOD, CY 2017**



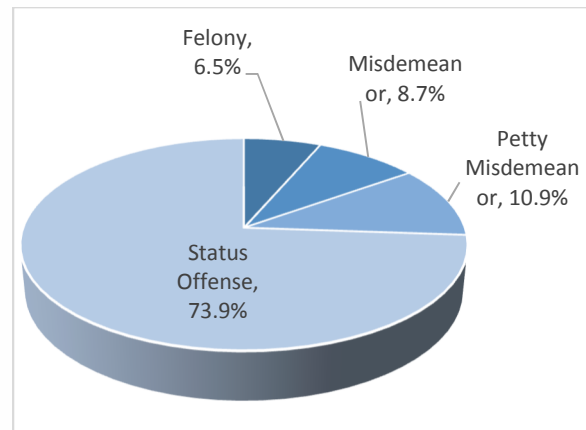
**FIGURE 8: RECIDIVATING OFFENSE TYPES, 12-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PERIOD, CY 2017**



**FIGURE 9: RECIDIVATING OFFENSE SEVERITY, 6-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PERIOD, CY 2017**



**FIGURE 10: RECIDIVATING OFFENSE SEVERITY, 12-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PERIOD, CY 2017**



## RECOMMENDATIONS

The KOA Program has gone through many changes since its inception. Some of these changes include continued program development- refining curriculum for their youth and parent classes to better meet the needs of youth and their families. KOA stakeholders are also in the process of standardizing their data collection methods which include clearly defining program compliance codes such as fail, no show, unable to contact, not available, completed yes, and completed no. They have also partnered with the Department of Health, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division to increase participants' understanding of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs and have asked for data specifically targeting the number of youth recidivating due to drug offenses. KOA has also complied with past recommendations such as widening the scope of study to include gender and ethnicity to better account for the population receiving KOA services and including participants who completed and did not complete the program in order to see the difference in recidivism rates between the two cohorts.

Although KOA has undergone significant changes, further compliance with the following recommendations will help KOA improve:

- Provide Police Report Numbers of youth to determine the specific offenses youth has been referred to KOA for, if available.
- Provide educational risk factors (e.g., school drop dropout rate, low grade point average, absenteeism, and suspensions), family risk factors (a child's placement in the foster care system may indicate that the child's family cannot provide a safe or supportive home), and any alcohol or drug problems a child is struggling with, if available. These factors are important to consider in exploring characteristics related to the probability of re-offending.
- Provide an updated data collection worksheet comprising only of variables necessary for KOA reports including (but not limited to) clearly defined program compliance codes, start date and end date, participants' JMID, and first and last name.

## APPENDIX

Offense categories used were determined by the Research Subcommittee of the Juvenile Justice Information Committee (JJIC). The JJIC is the governing body of all JJIS data and consists of representatives from JJIS member agencies. The JJIC Research Subcommittee determined seven major offense categories:

1. **Person Offenses** includes offenses that involve detrimental physical contact acted upon a victim by the offender.
  - a. **Homicide** (*e.g.*, murder, negligent homicide).
  - b. **Assault 1 or 2** offenses occur when there is “serious” or “substantial” bodily injury intentionally or knowingly inflicted on another person, respectively. [Starting in 2007, a criminal offense involving a person intentionally (or) knowingly causing bodily injury to any emergency medical services personnel who is engaged in the performance of duty would be charged with assault in the second degree. Starting in 2003, a criminal offense involving the assault of a police officer or educational worker who is engaged in the performance of his/her duties was deemed a class C felony, or assault in the second degree].
  - c. **Kidnapping** occurs when a person intentionally or knowingly restrains another person with intent to use that person as a shield or hostage, inflict bodily injury upon that person or subject that person to a sexual offense, or terrorize that person.
  - d. **Robbery** includes acts in which a person uses force against another person with the intent to overcome that person’s physical resistance (or threatens to do so) in the course of committing theft.
  - e. **Abuse of Family Member** includes offenses for which any person physically abuses a family or household member.
  - f. **Assault 3** includes offenses in which a person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes bodily injury to another person, or does so negligently with a dangerous instrument. This is a misdemeanor offense.
2. **Sex Offenses** include the following offenses:
  - a. **Sexual Assault 1 or 2** occur when a person knowingly subjects another person to an act of sexual penetration by strong compulsion (sex assault 1 and 2 are felonies).
  - b. **Sexual Assault 3** occurs when a person recklessly subjects another person to an act of sexual penetration by compulsion. It is also a felony offense.
  - c. **Sexual Assault 4** occurs when a person subjects another person to sexual contact by compulsion or causes another person to have sexual contact with the person by compulsion, and is a misdemeanor offense.
  - d. **Prostitution** includes offenses for which a person engaged in, or agreed to engage in, sexual conduct with another person for a fee.
  - e. **Open Lewdness** includes offenses in which a person performed any lewd act which is likely to be observed by others who would be affronted or alarmed.
3. **Drug Offenses** include all “PUP” offending activities (*i.e.*, “possession,” “use,” or “purchase” of illicit substances), as well as drug trafficking:
  - a. **Dangerous Drugs** (*e.g.*, crystal methamphetamine, cocaine).

- b. **Harmful Drugs** (*e.g.*, prescription medications that can act as depressants, stimulants, or have other sensational effects).
  - c. **Detrimental 1 Drugs** (*e.g.*, trafficking of marijuana).
  - d. **Detrimental 2 or 3 Drugs** (*e.g.*, PUP of marijuana).
  - e. **Alcohol** (*e.g.*, prohibitions, arrests for “driving under the influence”).
  - f. **Other Drugs** (*e.g.*, paraphernalia).
4. **Weapons/Intimidation Offenses** include weapons and/or no physical contact or relatively minor physical contact (*e.g.*, pushing, shoving).
- a. **Terroristic Threatening 1** includes offenses in which a person threatens, by word or conduct, to cause bodily injury to another person or serious damage to the property of another. Terroristic threatening 1 is a felony C offense pertaining primarily to victims who are public servants, such as an educational administrator, counselor, or teacher, and/or involves threatening another person on more than one occasion for the same or a similar purpose.
  - b. **Terroristic Threatening 2** does not involve public servants or repeated incidences. It is a misdemeanor offense.
  - c. **Harassment** includes offenses in which a person commits the following types of act(s) on another- strikes, shoves, kicks, or offensive touching, insults, taunts, or challenges intended to provoke a violent response, or other offensive forms of communication (*e.g.*, telephone calls, facsimile transmissions).
  - d. **Weapons Felony** offenses involve unlawful possession of deadly weapons, such as firearms, explosives, or other destructive devices.
  - e. **Weapons Misdemeanor** offenses involve possession of prohibited weapons such as knives or brass knuckles. Misdemeanor weapons offenses can also include possession of deadly weapons, though in a less dangerous context.
5. **Property Offenses** includes offenses involving theft or damage to another’s property:
- a. **Burglary** offenses apply when a person intentionally enters or remains unlawfully in a building, with intent to commit a crime against a person or against property rights.
  - b. **Theft 1 or 2** offenses involve theft without force. Theft 1 applies when the value of the stolen item(s) exceeds \$20,000 or is a firearm; Theft 2 applies when the value of the stolen item(s) exceeds \$300. Theft 1 and 2 are both felony offenses.
  - c. **Theft 3 or 4** offenses also involve theft without force of items of lesser value. Theft 3 applies when the value of the item(s) exceeds \$100. Theft 4 applies when the value is less than \$100. Both are misdemeanor offenses.
  - d. **Unauthorized Entry into Motor Vehicle/Unauthorized Control of a Propelled Vehicle (UEMV/UCPV)** offenses include those in which a person exerts unauthorized control over another’s vehicle without the owner’s consent, or enters the vehicle to steal it, part of it, or property within it.
  - e. **Computer/Credit Card Fraud** includes offenses in which a person knowingly accesses a computer without authorization and, by means of such conduct, obtains or exerts control over the property of another, or knowingly accesses a computer, computer system or network without authorization. Credit card fraud involves the unauthorized use of another’s credit card or the card’s number to obtain money, goods, services, or anything else of value.

- f. **Other Property Crimes** offenses are those that do not fall into the above offenses (*e.g.*, arson, criminal property damage) and where a person intentionally damages or exerts control over another's property without permission.
  - g. **Trespass** offenses include those in which a person knowingly enters or remains unlawfully in a dwelling or other premises (*e.g.*, hotel, school, commercial business).
6. **Status Offenses** include offenses that are only prohibited because they are committed by someone under age eighteen:
- a. **Runaway** offenses pertain to juveniles who are absent from home without parental permission.
  - b. **Truancy** offenses pertain to juveniles who leave school without the permission of the school or a parent/guardian.
  - c. **Curfew** offenses occur when a juvenile under age sixteen goes or remains on any public street, highway, public place, or private place held open to the public after ten o'clock in the evening and before four o'clock in the morning, unaccompanied by a parent, guardian, or adult person authorized to accompany the child.
  - d. **Beyond Parental Control** applies when a parent or legal guardian deems their child beyond their control and requires police intervention.
  - e. **Other Status Offenses** refer to all other status offenses not listed above (*e.g.*, injurious behavior, person in need of supervision).
7. **Other Offenses** includes the following offenses and subcategories that do not fall into any of the above major offense categories:
- a. **Parole Violation** occurs when a juvenile violates the conditions of his/her release from incarceration to parole.
  - b. **Furlough Violation** occurs when a juvenile violates conditions of his/her furlough (a temporary release from the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility).
  - c. **Probation Violation** occurs when a juvenile violates the conditions of his/her probation sentence.
  - d. **Traffic** offenses include a wide variety of driving offenses, including but not limited to speeding, driving without a license, reckless driving, inattention to driving, etc.
  - e. **Other Offenses** include offenses that do not fall into any of the above major offense categories or subcategories. These offenses include "disorderly conduct" and many county ordinances (*e.g.*, skateboarding on sidewalk, fireworks violations, park or fishing ordinance violations).