

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

## **News Release**

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR

Mark J. Bennett, Attorney General

Phone: (808) 586-1500 Fax: (808) 586-1239

For Immediate Release: May 10, 2005 News Release No. 2005-14

## RECORD NUMBERS VISIT STATE SEX OFFENDER WEBSITE

HONOLULU – Hawaii's sex offender information website has received a dramatic increase in visitors since Governor Lingle signed a law yesterday that made information on hundreds of registered sex offenders immediately available to the public. As a result of Act 45, information on more than 1,400 offenders is now accessible on the website.

Previously, the state sex offender website received an average of about 2,500 visits or "hits" per day. In the first 24 hours after the new law was enacted, the site received more than 125,000 hits.

"Hawaii's citizens are clearly making use of this information. We are very pleased that parents can now use this information to help keep their children safe," Attorney General Mark Bennett said.

Because of the strong public interest, Internet users may experience a temporary slowdown in processing requests at <a href="mailto:sexoffenders.hawaii.gov">sexoffenders.hawaii.gov</a>. Internet users may also access the same information by going to <a href="mailto:ehawaii.gov">ehawaii.gov</a> and clicking on "Find Sex Offenders" at the lower left of the page.

###

For more information, contact: Bridget Holthus Special Assistant (808) 586-1284 hawaiiag@hawaii.gov