



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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**MAILE AMBER ALERT TEST
SCHEDULED ON 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF MAILE GILBERT'S DEATH**

HONOLULU-State and local law enforcement agencies in coordination with local broadcasters will conduct a **test of the MAILE AMBER Alert Plan at 11:45 a.m. on Thursday, August 25, 2005**. The test will utilize the Civil Defense Emergency Alert System and will originate from the Maui Police Department. The bi-annual test is being conducted to ensure that equipment and procedures on each island are working properly in the case that an actual alert is necessary.

The MAILE AMBER Alert Plan is a voluntary partnership between the four county police departments, State Civil Defense, the Department of Transportation, the Department of the Attorney General Missing Child Center-Hawaii and local broadcasters. The program was established to notify the public when a child has been abducted and solicit help in locating the child and abductor.

MAILE AMBER is an acronym for Minor Abducted in Life-threatening Emergency and America's Missing Broadcast Emergency Response. The program was named in memory of 6-year-old Maile Gilbert of Kailua and 9-year-old Amber Hagerman of Arlington, Texas. August 25 marks **the 20th anniversary date of Maile Gilbert's death**. Maile was abducted on August 25, 1985, from a party in Kailua. Her killer was located several hours later and led detectives to Kaena Point where he had buried Maile's body.

The criteria for a MAILE AMBER Alert to be issued in Hawaii, the victim must be 17 years of age or younger, the child is believed to be in a life-threatening situation, and information, such as a description of the suspect, the type of vehicle used in the abduction, and/or the license number.

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The Missing Child Center-Hawaii, a program of the Department of the Attorney General, is the statewide coordinator for the MAILE AMBER Alert program in Hawaii. The Center also assists with investigations of missing children; coordinates with and assists other government and nonprofit agencies in locating and recovering missing children; assists in training law enforcement, other professionals, and the public on issues relating to missing children; and operates a resource center for information about preventing the abduction and exploitation of children. For further information on the Hawaii's MAILE AMBER Alert program, contact the Missing Child Center-Hawaii at 808-586-1449.

Attorney General Bennett stated: The State and the Department of the Attorney General are happy to partner with the Counties, the federal government, and the community to help protect our children.

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For more information, contact:
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