

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



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October 30, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the Department of the Attorney General's Report of the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission, as required by section 134C-3(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). In accordance with section 93-16, HRS, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at <https://ag.hawaii.gov/publications/reports/reports-to-the-legislature/>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at (808) 586-1500.

Sincerely,

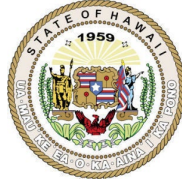
Anne E. Lopez

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Attorney General

c: Josh Green, M.D., Governor
Sylvia Luke, Lieutenant Governor
Legislative Reference Bureau (Attn: Karen Mau)
Leslie H. Kondo, State Auditor
Luis Salaveria, Director of Finance, Department of Budget and Finance
Stacey A. Aldrich, State Librarian, Hawaii State Public Library System
Wendy F. Hensel, President, University of Hawaii

Enclosure

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REPORT OF THE GUN VIOLENCE AND VIOLENT CRIMES COMMISSION

Pursuant to Section 134C-3(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes

Submitted to the Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026

Act 74, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020 (Act 74), was enacted on September 15, 2020. Act 74 added chapter 134C to the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) and established the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission (GVVCC). Pursuant to section 134C-1, HRS, the GVVCC is placed within the Department of the Attorney General for administrative purposes only. Section 134C-3(e), HRS, requires the GVVCC to submit a report of its findings and recommendations on policy relating to preventing gun violence and violent crimes, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than forty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2022 and each regular session thereafter.

I. The Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission

The purposes of the GVVCC are to address gun violence and violent crimes in Hawai'i and to provide coordination, facilitation, and planning among state, county, and federal agencies and other partners as appropriate to carry out its purposes.

Pursuant to statute, the GVVCC shall endeavor to:

- (1) Identify relevant data that may be used to reduce gun violence and violent crimes;
- (2) Identify areas in which relevant data is not available;
- (3) Maximize the sharing between the agencies represented on the GVVCC and other appropriate stakeholders of data relevant to reducing gun violence and violent crimes; and
- (4) Coordinate and conduct research on gun violence and violent crimes.

The GVVCC may also work with and engage stakeholders for the purposes of chapter 134C, HRS.

II. GVVCC Members

The Attorney General, Anne Lopez, GVVCC Chair;

The designee of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Hawai'i, Dr. Erin E. Harbinson, Director, Criminal Justice Research Institute, serving as the GVVCC Treasurer;

The designee of the Director of Health, Dr. Daniel J. Galanis, Epidemiologist, Department of Health;

The Director of Law Enforcement, Mike Lambert;

A county prosecuting attorney selected by the chair of the GVVCC, Andrew H. Martin, Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui, serving as the GVVCC Secretary;

The State Public Defender, Jon N. Ikenaga;

The Chief of Police of the Hawaii County Police Department, Interim Chief Reed Mahuna;

The Chief of Police of the Honolulu Police Department, Interim Chief Rade Vanic;

The Chief of Police of the Kauai Police Department, Interim Chief Elliott K. Ke;

The Chief of Police of the Maui Police Department, Chief John Pelletier;

The designee of the Administrator of the Hawaii State Hospital, Dr. Meghan McBrearty;

The Dean of the College of Social Sciences at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Dr. Denise Eby Konan; and

The designee of the Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, Dr. Gerald Busch, serving as the GVVCC Vice Chair.

The Director of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Tommy Johnson, participating at the request of the chair;

No appointments/selections were made for the following members required pursuant to section 134C-2(b)(10) and (11), HRS:

One representative from a group that advocates for stricter gun safety laws; and
One representative from a firearm advocacy group.

III. Activities of the GVVCC

No GVVCC meetings were conducted during the reporting period.

IV. Accounting of Expenditures

There were no expenditures incurred beyond the personnel costs associated with the Office Assistant IV position.

V. Proposed Legislation

Although the GVVCC has no current plans to introduce legislation in 2026, it notes that there is a carryover bill from 2025, House Bill No. 664, which would establish the Office of Gun Violence Prevention within the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct community outreach on gun violence prevention, develop and administer a grant program for gun violence prevention, and develop and administer a gun violence resource bank. It would move the GVVCC from the Department of the Attorney General to the Department of Law Enforcement and replace the Attorney General with the Director of Law Enforcement as Chair of the GVVCC and include the Attorney General as a commission member. It also establishes a gun violence prevention special fund to award grants to organizations to conduct community-based gun violence intervention initiatives. The Department of Law Enforcement supports the bill, but the GVVCC has not taken a formal position on it.