

# LESB Model Law Enforcement Identification and Indicia Policy

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*Model Policy for Agency Adoption or Adaptation*

## **Executive Summary**

Clear law enforcement identification is essential to public trust, officer safety, and accountability. Members of the public often respond to perceived police authority based on badges, uniforms, marked vehicles, emergency lights, credentials, agency titles, electronic identifiers, or commands delivered under apparent color of law. Those indicators must be used accurately and responsibly.

The purpose of this Model Law Enforcement Identification and Indicia Policy is to establish clear statewide guidance for the public-facing use of law enforcement identification, agency credentials, uniforms, badges, vehicles, markings, emergency equipment, electronic identifiers, and related law enforcement indicia. The policy is intended for adoption or adaptation by Hawaii law enforcement agencies and may be made more restrictive by individual agencies.

This model policy defines law enforcement indicia, police-style vehicles, false law enforcement identification, law enforcement actions, visible identification, agency-controlled identifiers, agency-related personnel, and private security personnel. It provides operating standards for identification during law enforcement actions, control of agency-issued identifiers, use of marked and unmarked vehicles, digital identifiers, plainclothes and undercover operations, facial coverings, joint operations, reporting, training, and administrative review.

The policy does not confer law enforcement authority on any person. It is designed to prevent false or misleading public-facing representations of law enforcement status, agency affiliation, or lawful authority, while preserving legitimate law enforcement operations, undercover assignments, tactical safety, medical and environmental exceptions, and agency discretion to adopt stricter requirements.

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# Model Law Enforcement Identification and Indicia Policy

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## **SXX-1 Purpose and Philosophy**

Public confidence in law enforcement depends in part on the ability of the public to distinguish lawful police authority from false appearance, private security, agency-related support roles, and unauthorized conduct.

Law enforcement indicia, including badges, credentials, uniforms, patches, titles, vehicles, emergency lights, sirens, equipment markings, written representations, digital identifiers, and verbal commands, can cause a reasonable person to believe that police authority is being exercised. Because the public may comply, submit, avoid, grant access, disclose information, or cooperate based on those indicators, agency policy should ensure that law enforcement identification is accurate, controlled, and not misused.

This model policy establishes minimum guidance for agency adoption or adaptation. It is not intended to limit an agency from adopting more restrictive standards or additional safeguards. It does not itself create direct regulation over private security companies, private employers, contractors, volunteers, or other non-law-enforcement persons except to the extent those persons are governed by agency policy, contract, agreement, operational control, certification requirements, or other applicable law.

Nothing in this model policy authorizes a person to exercise law enforcement authority or police powers. The policy addresses identification, public-facing presentation, use of law enforcement indicia, and prevention of false or misleading appearance of law enforcement authority.

## **SXX-2 Definitions**

As used in this model policy, unless the context otherwise requires:

**“Agency-controlled identifier”** means a badge, identification card, credential, patch, insignia, emblem, vehicle decal, electronic credential, email domain, social media account, website, uniform item, equipment marking, or other identifier issued, approved, maintained, controlled, or authorized by an agency.

**“Agency-related personnel”** means contractors, volunteers, agents, representatives, private security personnel, or other persons who interact with the public while performing duties for, under contract with, or under the direction, agreement, or operational control of a law enforcement agency. This term does not create law enforcement status or certification status.

**“False law enforcement identification”** means the knowing use, display, creation, possession, transfer, or presentation of law enforcement indicia by a person who is not authorized to use the indicia or who uses the indicia to imply authority beyond the authority lawfully held.

**“Law enforcement action”** means a stop, detention, arrest, traffic stop, demand for identification, warrant service, command, search, scene-control action, entry request, crowd-control action, investigation, interview, or other interaction in which a person appears to exercise law enforcement authority toward a member of the public.

**“Law enforcement indicia”** means any title, badge, identification card, credential, uniform, patch, insignia, emblem, vehicle marking, emergency light, siren, equipment marking, electronic identifier, verbal representation, written representation, digital representation, or other item or conduct that would cause a reasonable person to believe the user is a law enforcement officer, is affiliated with a law enforcement agency, or is exercising law enforcement authority.

**“Police-style vehicle”** means any vehicle, regardless of ownership, registration, funding source, or duty status, that bears markings, equipment, lights, sirens, insignia, decals, colors, wording, or configuration that would cause a reasonable person to believe the vehicle is used by a law enforcement agency or law enforcement officer. The term includes agency-owned, leased, assigned, take-home, subsidized, or privately owned vehicles when equipped, marked, authorized, or used in a manner that creates the appearance of law enforcement authority.

**“Private security personnel”** means a private detective, guard, armed security provider, security contractor, security employee, or other person performing private security duties under private employment, license, registration, contract, or agreement. This definition is used only to distinguish private security from law enforcement identification in agency policy.

**“Visible identification”** means identification displayed on the outermost garment or gear, or otherwise made available during a law enforcement action, showing the agency and either the officer’s last name, badge number, or unique agency identification number.

### **SXX-3 General Identification Requirements**

- (a) Officers performing official duties shall carry agency-issued credentials unless an authorized exception applies.
- (b) During a law enforcement action, officers shall identify their agency and role when feasible and safe.
- (c) Credentials and visible identification shall accurately state agency affiliation and role.
- (d) Agency-issued identification shall not be used in a manner that falsely implies law enforcement status, agency affiliation, assignment, or lawful authority.
- (e) Plainclothes officers taking law enforcement action shall display credentials as soon as safe and practicable.
- (f) Officers shall not intentionally obscure required visible identification during routine law enforcement action unless an authorized exception applies.

#### **§XX-4 Use and Control of Law Enforcement Indicia**

- (a) Law enforcement indicia shall be used only by persons authorized by law and agency policy.
- (b) An officer shall not loan, transfer, copy, simulate, alter, display, publish, or permit use of law enforcement indicia in a manner that creates a false or misleading appearance of law enforcement status, agency affiliation, or lawful authority.
- (c) Agency policy should establish inventory controls for badges, identification cards, credentials, patches, insignia, vehicle decals, uniform items, electronic credentials, and other controlled identifiers.
- (d) An officer shall report the loss, theft, misuse, unauthorized use, or suspected compromise of assigned law enforcement identifiers in accordance with agency policy.
- (e) Retired, ceremonial, training, historical, theatrical, or display items shall not be used in a manner that implies current law enforcement status or authority.

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## **§XX-5 Uniforms, Badges, Patches, Insignia, and Titles**

- (a) Uniforms, badges, patches, insignia, emblems, and titles shall accurately reflect agency affiliation and role.
- (b) Titles such as police, officer, law enforcement, sheriff, deputy, agent, investigator, detective, special agent, patrol, enforcement officer, or similar terms shall be used only as authorized by law and agency policy.
- (c) When security personnel perform functions under agency contract, assignment, or operational direction, agency policy should require clear identification as security unless separate law authorizes a law enforcement role and corresponding identification.
- (d) Agency-related personnel shall not use police-style identifiers unless authorized by law, contract, agreement, operational plan, or agency policy.
- (e) Agency uniforms and badges shall not be altered, combined, or displayed in a manner that creates false or misleading law enforcement identification.

## **SXX-6 Police-Style Vehicles, Markings, Emergency Lights, and Equipment**

- (a) Marked law enforcement vehicles used for public-facing law enforcement functions should display agency identification in a manner visible to the public.
- (b) Unmarked vehicles may be used for lawful investigative, plainclothes, protective, administrative, or tactical purposes consistent with agency policy.
- (c) When an unmarked vehicle is used for a law enforcement action, officers shall provide identification as soon as safe and practicable.
- (d) Police-style vehicle markings, emergency lights, sirens, push bars, spotlights, cages, agency-like decals, radio equipment, or other equipment shall not be used to create a false appearance of law enforcement status, agency affiliation, or lawful authority.
- (e) Agency contracts, permits, assignments, or operational plans involving private security vehicles should prohibit police-style markings, emergency-style lights, sirens, agency-like decals, or configurations that would cause reasonable confusion with law enforcement.
- (f) Agency policy should establish procedures for issuance, installation, removal, disposal, and recovery of agency vehicle decals, emergency lighting, sirens, and agency-specific equipment markings.
- (g) Off-Duty, Take-Home, Subsidized, and Privately Owned Vehicles
  - (1) Agency policy should address the use of agency-owned, leased, assigned, take-home, subsidized, or privately owned vehicles that bear law enforcement indicia or are equipped for law enforcement use.
  - (2) A vehicle shall not be used to create the appearance of law enforcement authority unless the officer is acting within lawful authority and agency policy.
  - (3) Off-duty use of a vehicle bearing law enforcement indicia or equipped with emergency lights, sirens, radio equipment, police-style markings, or other law enforcement equipment shall be governed by agency policy.
  - (4) An officer operating an off-duty, take-home, subsidized, or privately owned vehicle shall not initiate a law enforcement action based solely on the presence of law enforcement equipment or indicia unless authorized by law and agency policy, or unless exigent circumstances require immediate action.
  - (5) When an officer uses an off-duty, take-home, subsidized, or privately owned vehicle during a law enforcement action, the officer shall identify the officer's agency and role as soon as feasible and safe.

## **SXX-7 Digital, Electronic, and Written Identifiers**

- (a) Digital, electronic, and written identifiers shall accurately identify agency affiliation and role.
- (b) Agency email signatures, websites, social media accounts, text messages, electronic credentials, electronic badges, digital forms, online profiles, and public-facing electronic communications shall not falsely imply law enforcement status, agency affiliation, or lawful authority.
- (c) Officers and other persons governed by an adopting agency's policy shall not use personal accounts, private email, private messaging platforms, unofficial websites, or social media accounts to create a false appearance of official law enforcement status or authority.
- (d) Agency policy should establish controls for official email domains, digital credentials, social media accounts, websites, electronic identifiers, and other digital representations used for public communication.

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## **§XX-8 Agency-Related Private Security, Contractors, Volunteers, Agents, and Representatives**

- (a) Agency policy should require private security personnel acting under agency contract, assignment, agreement, or operational direction to remain visibly distinct from law enforcement unless separate law authorizes a law enforcement role and corresponding identification.
- (b) Private detective licensure, guard registration, armed security status, uniform approval, badge approval, vehicle use, or security contract authority does not create law enforcement status or authorize a person to present as law enforcement.
- (c) Contractors, volunteers, agents, and representatives acting under agency contract, assignment, agreement, or operational direction should not present as law enforcement unless authorized by law and agency policy.
- (d) Contracts, memoranda of agreement, volunteer agreements, and operational plans should include identification requirements when agency-related personnel interact with the public.
- (e) Agency personnel should report known misuse of law enforcement indicia by contractors, volunteers, private security personnel, or other agency-related personnel in accordance with agency policy and applicable law.

## **SXX-9 Plainclothes, Undercover, Tactical, and Protective Operations**

- (a) Plainclothes operations are permitted when authorized by law and agency policy.
- (b) Undercover operations are exempt from ordinary visible identification requirements while identification would compromise the operation.
- (c) Tactical, protective, and high-risk operations may use identification methods appropriate to officer safety, public safety, and operational needs.
- (d) When plainclothes officers take law enforcement action, they shall identify themselves as soon as feasible and safe.
- (e) Operational exceptions shall not be used to avoid accountability in routine law enforcement actions.
- (f) Agencies should document operational exceptions when required by law or agency policy.

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## **§XX-10 Emergency and Disaster Operations**

- (a) During a declared emergency, disaster, emergency period, mutual aid deployment, or other emergency management operation, agency policy should preserve law enforcement identification requirements to the greatest extent feasible and safe.
- (b) Emergency or disaster conditions do not eliminate the need for accurate law enforcement identification, but may justify temporary modifications when ordinary identification methods are impracticable, unsafe, or inconsistent with emergency operations.
- (c) Temporary modifications may include alternate visible identifiers, incident command credentials, emergency assignment badges, temporary vehicle placards, or other agency-approved identifiers.
- (d) A temporary emergency identifier shall not be used to imply law enforcement authority beyond the person's lawful role or assignment.
- (e) Agencies should document emergency identification modifications when practicable, including the incident, duration, affected personnel, and type of temporary identifier used.
- (f) Personnel operating under emergency or disaster conditions shall identify their agency and role during law enforcement action as soon as feasible and safe.

## **SXX-11 Facial Coverings and Visible Identification**

Facial coverings are addressed to support officer identification during public-facing law enforcement actions, subject to authorized exceptions.

- (a) Officers should not conceal facial identity during routine law enforcement action unless an authorized exception applies.
- (b) Authorized exceptions may include undercover operations, tactical safety, protective assignments, medical protection, respiratory protection, hazardous materials exposure, environmental hazards, motorcycle helmet use, or exigent circumstances.
- (c) When a facial covering is used during a law enforcement action, other visible identification should be maintained when feasible and safe.
- (d) Agency policy should document non-routine use of identity-concealing facial coverings when required by law or policy.
- (e) Agency policy should be updated to conform to any enacted statutory requirement on facial coverings or visible identification.

## **§XX-12 Joint Operations and Outside Agency Coordination**

- (a) State and county personnel participating in joint operations shall comply with applicable state and agency identification standards.
- (b) Agencies should document the purpose, participating agencies, identification plan, and role of state or county personnel in planned joint operations.
- (c) State and county personnel shall not use participation in a joint operation to avoid state identification or accountability requirements.
- (d) Requirements for federal personnel should be addressed only to the extent permitted by law and applicable agreements.
- (e) Public communications following joint operations should accurately identify participating state or county agencies when disclosure is lawful and appropriate.

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### **SXX-13 Prohibited Conduct**

An officer or other person governed by an adopting agency's policy shall not:

- (a) Knowingly use, display, create, transfer, or present law enforcement indicia without authorization.
- (b) Use law enforcement indicia to create a false impression of officer status, agency affiliation, or law enforcement authority.
- (c) Use a police-style vehicle, emergency light, siren, marking, decal, title, uniform, badge, credential, equipment marking, or electronic identifier to cause public confusion regarding law enforcement status or authority.
- (d) Induce compliance, fear, submission, access, avoidance, cooperation, surrender of property, disclosure of information, or entry into a location through false or misleading appearance of law enforcement authority.
- (e) Present private security, contractor, volunteer, agent, or representative status in a manner that falsely implies law enforcement status, agency affiliation, or lawful police authority.
- (f) Misuse retired, expired, ceremonial, training, or display items to imply current law enforcement status or authority.

## **SXX-14 Reporting, Complaints, and Documentation**

- (a) Agencies should accept and review complaints alleging false, misleading, or inadequate law enforcement identification.
- (b) Agencies should document allegations involving misuse of badges, uniforms, vehicles, lights, titles, credentials, digital identifiers, or other law enforcement indicia.
- (c) Agencies should require reporting of stolen, lost, or misused controlled identifiers according to agency policy.
- (d) Agencies should retain records of identification-related complaints, findings, and corrective actions.
- (e) Records should be available for lawful oversight, audit, or Board review where applicable.

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## **SXX-15 Training**

Agencies should train officers and other persons governed by an adopting agency's policy on:

- (a) Law enforcement identification requirements.
- (b) Proper use and control of law enforcement indicia.
- (c) Separation between law enforcement, private security, contractors, volunteers, and other non-law-enforcement roles.
- (d) Identification during vehicle stops, plainclothes enforcement, public contact, scene control, entry requests, and other law enforcement actions.
- (e) Police-style vehicle, lighting, equipment, and digital impersonation risks.
- (f) Facial covering exceptions and visible identification expectations.
- (g) Complaint reporting, identifier recovery, and corrective action procedures.

Training should be repeated periodically and whenever law or agency policy changes.

## **SXX-16 Compliance and Administrative Review**

- (a) Intentional misuse of law enforcement indicia by an officer may result in agency discipline, administrative review, professional standards review, or referral for criminal investigation, as applicable.
- (b) Misrepresentation of law enforcement status, agency affiliation, role, or lawful authority by an officer may be reviewed under applicable professional standards.
- (c) Failure by an officer to identify during a law enforcement action without lawful justification may be reviewed under agency policy and applicable professional standards.
- (d) Misrepresentation or misuse by agency-related personnel should be addressed under agency policy, contract terms, employer action, referral, or applicable law.
- (e) Criminal conduct involving impersonation, false appearance, false identification, or unauthorized use of law enforcement indicia shall be referred to the appropriate investigative or prosecutorial authority.
- (f) An adopting agency should take corrective action when agency-controlled identifiers are misused or when personnel under agency control create avoidable public confusion regarding law enforcement status or authority.

## **SXX-17 Implementation**

- (a) Each agency should review existing policies on uniforms, badges, credentials, vehicles, emergency equipment, digital identifiers, private security coordination, contractors, volunteers, plainclothes operations, undercover operations, and facial coverings.
- (b) Each agency should identify agency-controlled law enforcement indicia and establish inventory, issuance, recovery, and deactivation procedures.
- (c) Each agency should review contracts, volunteer agreements, memoranda of agreement, and interagency agreements for public-facing identification requirements.
- (d) Each agency should adopt training and reporting procedures consistent with this policy.
- (e) This policy should be reviewed after any statutory changes affecting law enforcement identification, false law enforcement identification, private security appearance, impersonation, or facial coverings.

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## Appendix A: Sources Referenced in Drafting the Model Policy

This appendix identifies sources reviewed or relied upon in drafting this model policy. The sources are grouped by subject and should be verified against official legal sources before final adoption, publication, or bill filing.

### A. Hawaii law: law enforcement impersonation and public servant impersonation

1. **HRS §710-1016, Impersonating a public servant.** Used to distinguish general public servant impersonation from law enforcement-specific impersonation.  
<https://law.justia.com/codes/hawaii/title-37/chapter-710/section-710-1016/>
2. **HRS §710-1016.6, Impersonating a law enforcement officer in the first degree.** Used as the current Hawaii baseline for first-degree law enforcement impersonation.  
<https://law.justia.com/codes/hawaii/title-37/chapter-710/section-710-1016-6/>
3. **HRS §710-1016.7, Impersonating a law enforcement officer in the second degree.** Used as the current Hawaii baseline for misdemeanor law enforcement impersonation.  
<https://law.justia.com/codes/hawaii/title-37/chapter-710/section-710-1016-7/>
4. **HRS §710-1016.8, Presumptions.** Used because Hawaii law recognizes that uniforms, badges, and identification cards may create a presumption that a person is pretending to be a law enforcement officer. <https://law.justia.com/codes/hawaii/title-37/chapter-710/section-710-1016-8/>
5. **State v. Helm, Intermediate Court of Appeals of Hawaii, No. 22845, November 22, 2000.** Used as background on the relationship between impersonating a public servant and law enforcement impersonation provisions. <https://oaoa.hawaii.gov/jud/ica22845.pdf>

### B. Hawaii law: private detectives, guards, security identification, badges, and uniforms

6. **HRS chapter 463, Private Investigators and Guards.** Used as the principal Hawaii statutory framework governing private detectives, guards, guard agencies, registration, licensing, and related regulation.  
<https://law.justia.com/codes/hawaii/title-25/chapter-463/>
7. **HRS §463-1, Definitions.** Used for private detective, investigator, guard, guard agency, and related definitions. <https://law.justia.com/codes/hawaii/title-25/chapter-463/section-463-1/>
8. **HRS §463-11, Private detectives and guards, trade names, badges, and uniforms.** Used as the statutory basis for separating private detective and guard appearance from government law enforcement appearance. [https://files.hawaii.gov/dcca/pvl/pvl/hrs/hrs\\_pvl\\_463.pdf](https://files.hawaii.gov/dcca/pvl/pvl/hrs/hrs_pvl_463.pdf)
9. **HAR §16-97-14, Uniforms, badges, identification, and emblems.** Used because the rule requires approval of private detective and guard uniforms, badges, identification, and emblems and restricts designs similar to government law enforcement agencies.  
<https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/hawaii/Haw-Code-R-SS-16-97-14>
10. **Hawaii DCCA, Private Detective and Guard Use of Uniforms, Badges, Identification and Emblems.** Used as agency implementation guidance for HAR §16-97-14 approval requirements.  
<https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/boards/private/private-detective-and-guard-use-of-uniforms-badges-identification-and-emblems/>
11. **HAR §16-97-16, Powers and duties of private detectives and guards; standards of conduct.** Used as background on private detective and guard conduct rules and the need to distinguish private security powers from public law enforcement authority. <https://regulations.justia.com/states/hawaii/title-16/chapter-97/subchapter-1/section-16-97-16/>

12. **HAR §16-97-17, Carrying of weapons prohibited.** Used as background for armed or weapons-related private security distinctions in the policy. <https://regulations.justia.com/states/hawaii/title-16/chapter-97/subchapter-1/section-16-97-17/>

### **C. Hawaii law: law enforcement standards, certification, and agency authority**

13. **HRS §139-1, Definitions.** Used for the current statutory definition of Board and law enforcement officer in chapter 139. <https://codes.findlaw.com/hi/division-1-government/hi-rev-st-sect-139-1/>
14. **HRS §139-3, Powers and duties of the Board.** Used as background for Board standards, certification, rulemaking, and enforcement responsibilities. <https://codes.findlaw.com/hi/division-1-government/hi-rev-st-sect-139-3/>
15. **HRS §139-8, Revocation or denial of certification.** Used as background for certification-related review and consequences. <https://codes.findlaw.com/hi/division-1-government/hi-rev-st-sect-139-8/>
16. **LESB Model Vehicular Pursuit Policy, approved January 15, 2026.** Used as the structural model for this policy format, including Executive Summary, Contents, numbered model policy sections, reporting, training, review, and appendices. [https://ag.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/LESB\\_Model\\_Pursuit\\_Policy\\_approved-1.15.26-002.pdf](https://ag.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/LESB_Model_Pursuit_Policy_approved-1.15.26-002.pdf)

### **D. Hawaii law: airport security, contractors, and armed security context**

17. **HRS §261-17, Enforcement of laws.** Used because it addresses airport enforcement, deputized personnel, and armed security services at airports. <https://law.justia.com/codes/hawaii/title-15/chapter-261/section-261-17/>
18. **Hawaii Department of Transportation Airports, HAR chapter 19-14, Public Conduct at Public Airports.** Used as background because the rules refer to enforcement by enforcement officers or persons deputized under HRS §261-17. <https://hidot.hawaii.gov/airports/files/2013/01/14-PublicConduct.pdf>
19. **Civil Beat, Private Police Force At Hawaii Airports Draws Legislative Scrutiny, January 28, 2016.** Used as historical and policy background regarding armed airport security, arrest authority, and public accountability concerns. <https://www.civilbeat.org/2016/01/airport-security/>

### **E. Hawaii 2026 pending legislation reviewed for overlap or conformity**

20. **SB2203, 2026 Regular Session, Relating to Law Enforcement.** Reviewed for possible overlap with facial covering restrictions and chapter 710 offense language. <https://legiscan.com/HI/bill/SB2203/2026>
21. **HB2540, 2026 Regular Session, Relating to Law Enforcement.** Reviewed for possible overlap with facial coverings, visible identification, vehicle markings, and civil immigration enforcement provisions. <https://legiscan.com/HI/bill/HB2540/2026>
22. **SB3322, 2026 Regular Session, Relating to Law Enforcement.** Reviewed for possible overlap with law enforcement identification, facial covering, and civil immigration enforcement provisions. <https://legiscan.com/HI/bill/SB3322/2026>
23. **HB1886, 2026 Regular Session, Relating to Government Operations.** Reviewed because amended versions proposed chapter 139 identification requirements and facial covering restrictions. <https://legiscan.com/HI/bill/HB1886/2026>
24. **SB2179, 2026 Regular Session, Relating to Law Enforcement.** Reviewed for visible identification policy concepts and potential federal agency compliance issues. <https://legiscan.com/HI/bill/SB2179/2026>

25. **HB1768, 2026 Regular Session, Relating to Immigration.** Reviewed for state and county participation in federal immigration enforcement and possible joint-operation policy implications.  
<https://legiscan.com/HI/bill/HB1768/2026>
26. **SB3251, 2026 Regular Session, Relating to Public Safety.** Reviewed for background on federal immigration personnel and state law enforcement employment restrictions.  
<https://legiscan.com/HI/bill/SB3251/2026>

## F. Other state and national comparison sources

27. **Washington House Bill 2165, False identification as a peace officer.** Used as a comparison model for false law enforcement identification involving documents, badges, insignia, vehicles, or other agency identifiers. <https://lawfilesexternal.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2025-26/Pdf/Bills/House%20Bills/2165.pdf>
28. **Washington Governor's Office, announcement on false law enforcement identification and related bills, March 19, 2026.** Used as policy background for Washington's false law enforcement identification approach and public-facing rationale. <https://governor.wa.gov/news/2026/governor-ferguson-signs-bills-prohibiting-individuals-using-false-law-enforcement-identification>
29. **Washington House Bill 2165 House Bill Report.** Used because the report describes expansion of false identification as a peace officer to include impressions that a reasonable person would believe indicate peace officer status. <https://lawfilesexternal.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2025-26/Pdf/Bill%20Reports/House/2165%20HBR%20CS%2026.pdf>
30. **Washington 2026 law restricting face-concealing masks by law enforcement.** Used as a comparison source for officer identifiability and facial covering policy.  
<https://washingtonstatestandard.com/2026/03/19/face-mask-ban-for-police-in-washington-is-signed-into-law/>
31. **California law and litigation regarding federal officer identification and masks.** Used as a cautionary source for federal officer provisions and supremacy/preemption issues.  
<https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/us-judge-rejects-california-law-that-banned-masks-federal-officers-2026-02-10/>
32. **Associated Press reporting on California federal agent mask and identification litigation.** Used as additional background on the distinction between facial covering restrictions and visible identification requirements. <https://apnews.com/article/715a24629f112ca3f12b0b619461dc60>
33. **New York Assembly Bill A8944, 2025-2026.** Used as a pending comparison model for prohibiting law enforcement from concealing identity, with exceptions and attorney general civil enforcement.  
<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/A8944>

### Verification note

*Before final adoption or publication, all sources should be checked against official Hawaii Revised Statutes, Hawaii Administrative Rules, official Hawaii Legislature bill records, enacted session laws, and final versions of any 2026 legislation. Secondary bill-tracking services, news reports, and public summaries should be used only for drafting support and legislative research, not as final legal authority.*