

## Aloha and Welcome to the Prosecutor's Office

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THE SEAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

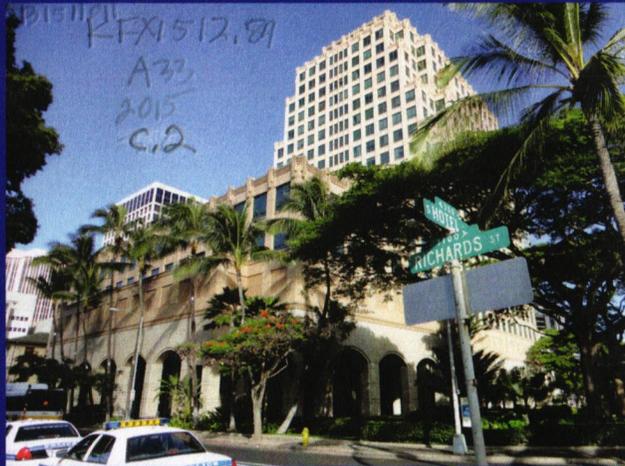


The Seal of the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney was adopted on February 7, 1990, and depicts the scales of justice over Oahu, which comprises the City and County of Honolulu.

Above the scales of justice is the heraldic shield from the Seal of the City and County of Honolulu. The star represents Hawaii's star on the flag of the United States of America and the crossed sticks are puloulou sticks, the traditional Hawaiian symbol of rank and authority.

The white ring represents purity and integrity, and the gold braiding symbolizes the cords of the robe of justice.

The words "E Malama A E Ho'opala I Kaulike" mean "To Preserve and Defend Justice."



CONTACT US

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney's address is 1060 Richards St., Honolulu 96813.

Our main phone line is (808) 768-7400.

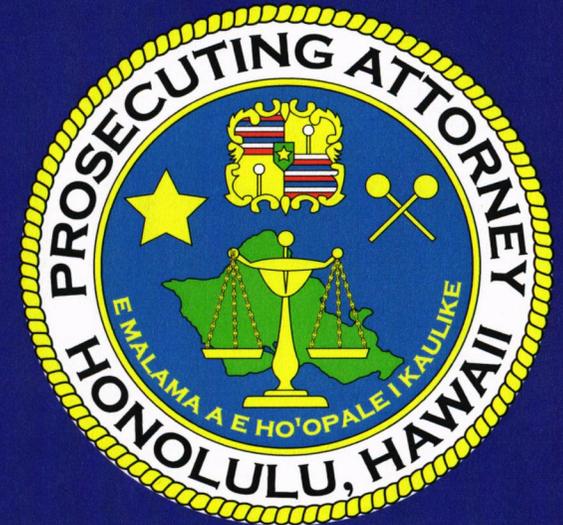
Our office hours are 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

We are located in Downtown Honolulu in Alii Place, at the corner of Hotel and Richards streets. The entrance to our office is on Richards St., across the grounds of Iolani Palace. To check in, take the elevator to the reception area on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor.

There are metered parking stalls on Richards St., but open stalls are hard to find during working hours.

Alii Place offers public parking at an hourly rate. The entrance to the parking lot is on Alakea St., just before the intersection of Alakea and Hotel streets. If you park here, you still will have to enter our office on Richards St.

# ALOHA AND WELCOME TO THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE



MUNICIPAL REFERENCE CENTER  
City & County of Honolulu  
558 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

"To promote and ensure public safety and order through effective, efficient and just prosecution."

Mission Statement  
Adopted June, 1989

## PROSECUTOR'S MESSAGE



"Statistics show that Honolulu is one of the safest cities of its size in the nation. But that's no consolation if you are a victim of a crime such as having your home broken into, losing your purse or wallet to a thief or seeing a loved one suffer injury.

"One crime is one too many.

"The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney stands between hard-working innocent citizens like you and those who seek to harm you. We work with the Honolulu Police Department to charge, try and convict those who commit crimes. We also help to guide victims and witnesses through the sometimes stressful process of seeing justice done.

"This brochure proves some basic information about our office and the job we perform. It was designed to help citizens gain a better understanding of why we exist and how we operate.

"Thank you for taking the time to read this. Please feel free to contact our office if you have any questions.

"Remember: We are here to serve and protect you."

Keith M. Kaneshiro  
Prosecuting Attorney  
City and County of Honolulu

## SEEKING JUSTICE

When a crime is committed, Honolulu police are usually the first line of intervention. Once a crime has been investigated and a suspect identified and arrested, police turn their report over to the prosecutor's office.

The prosecutor's office determines what charges fit the alleged crime, then prepares the case for trial and sees it through its conclusion, whether that be a conviction or an acquittal.

Our duty is to seek justice on behalf of the people. This does not mean we prosecute every case brought to us. Sometimes justice means not filing charges.

The prosecutor's office employs about 100 deputy prosecutors and 150 support staff, including victim/witness counselors, paralegals, clerks and investigators.

Deputy prosecutors are assigned to specialized teams. Among these are:

- **Screening and Intake**, which confers with police to determine charges.
- **Elder Abuse Justice Unit**, which prosecutes crimes against senior citizens.
- **Career Criminal**, which prosecutes cases involving defendants who commit crimes while on probation or parole.
- **Misdemeanor and Traffic**, which can handle thousands of cases each month, ranging from petty theft to drunk driving.
- **Trials**, which prosecutes cases including murder,



Courthouse dog Pono is helping victims provide valuable testimony.



The Elder Abuse Justice Unit focuses on crimes against senior citizens.

*manslaughter, negligent homicide, drug offenses, robbery, assault, burglary and white collar crimes.*

- **Juvenile and Domestic Violence**, which prosecutes offenders under the age of 18 as well as adult cases involving abuse complaints.
- **Appellate**, which represents the state in the appeals process.

Under Keith Kaneshiro, the prosecutor's office has made elder abuse, domestic violence, the crystal meth epidemic, cybercrimes and animal cruelty its priorities.

Victims' rights are also of high importance and an essential unit in the prosecutor's office is Victim/Witness Kokua Services, which helps support and guide victims and witnesses as a case makes its way through the legal system.

The latest addition to this team is Pono, a trained courthouse dog who recently received approval from the courts to attend trials. Pono's calming presence helps ease the stress of victims – especially children – whose testimony may be critical to a case.

The prosecutor's office also is set to open the Honolulu Family Justice Center, a single location offering a variety of social and support services for victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse. Most importantly, the center eventually will offer long-term transitional housing, so victims of abuse can truly break away from cycles of violence and make new lives for themselves.