



Governor's E-Newsletter

Nov 26 - Dec 2, 2005



Aloha and Welcome from the Governor's Office in Hawai'i!

It is with pleasure that we send you this e-newsletter.

Quote of the Week

"The invitation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to participate in this visit is indicative of how important the federal government feels it is to further protect this unique environmental resource."

- Governor Lingle, commenting on the support of federal officials in establishing the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands as a federal marine refuge. Read more about the Governor's planned trip to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands [here](#).

Thought of the Week

"The state is making a solid start at what appears to be a never-ending chore: staying ahead of criminals who steal their victims' personal data and the money linked to it."

- Honolulu Advertiser editorial, "Mounting ID theft needs tough action," praising the Governor Lingle for proposing four new laws to combat identity theft and protect Hawai'i consumers.

Mahalo Governor- Letters from the Community

"Since your visit, people are proud. Pahoia is on the map."

Governor Unveils Measures to Combat Identity Theft in Hawai'i



Governor Lingle and Lt. Governor Aiona unveiled the Administration's first set of initiatives for the 2006 legislative session. The "common-sense measures" will protect consumers

from the fastest-growing crime in the nation: identity theft. They were joined by United States Attorney Edward Kubo, Jr.; City Prosecuting Attorney Peter Carlisle; Director of the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Mark Recktenwald; and two identity theft victims: attorney Bill McCorrison and Jeffrey Richards, a lieutenant with the Honolulu Police Department. [full story](#)

Governor Lingle Releases More Than \$40 Million to Support University of Hawai'i



This week, Governor Lingle released \$22,275,000 for various improvements to University of

Someone cares about them and they matter."

- An excerpt from Pahoia resident Brian Jordan's letter to Governor Lingle, thanking her for visiting with the Pahoia community.

"We were so honored to have her share in the special day with us. She was most generous with her time and everyone was again impressed with her graciousness, knowledge, and sincere care for people."

- Rann Watumull, President of the River of Life Mission Board of Directors, sharing his appreciation for Governor Lingle's attendance at the River of Life Thanksgiving meal.

Upcoming Events

December 9, Governor Lingle will deliver remarks at the Honolulu Board of Realtors Holiday General Membership Meeting.

December 9, Governor Lingle will unveil the Lingle-Aiona Administration's second set of initiatives for the 2006 legislative session.

December 9, Governor Lingle will visit with members of the Hawai'i Emergency Preparedness Executive Committee for their year-round contributions to emergency preparedness and homeland security, under the leadership of Major General Robert Lee, the State Adjutant General.



Hawai'i campuses statewide, including \$18,148,000 for infrastructure upgrades and \$4,127,000 for health and safety modifications. Last week, Governor Lingle announced the release of \$18,260,000 for improvements to the UH-Hilo campus: \$16,260,000 for a Student Life Center and \$2,000,000 for the Hawaiian Language Building. [full story](#)

Governor Inspires Students to Become "Thinking Women"



Governor Lingle participated in La Pietra School for Girls' "Thinking Women" guest lecture series, where she shared her experiences as a leader as well as personal stories. The Governor encouraged students to remain

"excited, open and curious because the world is an interesting, fascinating place." "Thinking Women" is an elective course that combines the study of notable women with the study of various ways of thinking and learning.


Governor's Weekly Radio Address



"As the busy holiday shopping season gets underway, now is a good time to remind consumers and businesses to be alert to identity theft. This happens when a criminal uses someone else's personal information such as their name, social security number, or credit card number to commit fraud. My Administration is proposing a set of bills to protect consumers. These include allowing victims of identity theft to place a security freeze on their credit reports, increasing protections on your social security number and mandating that businesses properly

Governor's Weekly Radio Show

The show can be heard live from 7:05-8:00 a.m. Wednesdays on www.hawaii.gov/gov or on the following radio stations:
O`ahu (KHVH AM 830)
Maui/Kona (KAOI 1110 AM)
Hilo (KPUA 670 AM)
Kaua`i (KONG 570 AM)

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and securely destroy personal information. These common-sense measures will help protect you during the holiday season and throughout the year." To listen to this address, [please click here](#).

"Dedicated to Hawai`i's Troops"



Photo courtesy of Ching Eikenberry

Lt. Gen. Karl Eikenberry, commander of the Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan, with Governor Sarabi of Bamyan Province, the only female governor in Afghanistan. Prior to his current assignment, Eikenberry was the director for Strategic Planning and Policy for U.S. Pacific Command at Camp H.M. Smith in Hawai`i.

We invite you to submit digital photos of your loved ones who are serving our country in the defense of freedom and liberty. Please e-mail your photos and a brief caption to governor.lingle@hawaii.gov.

Department of the Week- Land and Natural Resources



Lt. Governor Aiona, Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Director Peter Young and State Parks Administrator Dan Quinn recognized and thanked individuals and organizations who have **volunteered their services to maintain and keep Hawai'i's State Parks cleaner and promote stewardship of the lands**. Volunteers at historic parks have the cultural knowledge and understanding to care for cultural sites, and they share this knowledge with park visitors through signs, tours and talks. "Volunteers are extremely valuable... they allow us to go beyond what we are routinely able to accomplish with current staffing in order to provide particular attention to our historic sites," said Peter Young, DLNR Chairperson.

At the event, Lt. Governor Aiona also spoke about a new **"Kokua Partnership"** agreement that was submitted to the Board of Land and Natural Resources. With the approval of this agreement, there are now three vehicles a volunteer group can use to improve State parks, as well as historical, cultural and natural resource sites:

The Adopt-a-Park agreement: for volunteers who want to offer short-term service to the state park system.

The Curators agreement: for volunteers who want to protect and preserve historical or cultural sites and special wildlife resources.

The Kokua Partnership: for volunteers who propose creative ideas to address existing needs in state parks or other resources.

In the News

[Lingle to join Midway eco-mission](#)
Pacific Business News, November 30, 2005

**4 'common sense' laws
against ID theft proposed**

Measures call for
greater security,
credit protection

THWART THIEVES
Protect itself of your personal
information. A2

BY ROBBIE BRIGGS
Advertiser Staff Writer

Honolulu police Lt. Jeff Richards speaks from experience as a victim of identity theft and as an investigator who believes tougher laws are needed to fight this fast growing crime.

Richards and prominent attorney Bill McCourtigan are high-profile victims who have had their personal information stolen, allowing the thieves to charge purchases and get cash.

They joined Gov. Linda Lingle and various law enforcement officials yesterday in calling for four new laws to help fight this form of fraud.

Lingle called the proposals "commonsense measures to protect consumers from the fastest growing crime in the nation."

In June, Richards was on a

SEE A1 PAGE 1, A2

[4
'common
sense'
laws
against
ID theft
proposed](#)

Honolulu
Advertiser,
November
29, 2005

**Lingle pushes
4 measures
addressing
credit fraud**

*The bills would give
consumers new tools
to combat ID theft*

By Richard Borowca
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Honolulu Police Lt. Jeff Richards remembers coming home to a furious wife who demanded to know why he was using a credit card to send \$500 to a woman in Colorado.

There were other suspicious charges, too, as much as \$2,500. But Richards was not spending money secretly. Thieves had stolen credit card notices from his Kailua mailbox and used the information to make the charges.

Just like that, he had become a victim of identity theft — an old Honolulu attorney Bill McCourtigan.

"An ice addict took my passport, he took my Social Security

PLEASE SEE A1 PAGE 1, A6

[Lingle
pushes 4
measures
addressing
credit
fraud](#)

Honolulu
Star-
Bulletin,
November
29, 2005

Mounting ID theft needs tough action

The state is making a solid start at what appears to be a never-ending chain of victims whose personal data and the money linked to it.

It's unclear why Hawaii's residents should have to cope with an above-average incidence of such "identity theft" crimes that state ranks fifth in the nation.

Some guess that cultural factors might contribute to a more relaxed attitude about requests for personal data — name, Social Security number, credit card number or other identifying information — that compromises our collective security.

No matter. What's obvious is that we need to revisit the laws that should be protecting us.

So it was encouraging to hear Gov. Linda Lingde and law-enforcement officials list four new proposed laws, refinements that attack the problem by securing more consumer information, or at least requiring authorization for its release.

For example, a new proposal would empower consumers to place a freeze on credit reports, stopping their release without consent. Another would compel businesses to maintain data more securely and destroy it when it's not needed. A third would bar transmission of Social Security numbers without consent.

Finally, a fourth proposal would see that consumers are notified if a security breach leaves their personal data vulnerable.

All of these are good ideas, as are the plans for a public education campaign. Already the state Department of Consumer and Consumer Affairs has a useful Web site (www.dhhs.hawaii.gov/) of being self-protection tips and advice on recovering from identity theft.

Among them are suggestions that consumers store their own discarded documents, leave nothing sensitive in the sidewalk mulch and otherwise take precautions.

Consumers target the elderly in particular, so they and their loved ones especially need advice on deflecting suspicious bids for private information.

But lawmakers also need to go over the penal code sections that apply to theft and fraud and tighten the consequences. This means that the thieves themselves should be hit with adequate punishments, and the companies that fail to comply with new safeguards should pay the price for their violations.

With the easy sharing of information, identity theft can happen to anyone — and all of us bear responsibility for relating to the problem.

[Mounting ID theft needs tough action](#)

Honolulu Advertiser, December 2, 2005

[New state laws are needed to fight identity theft](#)

Honolulu Star-Bulletin, November 30, 2005

[OUR OPINION]

New state laws are needed to fight identity theft

THE ISSUE

Governor Lingde has proposed four bills to the next Legislature to combat the growing problem of identity theft.

Target Hawaii's residents because they think they will be unaffected such a long distance to be prosecuted.

The theft occurs most often at what police call brick-and-mortar sources — credit card swipes and ATM sales from retail cars, mailboxes and gutters. The state information is used to draw money from bank accounts and make purchases at stores or over the Internet.

This year's legislation neglected to approve a bill that would have allowed victims of identity theft to place a security freeze on their credit reports. The measure would prevent a thief from continuing to access credit in the victim's name. Credit-reporting agencies also would be forbidden from releasing any information to unauthorized companies without the consumer's consent.

The governor will be sending that bill back to the Legislature, along with other proposals to crack down on ID theft. They would require businesses holding confidential information to notify consumers in case of security breaches and that they properly destroy such records when they are no longer needed.

Another bill would bar divulging Social Security numbers to the general public or, without the consumer's consent, to anyone else, and would streamline giving the number on any ID card or in mailings to consumers. The state dropped using Social Security numbers on driver's licenses in 2003, so those should have been removed last year.

Lingde calls her initiative a "consumer-education assistance to protect" consumers from the fastest-growing crime in the nation. "Numerous other states have enacted similar legislation, and Hawaii's residents should be denied the best following them."

Completed about identity theft were filed by 68%.

Hawaii residents last year, with the number of cases also rising by 68 percent from 1999 to 2004, according to the Federal Trade Commission, showed that the 48th-ranked state of complaints about fraud last year and many of those involved identity theft. Some national figures

[Don't Let Someone Steal Your Identity](#)
By DCCA Director Mark Recktenwald
Hawaii Reporter, November 30, 2005

UH gets \$22M for statewide repairs

Most of allocation goes to Mānoa, some for flood recovery

BY LOREN MORROW
Advertiser Staff Writer

Yesterday's release of more than \$22 million to the University of Hawaii will help address a substantial backlog in repairs and maintenance throughout the 30-campus system.

The state money addresses major repair projects that had to be deferred after the UH Mānoa campus was hit by a devastating flood on Oct. 30, 2004.

"Because of the flood, the funds had to be reallocated to address some of the damages related to the flood," said Jan Yokota, director of capital improvements at UH.

This appropriation will allow UH to schedule those repairs for 2006, said Yokota. The improvements represent what the various campuses have identified as high priority, she said.

It is estimated that the UH system has a backlog of \$80 million in repairs and maintenance.

"It will take a number of years of these appropriations to be able to address the deferred maintenance issues," Yokota said.

A major portion of yesterday's \$22.2 million release went to projects at UH Mānoa.

One project — the construction of a chiller plant and electrical transformer building for Hamilton Library — will allow the library to continue to recover from last year's flood, said Jim Markle, UH-Mānoa spokesman.

Markle said the new building will speed good news for Hamilton Library because it will allow staff to proceed with planning for reconfiguring the 3-acre basement, which remains empty.

Other \$6 million of the money will go to finance design and construction costs for health and safety modifications including mold remediation, asbestos abatement, modifications to start the Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Act, ventilation improvements and fire alarm systems, according to the governor's office.

WHERE THE MONEY WILL GO

Among the projects to be financed with the \$22 million are:

UH Mānoa

- Renovation of Kennedy Terrace, Art Building, St. John Plant Science Laboratory and Duke Kahanamoku Pool Complex
- Construction of chiller plant and electrical transformer building at UH Mānoa Hamilton Library
- Health and safety improvements to Lipton Administration

UH Hilo

- Renovation and replacement of carpet and ceiling, improved lighting control at the University Health

Maui Community College

- Repair and replacement of electrical distribution system

Kaplan Community College

- Replacement and upgrade of green traps in Culinary Arts Building and Cafeteria

Honolulu Community College

- Replacement and upgrade of green traps

Reach Loren Morrow at lmorrow@hawaiiadvertiser.com or 335-2473.

[UH gets \\$22M for statewide repairs](#)

Honolulu Advertiser, December 1, 2005

[Millions to be spent on UH repairs](#)
Pacific Business News, November 30, 2005

Visitor arrivals continue soaring

By Allan Schwartz
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Growth in domestic visitor arrivals and strong increases from the Canadian market boosted Hawaii's visitor count 5.2 percent last month to a record 501,260 people from 482,740 a year earlier.

Total visitor spending increased 8.8 percent, compared to October 2004, to \$940.8 million, while total visitor days increased 8.2 percent, according to data released yesterday by the state Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Average daily spending rose to \$182 per person, compared with \$152 in the same month last year.

Please see Tourism, C3

[Visitor arrivals continue soaring](#)

Honolulu Star-Bulletin, November 29, 2005

[Our Troops Must Stay](#)
Op-Ed by Senator Joe Lieberman
Wall Street Journal, November 29, 2005

