



A Note From the Director's Office

Thanks for taking the time to check out *Across PSD*, the official employee newsletter for the Department of Public Safety.

After a hiatus of several years, we felt it important to bring the newsletter back to re-emphasize that despite being spread out in divisions, units and branch offices statewide, we are one Ohana at PSD.

As we end our first year at the helm of this outstanding agency, we would like to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication.

Everything we do, all we have accomplished in the past, and will achieve in the future, depend on you. Despite the struggles and obstacles that confront us daily, we must always remember that the heart of our work lies in the men and women who provide for the safety of the public.

And when we succeed, we have a transformative and tremendously positive impact on people's lives.

To be sure, the road that lies ahead has no shortage of obstacles, but let us be revitalized in the progress and accomplishments we make each day.

We call on all of the caring, committed, devoted and hard-working departmental members to find strength in one another and to join forces to make the days ahead our best yet.

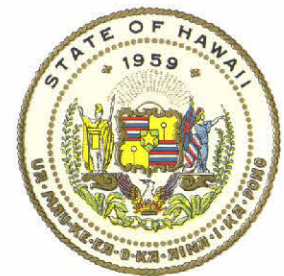
With the start of the legislative session looming, we now move forward to push a number of important changes and initiatives.

Through it all, our success depends on each of you.

Thank you for your commitment to PSD and the clients we serve.



Jodie Maesaka-Hirata
PSD Director



Keith Kamita
Deputy Director for
Law Enforcement



Joe Booker
Deputy Director for
Corrections



Martha Torney
Deputy Director for
Administration

Special points of interest:

- *NED Forensics Lab Gets Prestigious Accreditation*
- *Sheriff's New Booking/Receiving and Warrants Facility Opens*
- *The Latest Happenings in the Corrections Division*

PSD Earns International Accreditation for Narcotics Lab

The state Public Safety Department (PSD) Narcotics Enforcement Division's (NED) forensic lab, located in the airport area, is now amongst the top NED labs in the world.

PSD Director Jodie Maesaka-Hirata accepted the international accreditation recognition from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB).

The Department applied to the ASCLD/LAB for accreditation of its NED forensics lab in April 2011. On August 9, 2011, the Board officially awarded accreditation, under its International Testing Program, to the NED Forensic Laboratory.

"NED is one of only two forensic laboratories in Hawaii to achieve ASCLD/LAB International accreditation," said PSD Director Jodie Maesaka-Hirata. "Today, the NED Forensic Laboratory continues its commitment to professional excellence by providing reliable, timely and quality forensic laboratory services for agencies across the state."



Director Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Dep. Dir. Keith Kamita accept accreditation from ASCLD/LAB for Narcotics Enforcement Division Lab

"The PSD's increased statewide law enforcement responsibilities contributed to a larger drug analysis load for NED," said PSD Deputy Director of Law Enforcement, Keith Kamita. "This lab has not only serviced that need but is also making other contributions on the justice system."

Accreditation by ASCLD/LAB is recognized by international and U.S. criminal justice systems as a means of determining that a laboratory has met a set of internationally recognized standards of operation for forensic laboratories.

Since it's opening, the forensic laboratory has conducted drug analyses for its own investigations and the Sheriff's Division, as well as assisted other agencies in their drug analytical needs.

In addition, the NED lab also routinely handles all of the Promoting Prison Contraband drug cases for Hawaii, which helps PSD crackdown on contraband entering the prisons.

Women's Facility Health Care Section Gains Accreditation

The Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC) Health Care Section received word in early December that they have achieved the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) accreditation again. This accreditation is a "feather in the caps" of all staff at WCCC.

The mission of the NCCHC is to improve the quality of health care in jails, prisons and juvenile confinement facilities. NCCHC's voluntary health services ac-

nity support. In many instances, accreditation reduces liability premiums and protects facilities from lawsuits related to health care. Accreditation also benefits the health of the public, staff and inmates by assuring that those incarcerated and released receive adequate and appropriate health care.

The staff in the WCCC Health Care Section extends their appreciation for all the support from security and other ancillary staff. It's this commitment and concern

for the ladies they serve that allows them to continue this work.

Sheriffs' New Booking/Warrants Facility Helps Curb Processing Delays

After two years of planning and construction the new Sheriff Division Booking/Receiving and Warrants Facility on Keawe Street is open. The previous booking station was housed in Halawa Correctional Facility which made it difficult for people to voluntarily turn themselves in and resulted in delays in processing arrests due to transport and paperwork challenges.

"This new facility will help streamline operations for the Sheriff's Division as well as provide a valuable service to the surrounding community," said Governor Neil Abercrom-



Sheriff Shawn Tsuha, Gov. Neil Abercrombie, PSD Dir. Jodie Maesaka-Hirata unlocking shackles to formally open new booking and warrants facility.

bie. "I commend the Sheriff's Division for the work they do to ensure public safety on all levels."

"We expect the number of people who voluntarily turn themselves in to increase because of this move to a new location," said State Sheriff Shawn Tsuha. "The relocated facility is ideally located to service members of the public and better support our law enforcement partners".

The \$1.2 million facility opened last month. The number of bookings has... (cont. pg. 3)

