



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

TED SAKAI
DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 11, 2013

21 NEW DEPUTIES JOIN STATE SHERIFF DIVISION RANKS

Special guest speaker First Circuit Court Judge Edward Kubo, Jr. salutes newly sworn-in deputies.

HONOLULU — The Honorable First Circuit Court Judge Edward Kubo Jr., members of the state Legislature, Public Safety Department officials, family members and friends today gathered in Waipio to witness the graduation of the 2013 Sheriff Recruit Class at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Twenty-one new deputies were added to the Sheriff Division.

"I am proud to support and congratulate our Sheriff's Recruit Graduating Class," said First Circuit Judge Edward Kubo Jr. "As deputy sheriffs, these talented graduates are the next generation of Hawaii's law enforcement officers who will be protecting and keeping our communities safe. They truly deserve our admiration and respect for all their hard work and for a job well done."

Sen. Will Espero, chair of the state Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, emphasized the efforts made by all to raise the bar with improved training.

"Today marks the first of many milestones as these brave law enforcement officers embark upon a noble profession and become a part of the long, proud tradition of the Hawaii State Sheriff Division," Sen. Espero said. "I will work with the Department of Public Safety to ensure these recruits, as well as future classes, have the skills and know-how to be the best law enforcement agency in the state."

The new deputies were presented with graduation certificates, followed by the Oath of Office and badge presentation. Department of Homeland Security Maritime Enforcement Petty Officer 3rd Class Eason Spinelli was also honored with a certificate of attendance. In an outreach program that maintains a partnership with Hawaii's federal/military law enforcement community, Petty Officer Spinelli, assigned to the U.S. Coast Guard Honolulu base, was selected by his chain of command to attend the Sheriff Recruit Academy.

The recruits were trained in nearly 1,000 hours of academic instruction in laws and procedures, constant testing, training in physical fitness, and police tactics. They also support various community service events such as the Special Olympics Torch Run and the American Heart Walk.

Student awards for Top Gun, Physical Fitness, Leadership and Academic Average were also handed out to the recruits who ranked at the top of their class in those areas.

The new deputies will be sent out to work in various positions statewide. Nineteen will be assigned to Oahu, one to Maui, and one to Kona on Hawaii Island.

“The role of the Hawaii state sheriff deputy is constantly evolving,” said State Sheriff Robin Nagamine. “As these deputies patrol the airports, the civic center complex, and courts statewide, they will serve as homeland security guardians, criminal detectives, federal task force members, and they will promote overall public safety while serving the citizens of Hawaii. They all worked very hard to get here, and we welcome these new deputies to our ranks.”

The Sheriff Division carries out law enforcement services statewide. Its mission is to preserve the peace by: protecting all persons and property within premises under the control of the Judiciary and all state facilities; providing process services and execution of court documents; handling detained persons; and providing secure transportation for persons in custody. It also provides law enforcement services at the Honolulu International Airport.

###

Media Contact:

Toni Schwartz
Public Information Officer
Department of Public Safety
Office: 587-1358
Cell: 683-5507
Toni.E.Schwartz@hawaii.gov
<http://hawaii.gov/psd/>