

# HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT

## POLICY LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS

July 13, 2018

Policy Number 4.51

### ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES

#### POLICY

Police officers shall identify, investigate, and report environmental crimes concerning water pollution, solid waste pollution, and hazardous waste. (See Chapters 342D and 342J, Section 342H-30, and other related sections of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.)

#### PROCEDURE

- I. The public may report common environmental crimes to the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) or officers may encounter such crimes during their course of duty. Federal, state, and local prosecutors have agreed to review and prosecute these cases. There are both criminal and civil penalties for such offenses.
- II. When conducting an initial investigation after determining that an environmental crime has occurred, the handling officer shall:
  - A. Take all precautions as outlined in Policy 4.42, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION EMERGENCIES;
  - B. Take all appropriate investigative and enforcement actions, including interviewing witnesses and photographing containers and labels, as well as the scene;
  - C. Protect the crime scene;
  - D. Notify the field sergeant; and
  - E. Notify the appropriate agency as listed in section III of this directive.

III. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

For all circumstances, notify the HPD Civil Defense Coordinator, Major Events Division. For specific types of situations, also notify the agencies listed below. The Communications Division maintains the current list of telephone numbers.

- A. For emergency situations involving hazardous waste, chemical spills, and other hazardous situations, notify the Office of Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response (HEER), Department of Health.
- B. For oil and other petroleum spills into waters, notify the U.S. Coast Guard.
- C. For all other types of water pollution, notify the Clean Water Branch, Department of Health.
- D. For nonemergency dumping of solid waste (household waste, appliances, construction debris, etc.):
  - 1. On city and county property, notify the Department of Environmental Services.
  - 2. Elsewhere, notify the Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch, Department of Health.
- E. For criminal investigations, prepare a police report and submit it to the Department of the Attorney General.



SUSAN BALLARD  
Chief of Police

Post on bulletin  
board for one week

Policy first issued  
March 3, 2004