



Interim Chief Rade K. Vanic

**Interim Deputy Chief Aaron Takasaki-Young
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**HPD ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS TO SAFELY DISPOSE OF
UNWANTED FIREARMS AT GUN BUYBACK EVENT**

*Voluntary buyback offers safe disposal option to help prevent firearm accidents,
theft and misuse*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2026

HONOLULU — Honolulu Police Department (HPD) is partnering with the Hawai'i Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) and the Department of the Attorney General to host a firearm buyback event on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at Aloha Stadium.

Event information:

Date: Thursday, March 26, 2026 (Prince Kūhiō Day)

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Location: Aloha Stadium lower parking lot

Address: 99-500 Salt Lake Blvd.

Vehicle entry: Kahuapa'ani Street, Gate 3

Participation requirements:

- Must be 21 years or older
- No identification required
- No questions asked
- Maximum of three gift cards per participant

The program provides community members with a safe and anonymous way to dispose of unwanted firearms.

Law enforcement and public health experts note that programs providing safe disposal options for unwanted firearms can help reduce risks associated with unsecured firearms, including accidental shootings, theft and suicide.

Community members may turn in handguns, rifles, shotguns, bump stocks and Glock switches. Participants may receive up to three gift cards in exchange for returned firearms:

- \$100 Foodland gift cards for handguns, rifles, shotguns and Glock switches
- \$200 Foodland gift cards for assault-type rifles and ghost guns

Ammunition will not be accepted.

Firearms must be unloaded and placed in a container or box in the vehicle's trunk before arriving at the event. Participants must remain in their vehicles while law enforcement personnel retrieve the firearms.

Licensed gun dealers and active or retired law enforcement officers are not eligible to participate.

HPD encourages residents who may have inherited firearms, possess firearms they no longer want or have concerns about safe storage to consider participating in the event.

Unsecured firearms can pose risks inside the home and the community. Firearms that are improperly stored may be accessed by children, stolen during burglaries or mishandled by individuals unfamiliar with safe firearm practices. In Hawai'i, suicide remains a leading cause of firearm-related deaths, and reducing access to lethal means during moments of crisis is recognized as an effective prevention strategy.

HPD also recognizes that families sometimes discover firearms in homes after the death of a relative. When ownership documentation is unclear or the firearms were never legally transferred, buyback events provide a safe option for families who do not wish to keep them.

"This event gives residents a safe and anonymous option to remove unwanted firearms from their homes," said Honolulu Police Department Interim Chief Rade Vanic. "Working together with our law enforcement partners and the community helps reduce risks associated with unsecured firearms and supports safer neighborhoods."

Residents who choose to keep firearms are encouraged to practice safe storage, including:

- Keeping firearms locked in a safe or secure storage device
- Storing firearms unloaded
- Storing ammunition separately
- Using trigger locks or cable locks

For more information about firearm safety and crime prevention resources, visit honolulu.honolulu.hawaii.gov/police-services/firearms/.

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