



Interim Chief Rade K. Vanic

**Interim Deputy Chief Brandon Nakasato
Interim Deputy Chief Raynor Ikehara**

**LOOK UP, SLOW DOWN: HPD URGES DRIVERS TO STAY FOCUSED
DURING DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH**
As part of HPD's Safer Roads, Together efforts across O'ahu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 2026

HONOLULU — The Honolulu Police Department is urging drivers and pedestrians to stay alert on O'ahu's roadways during Distracted Driving Awareness Month this April.

The effort is part of HPD's Safer Roads, Together 2026 initiative, which emphasizes that traffic deaths are preventable and that everyone plays a role in keeping roadways safe.

"We can't say it enough — when you stay alert, you stay alive," said Interim Chief Rade Vanic. "Every motor vehicle incident is highly preventable when both drivers and pedestrians focus on the road, keep their eyes up and put away distractions."

"Hawai'i law prohibits the use of handheld mobile electronic devices while driving, including texting or using navigation systems," Vanic said. "This applies even when stopped at a red light or stop sign. Violations can result in fines, but more importantly, distracted driving puts lives at risk."

In 2025, there were 82 fatal and 44 critical motor vehicle crashes on O'ahu. Motorcycles and mopeds accounted for 36% of those fatalities, followed by pedestrians at 28% and passenger vehicles at 26%. E-scooters, UTVs, bicycles and skateboards accounted for 3.2%.

From Jan. 1 through March 31, 2026, O'ahu has recorded 12 fatal and nine critical crashes.

HPD tracks traffic and crime data on its public dashboard, available at:
[Media & Public Affairs - Honolulu Police Department](#)

HPD launched its Safer Roads, Together campaign in 2025. In 2026, the department is expanding those efforts through grassroots outreach in communities impacted by traffic fatalities and injuries, combining public education, community engagement and targeted enforcement to address traffic safety challenges across O'ahu. The campaign focuses on high-risk behaviors, including distracted driving, speeding and impaired driving, while prioritizing the safety of pedestrians, kūpuna and other vulnerable road users.

For traffic safety tips and resources, visit:
<https://www.honoluluupd.org/safer-roads-together/>

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Media Contact:

Claudette Springer
Communications Director | Public Affairs Office
Honolulu Police Department
Email: HPDMedia@Honolulu.gov
Phone: (808) 723-3866