Representative Scott K. Saiki • Speaker of the House Neighborhood Board Report –

OCT 2023



Ala Moana-Kaka'ako Neighborhood Watch

2nd & 4th Thursdays 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Meet in front of Blaisdell Center (corner of Kapi'olani & Ward)



Sign up here!

Visit <u>https://saiki.house/NSW</u> or use your phone to scan the QR code.

Joint Task Force-Red Hill (JTR-RH) App

Now that Red Hill defueling has begun, check out the new app that provides real-time defueling updates. You can also stay informed on the latest developments, milestones, and safety measures implemented by Joint Task Force-Red Hill (JTF-RH).

You can find it by searching for "JTF Red Hill" on the app store, visiting **<u>https://saiki.house/JTFRedHill</u>**, or by scanning the QR code with your phone.



Tips for Remaining Vigilant Maui Fundraising Solicitations

1. Only donate to registered charities

You can check to see if a charity is registered with the Department of the Attorney General by visiting the Tax & Charities Division website: <u>www.ag.hawaii.gov/tax</u>.

2. Donate directly to a known charity

To ensure contributions are received and used for intended purposes, make contributions directly to known charities rather than relying on others to donate on your behalf.

3. Read the fundraiser description

Avoid donating to fundraisers making vague and sentimental claims with no specifics about how your donation will be used. Most legitimate charities have been proactively providing updates as to how the funds have been used so far for the Maui fire relief efforts.

4. Only donate to registered charities

If a fundraiser claims your contribution to the organization is tax-deductible, check to see if that organization is a listed 501(c)(3) entity by the IRS: **https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/**. If the org. is not listed, your donation may not be tax deductible and calls into question the trustworthiness of the organization's other statements.

5. Guard your personal information

Be aware of whom you are dealing with when providing your personal and financial information. Do not provide any personal information over the phone when you receive unsolicited phone calls asking for a donation.

6. Avoid cash donations if possible

Pay by credit card or write a check directly to the charity. Do not make checks payable to individuals.

7. Beware of copycat charities and spoofing

Beware of charities with copy-cat names similar to but not the same as those of reputable charities. Also be vigilant about fraudulent websites imitating reputable charities. Most legitimate charities' websites end in .org rather than .com.

8. Beware of unsolicited spam emails

Do not respond to any unsolicited or spam emails, including clicking links or purported photographs, because the files may contain viruses. Only open attachments from senders you know.

9. Don't be pressured into making a donation

Reputable charities do not use hard-sell pressure tactics.

Homeless at Sheridan Park

(\$08) 768-2673

Thank you to the many Sheridan-Ala Moana residents who contacted my office regarding the homeless encampments at Sheridan Park. Your efforts were successful in referring people to shelters and other services. Mahalo for your patience during this process. Call the Honolulu Crisis Outreach Response and Engagement (C.O.R.E.) hotline above if you witness homeless-related incidents in our community.