FROM THE OFFICE OF
SENATOR STANLEY CHANG
East Honolulu Community Newsletter
November 2026



Free Highway Service Offered by State of Hawai‘i

Did you know the State of Hawai‘i provides FREE highway service? The **Hawai‘i Freeway Service Patrol** (FSP) is a free roadside assistance program operated by the Hawai‘i Department of Transportation in partnership with the City and County of Honolulu’s Police and Fire departments, Emergency Medical Services, and Department of Transportation Services.

Image Credit: Office of Senator Stanley Chang



FSP provides a range of roadside assistance services to stranded motorists. These services include:

1. Changing **flat tires**
2. Jump-starting vehicles with **dead batteries**
3. Refilling **radiators**
4. Making minor **temporary repairs**
5. Providing up to one gallon of **gasoline** (diesel is not available)
6. **Tow service** to the shoulder of the freeway or an authorized drop area.

If you need help with these types of roadside services, contact the Free Service Patrol at **808-841-HELP (4357)**. For more information about the Hawai‘i Freeway Service Patrol, please visit: hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/freeway-service-patrol.

CALL US
808-586-8420

EMAIL US
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HANDY CONTACTS

State Pothole Hotline
808-586-7852

City Pothole Hotline
808-768-7777

State Homelessness
gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov
808-586-0193

City Homelessness
complaints@honolulu.gov
808-768-4381

Abandoned Vehicles
808-733-2530

Building Permits
808-768-8000

Poison Control
800-222-1222

Trash Collection
808-768-3200

Street Light Repair
808-768-5300

Domestic Abuse Hotline
800-799-7233

Public Assistance Information Line
855-643-1643

Meta and Monsanto to Pay State of Hawai‘i Millions in Separate Settlements

Hawai‘i Attorney General Anne Lopez has recently announced two landmark settlements. The first settlement was announced in September—a **$17.1 billion** multi-state settlement with Meta Platforms, Inc. related to teen social media addiction. This is one of the largest state consumer protection settlements in history outside the Big Tobacco settlements of the 1990s. Hawai‘i will receive **$76 million**.

The agreement resolves claims by Hawai‘i and 46 other states, D.C., Puerto Rico, American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands, that the company designed Instagram with addictive features, knowingly exposed young users to serious mental harms and intentionally misled the public about the safety of its platforms, among other things. In addition to the compensation, Meta must implement a sweeping set of safety features designed to protect children on Instagram and Facebook.

AG Lopez said, "The adverse mental health consequences associated with excessive, unregulated access to social media are well-documented. Despite knowledge of the consequences, social media companies failed to act independently to protect our youth. The safety features, processes, and independent monitoring required by this settlement will have a real-world positive impact for youth in Hawai‘i. I hope that Snapchat, TikTok and YouTube will read the writing on the wall and enter into similar settlements."

On October 1, 2026, Attorney General Anne Lopez announced a settlement with Monsanto Company and its affiliates, Solutia, Inc. and Pharmacia LLC. This settlement resolves Hawai‘i’s claims against these companies for contamination caused by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in Hawai‘i’s waterways and natural resources.

The settlement guarantees an initial payment of **$10 million** to be paid to the state of Hawai‘i on or before October 31, 2026. The settlement could also provide the state with an additional $35 million. The additional amount will depend on the outcome of an indemnity action currently being pursued by Monsanto and its affiliates against various historic PCB purchasers. The contingency guarantees an additional payment between $11.55 million and $35 million to the state, depending on the outcome and timing of Monsanto’s related indemnity action.

Overall, these settlements are a part of ongoing efforts by the State to undo harm to Hawai'i's environment and protect our natural resources and children for future generations. For more information, call the Hawai‘i Department of the Attorney General at **(808) 586-1500**.



Image Credit: Office of Senator Stanley Chang

FREE ONLINE TOOL HELPS HAWAIʻI FAMILIES FIND LOST LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

In recognition of Life Insurance Awareness Month, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Insurance Division is reminding residents about a free online tool that can help families locate a deceased loved one's life insurance policies and annuity contracts.

On many occasions, life insurance benefits are unclaimed because family members cannot locate a policy or do not know that such policy exists. **The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) Life Insurance Policy Locator** helps close that gap by allowing beneficiaries and legal representatives to submit a confidential search request to participating insurance companies at no cost.

The Life Insurance Policy Locator has already helped $11.2 million in benefits to be claimed from over 400 policies. This money was returned to Hawaii residents. To submit a request, consumers should have information from the deceased person's death certificate, including their legal name, date of birth, date of death and Social Security number or individual taxpayer identification number. The requester must also provide their relationship to the deceased. If a policy is located and the requester is the beneficiary or is legally authorized to receive information, the company will contact the requester directly.

Important to note: Not all insurance companies participate in the Policy Locator service, so a "no match" result does not necessarily mean that a policy does not exist.

Access the free Life Insurance Policy Locator on the NAIC website at **eapps.naic.org/life-policy-locator**.

Consumers with questions about life insurance or this tool may contact the Hawaii Insurance Division at **844-808-DCCA (3222) ext. 4**. Additional consumer resources can be found online at **cca.hawaii.gov/ins**.



Image Credit: Office of Island News

DO YOU SEE A DAMAGED OR FALLEN TREE? REPORT IT!

Do you see a damaged or fallen tree? Report it to the City and County of Honolulu by calling **808-723-8960**.

The City and County of Honolulu manages public trees through the **Department of Parks and Recreation's Division of Urban Forestry** (DUF). The Division's Arboriculture Section oversees routine pruning and tree health assessments across the island, ensuring street and park trees do not pose hazards to public safety. When severe weather or sudden structural failures occur, emergency response teams work swiftly to clear fallen trees or large branches blocking public roadways and sidewalks.

Residents who encounter a fallen tree, broken branch, or damaged City tree have multiple channels to report the issue depending on urgency. Immediate hazards—such as trees actively blocking traffic or creating life-safety emergencies—should be reported directly to **911**. For routine tree maintenance, structural evaluations, or non-emergency damaged street trees, the public can submit a service request through the Honolulu **311** mobile app / website or call **(808) 723-8960**.

It is the City's goal to preserve as many trees as possible. To this end, trees will not be removed unless dead, dying diseased, or severely damaged.

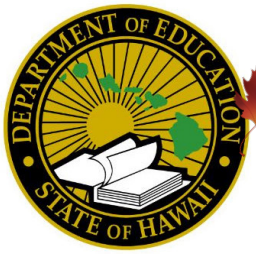


Image Credit: Office of Senator Stanley Chang

Commit to Being a Judge in the 2027 Honolulu District Science & Engineering Fair



SCIENCE · TECHNOLOGY · ENGINEERING · MATH
HONOLULU DISTRICT
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR



Commit to being a judge!

Submit your registration by Friday, November 6



The Fair will take place on Saturday, February 6, 2027, Kalani High School

Official judge registration for the 2027 Honolulu District Science and Engineering Fair (HONSEF) is now open!

The future of science and engineering in Hawai‘i is in the hands of our incredible middle and high school students, and we are searching for passionate professionals to help mentor this next cohort of innovators.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, February 6, 2027

Location: Kalani High School

As a judge, you won't just be evaluating projects—you will be a mentor, a motivator, and a key figure in a student's educational journey. In just one day, you will have the chance to:

- Dive into cutting-edge projects relevant to your professional field.
- Connect with a vibrant network of local professionals, researchers, and educators.
- Ignite a spark in a young mind that could last a lifetime.

Your expertise is invaluable, and your time makes a real, tangible difference for our students.

Ready to see what the next generation is capable of? Please commit to being a judge by registering here: (it is highly encouraged to submit your registration by **Friday, November 6, 2026**).

For any questions, please reach out to Shannon.Goo@k12.hi.us or call **808-305-7000**.

Image Credit: Office of Senator Stanley Chang

FROM THE OFFICE OF
SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

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