

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



DEPT. COMM. NO. 58

ANNE E. LOPEZ
ATTORNEY GENERAL

MATTHEW S. DVONCH
FIRST DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
Ka 'Oihana O Ka Loio Kuhina
425 QUEEN STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
(808) 586-1500

November 20, 2023

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the Department of the Attorney General's Annual Report on the Use and Discharge of Electric Guns by the Department of the Attorney General, as required by section 134-87(b)(3), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). In accordance with section 93-16, HRS, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at <http://ag.hawaii.gov/publications/reports/reports-to-the-legislature/>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at (808) 586-1500.

Sincerely,

Anne E. Lopez
Attorney General

c: Josh Green, M.D., Governor
Sylvia Luke, Lieutenant Governor
Legislative Reference Bureau (Attn: Karen Mau)
Leslie H. Kondo, State Auditor
Luis Salaveria, Director of Finance, Department of Budget and Finance
Stacey A. Aldrich, State Librarian, Hawaii State Public Library System
David Lassner, Ph.D., President, University of Hawaii

Enclosure

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE USE AND DISCHARGE OF ELECTRIC GUNS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Pursuant to Section 134-87(b)(3), Hawaii Revised Statutes

Pursuant to section 134-87(b)(3), HRS, which took effect on January 1, 2022, the following information regarding use and discharge of electric guns by the Department of the Attorney General is provided, and covers the period from November 1, 2022, through October 31, 2023.

According to section 134-81, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), an "electric gun" means "any portable device that is designed to discharge electric energy, charge, voltage, or current into the body through direct contact or utilizing a projectile." It "includes but is not limited to devices commonly referred to as stun guns and Tasers" and "does not include any automatic external defibrillator used in emergency medical situations."

Law enforcement agencies, including the Department of the Attorney General, are exempted from certain restrictions against possessing and using electric guns, but are required to maintain records regarding all electric guns possessed by and discharged by those agencies and report annually to the Legislature on the information in those records. The information is as follows:

- Total Number of TASER Conducted Energy Weapons in custody and control as of October 31, 2023:

15 TASERS

- Total Number of TASER Applications discharged as of October 31, 2023:

0 TASER Applications

No additional electric guns are in the possession of the Department of the Attorney General.

If you have any questions, please contact John Thompson, Chief Special Agent, Investigations Division, Department of Attorney General, at (808) 586-1240.