

## Great Committee

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**From:** kathrenbade@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 8:24 PM  
**To:** Great Committee; crs@mpd.net  
**Cc:** k\_bade@hotmail.com; Alice L. Lee; Kayna M. Yoneda; Mona A. Perry; Mayors.Office@co.maui.hi.us; Tyson Miyake  
**Subject:** 20212022 Illegal Fireworks in Maui County  
**Attachments:** 2021-12-21 Maui County Police Chief.pdf  
**Importance:** High

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kathrenbade@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Great Committee, police chief, mayor's office and our government leaders,

I am severely disappointed that the GREAT committee is not taking up the issue of illegal fireworks with the January 4, 2022 meeting and AGAIN delaying to possibly before the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday yet again. This topic is not on the January 4 agenda as was suggested by one of the GREAT committee members who emailed me on December 8 when it did not appear on your December agenda (screen shot below---- delay, delay, delay... maybe this lady will go away is the sense I am getting from this lack of action.)

By the local government's inaction on this issue, Maui County is really establishing the precedent that obeying the law is optional with zero consequences. Why should any illegal fireworks loving, dog fighting, cock fighting, illegal dumper, the myriads of drivers without insurance-registration or safety checks, or anyone who is "local" obey any law in Maui county? There are ZERO consequences for disobedience. *I just wonder if all local people stopped paying their property taxes if the county would take any action?*

I also sent a fax and email (copy attached) to new police chief and his deputy chief on Dec 21, 2021 about this issue and received no response from the MPD.

I would be curious to know what the police departments announced "enforcement" during New Year's weekend resulted in for actual citations that will lead to prosecution as was announced in Maui Now:

<https://mauinow.com/2021/12/30/maui-police-to-conduct-fireworks-enforcement-during-new-years-weekend/>

As the locals say, "move if you don't like it." That is the mentality of these disobedient locals and the county seems to be enforcing that mentality by their inaction. It is SAD. Maybe one day some innocent bystander will be injured or even killed by the lack of enforcement and then the county will be faced with a massive lawsuit for non-enforcement and government dereliction of duty. To be clear, I am not wishing this to happen to anyone but it is only a matter of time before there is a serious enough injury that it might happen. Then the county will act because they will be forced to explain why they have to raise property taxes to pay for the damages awarded by some individual who wins such future lawsuit.

All I am asking the county to do is be proactive and uphold the current laws that make the use of illegal fireworks a class c felony. There are win-win solutions that have been suggested by myself and others and all the county has to do is work with the community to satisfy those that love illegal aerials fireworks perhaps by providing an outlet for them to display them publicly that can benefit the county financially. I also ask the county to protect those of us who want to enjoy peace and security in our own homes without being inflicted with wartime, PTSD inducing nerve damage for months on end prior to and post any holiday event that involves fireworks.

Sincerely, Kathren Rosales

## RE: Illegal Fireworks



Great Committee <Great.Committee@mauicounty.us>

To: kathrenbade@gmail.com; 'KR Hotmail'

Cc: Alice L. Lee; Kayna M. Yoneda; Mona A. Perry

Reply

Reply All

Forward

Wed 12/8/2021

Aloha Kathren,

Thank you for your continued interest in this topic.

Unfortunately it came down to timing. The new Police Chief is being sworn in next Wednesday and the last GREAT Com meeting for 2021 is next Tuesday.

Chair Molina intends to discuss this matter again sometime in January with the hopes that something can be enacted thereafter.

Mahalo,

GREAT Committee staff

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**From:** KR Hotmail

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:43 AM

**To:** Great Committee <[Great.Committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:Great.Committee@mauicounty.us)>

**Cc:** Alice L. Lee <[Alice.Lee@mauicounty.us](mailto:Alice.Lee@mauicounty.us)>; Kayna M. Yoneda <[Kayna.Yoneda@mauicounty.us](mailto:Kayna.Yoneda@mauicounty.us)>; Mona A. Perry <[Mona.Perry@mauicounty.us](mailto:Mona.Perry@mauicounty.us)>

**Subject:** RE: GREAT-29 Illegal Fireworks in Maui County

Dear GREAT committee:

Mahalo for allowing the testimony today. I really appreciate your assistance in trying to get this resolved. I raised my hand after Keola Whitaker, counties corporation counsel made a statement to the effect: "that the MPD police can enforce the state law; the problem is that witnesses need to agree to verify their statement. "

The question for Keola Whittaker and our police representative:

Since the normal citizen doesn't understand (including me) what the reference to the witness statement involves: Does the witness need to testify in court? Does the witness need to publicly provide their personal information in order to make a witness statement? The vast majority of private citizens do not want to become a victim of revenge from their neighbors; so if the clarification of what exactly a witness needs to provide would be appreciated so the general public will have more willingness to come forward with testimony.

Also, if the Maui police can enforce state law per Mr. Keola Whittaker, why are they not doing it now? Can it be encouraged by our police chief and representatives in this committee to educate our local police department they have this authority NOW to enforce current state law.

Mahalo and have an amazing day,  
Kathy Rosales

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**From:** Great Committee <[Great.Committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:Great.Committee@mauicounty.us)>

**Sent:** Monday, November 1, 2021 8:32 AM

**To:** KR Hotmail <[k\\_bade@hotmail.com](mailto:k_bade@hotmail.com)>

**Cc:** Alice L. Lee <[Alice.Lee@mauicounty.us](mailto:Alice.Lee@mauicounty.us)>; Kayna M. Yoneda <[Kayna.Yoneda@mauicounty.us](mailto:Kayna.Yoneda@mauicounty.us)>; Mona A. Perry <[Mona.Perry@mauicounty.us](mailto:Mona.Perry@mauicounty.us)>

**Subject:** GREAT-29 Illegal Fireworks in Maui County

Aloha Kathyryn,

GREAT Chair Mike Molina will be discussing a proposed bill relating to fireworks at his 9 a.m. meeting tomorrow.

Please see the attached meeting agenda for a copy of the proposed bill, how to join the meeting, and if you would like, provide testimony.

Mahalo,  
GREAT Committee staff

1367 Kakae Place  
Wailuku, HI 96793  
December 21, 2021

Mr. John Pelletier, Maui County Police Chief  
And  
Mr. Charles Hank III, Deputy Chief of Police  
55 Mahalani St.  
Wailuku, HI 96793  
Via email: crs@mpd.net  
Fax # (808) 244-6411

Dear Chief Pelletier and Deputy Chief Hank,

First of all, Congratulations on your new positions in Maui and Welcome to our beautiful island and state! Many in the community are very excited to have you both heading our hard-working policemen and woman who put their lives at risk for the safety of our citizens. I have personally for 35 years of living in Hawaii have watched the many dedicated professionals in Hawaii's police force on all islands display admiral dedication and support to our island communities. They are truly amazing people and I personally highly respect each and every one of them.

I would like to get to the point of this letter: can you please engage your police force and ask them to enforce Hawaii state law (HB89) with regards to the use of illegal fireworks. The law states this is a class C felony with up to a \$2,000 fine. Essentially, island wide the use of illegal fireworks and home-made bombs from Thanksgiving time to well into mid-January to February of each year as well as the week prior to and post fourth of July celebrations are rampant through-out the island. The most atrocious areas are Kahului, Waiehu-Wailuku, Paukukalo-Wailuku, Makawao, Haiku, Kula, Kihei and parts of Lahaina.

I am appealing to you on behalf of many: PTSD sufferers, all animals, and all humans who physically cannot tolerate these illegal fireworks to establish precedent by being the new Executive Level of our police department to enforce this law when previous leadership has chosen to look the other way in order to appeal to "cultural norms and practices". Please put some teeth behind the law this year and set the precedent for the law.

On a side note, I have presented to the Maui County counsel, through the Great Committee, a suggestion for a solution for our local families that love to use aerial fireworks: have the county establish a secluded and safe area on the island and create a fair like atmosphere with contests for displays with winners in many categories. It could include food trucks and such activities and make the holidays a really fun time for our community while providing a safe atmosphere to use aerial fireworks. The county can collect fees to participate and attend and proceeds can benefit the county instead of the illegal distributors. This suggestion was not pushed through the Great Committee in 2021, but if the executives of the police department can recommend and encourage this it might gain traction for upcoming years

celebrations. I am not against all fireworks; I just want primarily safety first, and the illegals fireworks that my neighbors use have me scared for my property, my and my animal's well-being. I am not the only person with this concern as it has been an issue for many years according to the GREAT committee members and many before me have tried to find a solution and failed.

I know YOU BOTH can make this happen. You are upright pillars in our community that all can look up to and respect. Please feel free to reach out to me if you want me to assist in any way or want to brainstorm other possible solutions.

Sincerely,

Kathren Rosales  
808-250-7077  
Kathrenbade@gmail.com