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FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

COUNTY OF MAUI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

REGULAR MEETING

Held via BlueJeans, commencing at 10:02 a.m., on  
September 15, 2022.

REPORTED BY: SANDRA J. GRAN, RPR/CSR #424

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ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Kyle Ginoza, Chair
- Lisa Vares, Vice Chair
- Dwight Burns, Member
- Max Kincaid, Jr., Member
- Makalapua Kanuha, Member
- Gordon Gillis, Member

STAFF:

- Bradford Ventura, Fire Chief
- Gavin Fujioka, Deputy Fire Chief
- Jeffrey Giese, Assistant Fire Chief
- Hanalei Lindo, Assistant Fire Chief
- Moana Lutey, Corporation Counsel
- Daniel Kunkel, Deputy Corporation Counsel
- Richelle Wakamatsu, Commission Secretary
- Herman Andaya, Maui Emergency Management Agency

1 (September 15, 2022, 10:02 a.m.)

2 \* \* \*

3 CHAIR GINOZA: Good morning, everyone. It is 10:02,  
4 September 15th. Sorry for the couple of minute late start,  
5 but I'd like to call to order the Maui Fire and Public Safety  
6 Commission meeting. My name is Kyle Ginoza, chair of the  
7 commission. I will start off with roll call. So I'm Kyle  
8 Ginoza. And please let me know or let us know where you are  
9 and if anyone is in the room with you. So I'm Kyle Ginoza,  
10 I'm in my hotel room in Vegas, and I'm alone.

11 Vice Chair Lisa Vares.

12 VICE CHAIR VARES: -- Vares. I am here in my home  
13 office in Wailuku, and I'm alone.

14 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Lisa.

15 Dwight Burns.

16 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Here. I'm here in my office,  
17 and I'm here alone.

18 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you.

19 Punahale is excused.

20 Max Kincaid, Jr.

21 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Yeah, I'm here. I have my  
22 wife with me in the office.

23 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you, Max.

24 Makalapua Kanuha.

25 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Aloha kakahiaka. I'm at the

1 Royal Lahaina Resort in my office, and I'm alone.

2 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, awesome. Thank you, Makalapua.  
3 And Gordon Gillis.

4 COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Good morning. Gordon Gillis.  
5 I'm at my home in Kihei, and I'm alone.

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you.  
7 And Chief Ventura.

8 CHIEF VENTURA: Good morning, everybody. Aloha.  
9 And we have our normal staff with us: Myself, Chief Fujioka,  
10 Chief Lindo, Chief Giese. With us is our presenter today,  
11 Captain Roger Agdeppa. And off camera here, our commission  
12 secretary Richelle Wakamatsu. Nobody else is with us.

13 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you.  
14 And I believe -- Herman, are you on?

15 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: I'm here, Mr. Chair.

16 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you, Herman.

17 And from corporation counsel right now, we have  
18 Moana Lutey in place of Dan Kunkel for now.

19 Okay. The next agenda item is approval of the  
20 minutes for the August 18 meeting that we had. I trust that  
21 all commissioners had a chance to review the minutes. Does  
22 any commissioner have any comments or revision required?

23 (No response.)

24 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none --

25 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Motion to accept the minutes.

1 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you, Dwight. Do I have  
2 a second?

3 COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Second.

4 VICE CHAIR VARES: Second.

5 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Second, Gordon. Thank you.  
6 And I'll just do a roll call vote as far as approval of the  
7 minutes.

8 So I approve.

9 Lisa.

10 VICE CHAIR VARES: Approved.

11 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you.

12 Dwight.

13 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Approve.

14 CHAIR GINOZA: Max.

15 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Approve.

16 CHAIR GINOZA: Makalapua.

17 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Approved.

18 CHAIR GINOZA: And Gordon.

19 COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Approve.

20 CHAIR GINOZA: Great. So minutes passed with  
21 everybody approved.

22 The next item we have is public testimony on agenda  
23 items. Richelle, do we have anyone signed up to testify?

24 MS. WAKAMATSU: No, we don't.

25 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you.

1 Is anyone on the call wishing to testify?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, we'll close  
4 public testimony for this agenda item, but as I've mentioned  
5 in the past, if anyone from the public wishes to testify,  
6 please -- during the meeting, please make it known that you  
7 wish to testify, and we'll recognize you and hear your  
8 testimony. The public testimony is closed for this agenda  
9 item.

10 The next item we have is Maui Emergency Management  
11 Agency. Herman.

12 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Good morning, Mr. Chair,  
13 Members of the Commission. Just a few items. First of all,  
14 we are recruiting for our CERT team, our Community Emergency  
15 Response Team, and so I think I've talked a little bit about  
16 this in the past. These teams are very important because in  
17 the event of an emergency, we may not be able to send our  
18 first responders, or they may not be able to respond quickly  
19 because they may be overwhelmed, and so this is where we  
20 empower the community to be prepared and to assist their  
21 neighbors in the event of an emergency, and so that's what the  
22 emergency response team is about. And we've been working very  
23 closely with the fire department in training these trained  
24 CERT volunteers, and it is a quite extensive, quite extensive  
25 training that they go through. They learn about assisting

1 emergency responders, conducting light search and rescue,  
2 setting up medical treatment areas, applying basic medical  
3 techniques, extinguishing small fires, you know, things like  
4 that. And so it's a very important part of our network of  
5 emergency responders and, you know, it helps our first  
6 responders, it kind of relieves them from certain things that  
7 can be done, like minor type of assistance that can be done by  
8 CERT volunteers. So what I'm asking from all of you is if you  
9 could assist us with recruiting CERT volunteers in your  
10 communities because you are all community leaders and very  
11 much involved in your communities. If you can, please see if  
12 there's anybody in your communities or even yourselves who  
13 are -- who are wanting or may want to volunteer to become  
14 members. And, you know, CERT volunteers could include  
15 neighborhood watch groups, community leaders, parents,  
16 communities of faith, so we have churches who are involved,  
17 members of clubs and civic organizations.

18 So we just started up training again; it's been a  
19 while because of COVID. But what the CERT program and CERT  
20 is, it's a national program, so you find CERT teams all over  
21 the U.S. But what they've done is create this hybrid CERT  
22 basic training program, and so you're doing both a combination  
23 of in-class -- I'm sorry, virtual learning as well as hands-on  
24 training. So the hands-on training, you know, has to be done  
25 in person, we can't get around that, and so those trainings

1 include like a first day and then, you know, things like that  
2 or what -- what the fire department have taught us how to do,  
3 cribbing and -- cribbing is lifting a heavy load off of a  
4 person like, say, during an earthquake. So, anyway, we just  
5 started, we're gonna start up this hybrid CERT basic training  
6 program. It's the first time it's gonna be held here on Maui,  
7 and it's gonna be on October 20th, October 25th, October 27th,  
8 and October 29th. This is the hands-on training. So a  
9 volunteer would, first of all, have to attend or do the online  
10 training first, and then once they've done that, then they can  
11 sign up to do the hands-on training.

12 We're also asking previously trained CERT  
13 volunteers, and we want to reengage them, and so an email has  
14 gone out to all of them. And we've trained over a thousand,  
15 the fire department has trained over a thousand CERT  
16 volunteers already here in Maui County, and so we're asking  
17 those individuals -- we've contacted them, but if you're  
18 hearing this and you haven't gotten an email from us, if you  
19 could please let us -- contact us again. And our email is  
20 cert, C-E-R-T, at mauicounty.gov. You can also call our  
21 offices. Any questions, you can call our offices at  
22 808-270-7285. So that's the -- that's the CERT program.

23 Other things that's been going on, we had a -- we  
24 did have a partial activation this past Friday, and this was a  
25 flash flood warning. And some of you may have seen the



1 flooding that occurred in Kihei as well as some -- some  
2 landslides that occurred on the east side, East Maui, so --  
3 but I know some homes were impacted. If you could please  
4 report those damages to us, I want to encourage the public to  
5 do so, and you can do that by going to our website  
6 mauicounty.gov/emergency. We do have an online form there  
7 that you can go and report in the damages and whatnot.

8 And what other topics? Excuse me, Chair.

9 We're continuing with public messaging. We have  
10 commercials up, TV commercials, radio. We also have been  
11 doing a lot of -- or some public appearances. We're doing a  
12 Farmers Market this Sunday. And so, again, we're recruiting  
13 people to join us, to join the CERT teams as well.

14 Oh, I do want to say also, we especially want CERT  
15 volunteers out in the remote areas. So we do have volunteers  
16 out there already, but we want to grow that more, and so --  
17 and, you know, we want to provide training in those areas  
18 specifically, but we can't do that unless we have a good  
19 number of people who are willing to do training in CERT. So,  
20 again, those individuals who come from the remote areas, if  
21 you could please assist us and help recruit some of those CERT  
22 volunteers in those areas as well.

23 Mr. Chair, that's all I have pending any questions.

24 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Herman. Maybe it's good  
25 to reach out to Donna Sterling. She was always a good remote

1 volunteer for you.

2 Any questions -- thank you, Herman. Any questions  
3 for Herman from commissioners?

4 COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Hi, Herman. This is Gordon.

5 CHAIR GINOZA: Yes. Oh, yes, Gordon.

6 COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Thank you for that, Herman.  
7 I'm just curious how many active or deployable CERT members we  
8 have now in the county, and a follow-up to that would be: Do  
9 you have any sense of quantifiable recruitment goals that you  
10 might have for the county for recruitment?

11 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: That's a very good question,  
12 Gordon. And so, first of all, we've trained -- as I've said  
13 earlier, we've trained over a thousand. I can't -- I know  
14 that -- I don't know the number exactly, but it's over a  
15 thousand volunteers. Recently what we did was we put out --  
16 sent out an email asking who is -- who wants to remain active.  
17 Because there are a lot of volunteers who have moved away or  
18 who are no longer able to volunteer, they're not physically  
19 able to volunteer anymore, and so we sent out an email, and we  
20 got back about 150 or so responses saying that they're willing  
21 to -- willing to be active members. That doesn't mean that --  
22 I still don't know -- like, we haven't heard from the other  
23 thousand, right, that were trained, and so we're still --  
24 we're still trying to get the responses back from them, and  
25 that's the reason why I mentioned it today during this

1 commission meeting. Like if there's -- if there are any  
2 volunteers out there that have not received an email from us,  
3 to please contact us because we want to -- we want to engage  
4 you again.

5 With respect to the numbers, you asked what kind of  
6 goal that we have; well, what I've told staff is I want a  
7 thousand. I want one thousand active volunteers. So not how  
8 many people we've trained, we want a thousand active  
9 volunteers. And how I arrived from that -- with that number  
10 is I'm looking at about a hundred per district, so if there's  
11 ten districts on Maui, then that gives us a thousand. So  
12 that's how -- that's how -- I mean, that's -- you know, I  
13 think if we had a hundred strong in each district, I think we  
14 would be, you know -- I think we would be -- it would be  
15 great.

16 COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Thank you, Herman.

17 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you for the question, Gordon.  
18 Makalapua.

19 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Thank you, yeah, Herman, for  
20 that. So I sit -- I'm the president for Kaupo Community  
21 Association, Inc., so I'm having my community meeting coming  
22 up this Saturday, so I just wanted to make sure that -- I'd  
23 like to put this as part of my agenda to our community and  
24 give them an opportunity to participate, to be an active  
25 volunteer, so I just wanted to be sure that this is the

1 correct email address. So is that cert@mauicounty.gov or --

2 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Dot gov?

4 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes.

5 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Okay. And the number is  
6 808-270-7285?

7 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes, yes.

8 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Okay. Do you have anyone  
9 that's participating out there, like Eha Moku or Kaupo, or  
10 Aloha Sena?

11 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: (Nodding head.)

12 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Yeah, she's a real big  
13 community advocate out there as well. But if not, then I am  
14 gonna put this on the agenda for this coming Saturday to our  
15 community, yeah.

16 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: We would appreciate that,  
17 Commissioner. And we do have -- I do see that -- and I don't  
18 have the names specifically, but I do know that there are  
19 volunteers that need training and some who have indicated that  
20 they wanted to remain active on the east side, and so -- but  
21 we would, of course, you know, would want -- and I think we  
22 need especially in the remote areas more volunteers. The  
23 reason why, again, is because these are the areas that we may  
24 not be able to send help to quickly, you know, and so it would  
25 be great if we had people already embedded in those

1 communities, you know. So like, as an example, like Red  
2 Cross, we may not be able to send Red Cross volunteers out  
3 there, you know, quickly after a disaster, but if we had  
4 volunteers, CERT volunteers already embedded in the community,  
5 then that would -- that would help us.

6 Information, Commissioner, regarding CERT can be  
7 found at mauicounty.gov/emergency. And then there was also a  
8 press release that was sent out regarding CERT and, you know,  
9 requesting for volunteers and all of that that was done  
10 recently, so you can also find that -- if you can find that  
11 press release and if you could share that, that would be  
12 great.

13 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Okay, perfect. Thank you for  
14 that. So Kaupo Community Resource Center, we just received  
15 our CO, so now we can really occupy our -- the old Kaupo  
16 School building, and now we can really, you know, open it up  
17 to our community as well, so -- and that area would be our Red  
18 Cross. So we're working on moving our Red Cross container  
19 onto our property right now. Well, not really right now;  
20 we're in the planning of doing that, yeah, so I just -- that  
21 would be the hub for our -- for emergencies for our Kaupo  
22 community. Thank you.

23 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Commissioner.

24 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Makalapua, that was  
25 excellent.

1 Lisa, did you have a question?

2 VICE CHAIR VARES: Yes, thanks, I did.

3 Hi, Herman. I was wondering, have you all reached  
4 out or recruited at any of the larger hotels or other places  
5 where there would be a large concentration of people in one  
6 spot where if there was a -- especially a dramatic emergency  
7 like an earthquake or something -- I mean, I know everybody  
8 lives in different places, but they're already congregated in  
9 one spot that's surrounded by people running around and  
10 freaking out. Have you -- have you all been able to reach out  
11 and gained any traction at any of the larger hotels?

12 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Mr. Chair, Commissioner,  
13 that's a very good question and, in fact -- so the person who  
14 is our CERT program manager is also a former -- used to work  
15 at the hotel, hotel security. Because hotel security, as you  
16 know, are the emergency managers of the hotel. And so we've  
17 been working with the hotel security association, and that's  
18 one thing that we want to -- I mean, very quickly, we can  
19 create, like, a volunteer force in that area in the hotels and  
20 everything. Because, as many of you know, a quarter of our  
21 population at any given time are visitors, so that's a large  
22 chunk of people that we need to -- we need to be mindful of.  
23 And so that's where, you know, it would be important to have  
24 volunteers already -- again, already embedded in those areas  
25 and, you know, who can assist us.

1           And, you know, in the past, we've encouraged other  
2 large organizations to take CERT. And I know -- I know that's  
3 been -- that's been the case in, like, for instance, what used  
4 to be Maui Electric. Maui Electric, they have a CERT team.  
5 And there's other -- you know, other places, even the college,  
6 you know, we're trying to support that, having a CERT team  
7 there. So, yeah, that's a very -- that's a very good  
8 question, and we want to -- we want to encourage that. And I  
9 think when I talked earlier about, like, who is it that we  
10 want to focus on in recruiting CERT, I mentioned certain  
11 groups like, as an example, churches, you know, so there are  
12 some churches who are very much into disaster preparedness and  
13 whatnot, and so we're trying to get them to be CERT volunteers  
14 as well.

15           VICE CHAIR VARES: Great. All right. Thanks so  
16 much, Herman.

17           MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you.

18           CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Lisa.

19           Any other questions from commissioners?

20           (No response.)

21           CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, thank you,  
22 Herman.

23           MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank  
24 you, Commissioners.

25           CHAIR GINOZA: And before we move on to the fire

1 department, is there anyone from the public wishing to  
2 testify?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, Chief  
5 Ventura.

6 CHIEF VENTURA: Aloha, good morning, everybody. For  
7 my report, I'll go over my handouts first. We're gonna look  
8 at the yellow handout, which is the incident volume for the  
9 months leading up to last month. You know, our dry season is  
10 still upon us, so our wildfires are still happening. We have  
11 been fairly fortunate, and Chief Lindo's been working closely  
12 with our BCs to keep everything as small as possible, so you  
13 won't see any large changes in our response from July to  
14 August.

15 The next handout is the training documentation from  
16 our records management system. You know, again, we pride  
17 ourselves on training everybody as often and as much as  
18 possible. We're always looking for additional training that  
19 can make our community safer. And this is just a snapshot of  
20 a month as to how many -- you know, nearly 2,000 training  
21 events happened. So right now, Chief Lindo will cover all of  
22 what's going on right now in our training bureau, but we're  
23 constantly trying to push forward as much training as our  
24 budget can afford.

25 The monthly update, which is the front and back or



1 the two-page update, covers some of the -- this is what goes  
2 out to the department at the end of every month. And like I  
3 mentioned, the second page is the softball team and -- I'm  
4 sorry, the baseball teams. They did well, and they're  
5 represented by, you know, firefighter families and such, so  
6 we're really happy. They did an amazing job on the mainland  
7 representing Maui, and it was a good time to watch them and  
8 then kind of feel that support that they had from members of  
9 our department as they went on their journey.

10 Nothing really jumps out. I know Chief Fujioka will  
11 cover the recruitment that's on this monthly update, and Chief  
12 Hanalei will cover the major structure fires that we had. But  
13 other than that, the monthly -- that concludes the monthly  
14 update.

15 What is added to this month's packet is the County  
16 of Maui proclamation that you see that's the red and yellow  
17 one. We worked with our lifeguards, and during Lifeguard  
18 Appreciation Week, we had an event in Honolulu where we  
19 recognized two of our lifeguards for outstanding lifesaving  
20 measures that they took throughout the year. And then here on  
21 Maui, the mayor did a proclamation for the week of August 22nd  
22 to 27th. And we recognized not only our lifeguards on the  
23 beach that work with us but also our pool lifeguards.  
24 They're -- they were part of this recognition week. And so we  
25 tried to, you know, reach out to all of our lifeguards and

1 share with them this proclamation because it's something that  
2 they all put time and effort and preparation and training into  
3 to keep our community safe, so we wanted them to be  
4 significantly proud of that.

5 Moving on to my report, we have had, you know, these  
6 projects, especially these larger projects like Haiku,  
7 Olowalu, Puu Kekaa, they're -- they are moving forward, they  
8 just all move forward incrementally and slowly throughout the  
9 month. So we've had mayor's -- meetings with the mayor to try  
10 to continue to garner support for that. We had some decisions  
11 made by the department of water supply to help us move Haiku  
12 forward a little bit. The Olowalu Fire Station, which is the  
13 one that West Maui Improvement Foundation is working on, they  
14 have a fundraiser coming up next month to try to, you know,  
15 get the ball rolling on this project. And then Puu Kekaa,  
16 again, we're working with the lawyers, our corporation  
17 counsel, the Sheraton property, they're still working on  
18 creating that MOU. So we don't see much of it until it's  
19 done, but I do check in with corporation counsel every other  
20 week just to make sure they are still talking to each other.

21 Moving down, the council interactions, Councilmember  
22 Paltin was looking to create a road extension outside of  
23 Fleming Road into -- over to Keawe. So if you go up Fleming  
24 Road, it kind of dead ends in the old cane fields. What she  
25 was looking to do was do an extension up into the cane fields

1 and then south towards Keawe. And what that would have done  
2 is created another point of egress for that neighborhood in  
3 case there's a major disaster or fire or something like that.  
4 The community wasn't in full support of it, so right now, it's  
5 kind of been put on the back burner, but we're working with  
6 corporation counsel and Councilmember Paltin to at least try  
7 to establish an evacuation route in that area so that if there  
8 is some sort of significant road closure on that little  
9 street, the neighborhood can still evacuate from that space.

10 The Paia fire that happened about a month and a half  
11 ago, what it left in its tracks was basically a whole bunch of  
12 cars that were burnt in the area, so Councilmember Lee reached  
13 out to us to see what was gonna be done about that. We did  
14 have a meeting with the landowner, which I shared in last  
15 month's meeting, and to this date, the cars have been removed  
16 now. So the landowner is sticking to their word, and they  
17 are -- they did remove all the cars. Now they're working on  
18 the next phases of that project, which are fencing and  
19 security of the land.

20 I do want to touch upon the CERT program a little  
21 bit. As Herman mentioned, our firefighters are the  
22 instructors for that program. So our department does offer  
23 the knowledge and abilities of our firefighters to teach  
24 several of the modules in the CERT program, and we have also  
25 reinstated our membership of instructors, and it's -- we're

1       gonna have a class coming up soon to do like a train the  
2       trainer. Our department does incur overtime to teach these  
3       classes, but it's supported in our budget as well as with  
4       grant funding, so we try to get multiple funding sources to  
5       support that community project.

6               On the back of my report, we did conclude that  
7       support for that Ventura City firefighter who did pass away on  
8       Maui, and they did have a service just last week up in  
9       California.

10              And then three community outreach programs that  
11       we've started that are -- that are kind of moving along here:  
12       The Maui Health Foundation, Pacific Cancer Foundation, and the  
13       Maui School Slippah Solace. Just different efforts that we,  
14       as the fire department, can be a point of collection for, you  
15       know, a good cause for the community to help them in any way.  
16       So the Go Pink campaign is underway, shirts are available on  
17       the Pacific Cancer Foundation's website, and the -- we're  
18       collecting slippers at various fire stations on Maui Island.

19              And then at the bottom there you'll see the license  
20       agreement for Ualapue Fire Station, which is our Pukoo Fire  
21       Station on our east end of Molokai, you know, to get documents  
22       authored by our corporation counsel and the lawyers of the  
23       state and then we agree on everything and then signed takes  
24       time, but it's finally done, so we're happy for that. Our  
25       next step, now that we have the signed documents, is to survey

1 the space that we want to utilize that is owned by Department  
2 of Hawaiian Home Lands and then make payment for that  
3 property. So once that's done, then we'll be able to give our  
4 consultant basically the full footprint of the programming  
5 that we gotta do our remodel and improvements to.

6 That concludes what I have for you this morning.

7 Any questions?

8 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Chief Ventura.

9 Any questions from commissioners for Chief Ventura?

10 (No response.)

11 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, thank you.

12 Next, we move on to Chief Fujioka.

13 DEPUTY CHIEF FUJIOKA: Thank you, Chair. Good  
14 morning, Commissioners. So to cover my monthly report -- just  
15 before I start this, I just want to inform you guys, if you  
16 guys haven't heard already, we did have an active member who  
17 passed away last week at home, so we're in the process of  
18 helping his family with the service and -- and it will be  
19 something held on Friday, next week Friday, the 23rd. But  
20 just in case you guys see things pop up, processions or this  
21 service, so, yeah, we just had a member pass away last week.

22 Moving on to our -- my report for this month, we  
23 started our recruit class for our ocean safety division  
24 September 1st with six recruits. So far, it's been -- it's  
25 been going good.

1           And several improvement things happening in our --  
2           in our department here. We just completed testing for a new  
3           length of preconnected hoses for our apparatus, and we're  
4           compiling all of the -- the information, and we're gonna make  
5           a decision as far as how we proceed from that.

6           We have selected members throughout our department  
7           to test a new European-style fire helmet, and it's -- this is  
8           going to be an interesting topic, and we'll see what we come  
9           up with from that testing. It's totally not what we're used  
10          to, but we'll see what happens.

11          And then, the last one, we sent out a survey to our  
12          members to see how our mental wellness program is doing and  
13          what can be done to provide a better service to our members.  
14          The results will be sent to our -- Dr. Alicia Rodrigues, who  
15          is our psychologist that we have onboard here with us, and  
16          she'll be speaking at our annual captains' meeting coming up  
17          next week Thursday.

18          As far as apparatus, slowly moving forward. We had  
19          a delivery of a new mini truck for Hana Station that is going  
20          through just some final prep, and we'll -- hopefully, we're  
21          gonna be getting that out in the next few weeks to Hana.  
22          We've been getting some bids back for our vehicles that we put  
23          out. So far, so good; everything is within budget, so that's  
24          good news.

25          And just union interactions, we did consult our HFFA

1 on -- regarding our members being compensated for nonrequired  
2 training, so we're kind of working the details out with that.

3 And we did get an email from the public addressing  
4 one of our ocean safety officers, you know, praising him for  
5 his professionalism and knowledge on the beach, and so we --  
6 we appreciate, too, getting these from the public to all of  
7 our members, so that was good to hear.

8 And then, just closing out, we do have some Kahuola  
9 Award nominees that will be coming maybe -- maybe by the  
10 next -- our next meeting here. So we've gotten several emails  
11 about some awards -- or nominees, I should say.

12 And that's all I have for my report this month. If  
13 you guys got any questions, I'll be happy to answer.

14 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Chief Fujioka.

15 Any questions from commissioners?

16 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: (Gesturing.)

17 CHAIR GINOZA: Makalapua.

18 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Thank you, Chief Fujioka. So  
19 I just wanted to go back to the research and development for  
20 that European-style fire helmet. Interesting.

21 DEPUTY CHIEF FUJIOKA: Very.

22 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: My question is: How are we  
23 doing with our current helmets? Because I know this is a  
24 European style, so you're looking for effective equipment  
25 or -- help me to understand.

1           DEPUTY CHIEF FUJIOKA: So it's -- so one is, yeah,  
2     it -- how effective is the helmet, and with all the  
3     disciplines we do, how does that helmet -- I'm just trying to  
4     find the perfect word here, but sometimes our existing helmet  
5     might be cumbersome, it might be uncomfortable. So this new  
6     style helmet, it's a lot -- it's basically like a -- it looks  
7     like a motorcycle helmet, so it doesn't have the large brim,  
8     so it's definitely like more free to move your head when  
9     you're wearing your pack and everything. But that's only one  
10    part of the -- the whole equation here. You know, with hot  
11    water running off our helmet, dripping down into our coats,  
12    that's another issue, we're not sure how that plays out, and  
13    tradition is -- is a big one also. So I think, to be honest,  
14    I'm not sure what is gonna come out of that testing. Our  
15    helmets are good now; the tradition is a -- is a big factor, I  
16    believe, within our department of what -- if we make that  
17    change or not, and -- and the pros and cons of this new style  
18    helmet, in preliminary talks, I -- some people have said they  
19    don't really see too much of an issue with our helmets  
20    compared to the new style, but that's only one side of the  
21    group talking. So we've gotta wait till the full research is  
22    done and really see what has -- you know, the pros and cons  
23    that come out of it, especially on the fire ground testing  
24    where we're going through our fire ground operations and doing  
25    the -- you know, crawling around, laddering buildings, or



1 whatever we need to do with the helmets on, so --

2 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Thank you, Chief Fujioka.

3 DEPUTY CHIEF FUJIOKA: You're welcome.

4 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: I appreciate that. So the  
5 research and development, is this part of your budget that --  
6 'cause I know it's gonna cost, so -- to do your research, or  
7 is that part of your operations, or is that something that  
8 we're paying for? Is there somebody who's doing the research,  
9 or are we doing it ourselves, like you folks?

10 CHIEF VENTURA: Chair, if I can answer that  
11 question.

12 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Okay. Thank you, Chief.

13 CHIEF VENTURA: Thank you, Member Kanuha.

14 So our R&D committee, we take it -- it takes  
15 recommendations from our firefighters twice a year, and what  
16 we're -- what we're trying to do is we're trying to -- you  
17 know, we have a lot of well-intended, smart people that are  
18 out there looking, scouring the firefighting world for new  
19 technology and equipment, so we want to take advantage of  
20 their passion, their desire, so we create this committee where  
21 firefighters can provide input for new equipment, and we want  
22 to listen to them, we want to include them in the growth of  
23 our department and making our department better and stronger  
24 and safer. Once a product, whatever product -- we've done  
25 turnouts, gloves, boots, helmets, hoses, nozzles, we've done a

1 lot of things. Once a product is identified, we'll try to  
2 work with the vendor. We're gonna do it as frugally as  
3 possible. We'll ask vendors for samples, and then maybe they  
4 can give us four or five samples that we can share amongst the  
5 department. We do the testing ourselves in-house. And so  
6 let's say it's a nozzle or a hose, we'll utilize our fire  
7 ground operations cadre to run it through a whole recruit  
8 class, so they'll use it days and days and days on end, and  
9 then we'll create some sort of criteria on how to evaluate  
10 that product. The same criteria doesn't necessarily work for  
11 helmets and hoses because one you wear, one you don't, so  
12 we'll change the criteria. But our members are the ones that  
13 are deciding what they feel is best. We make sure everything  
14 is ANSI certified, NFPA certified, UL listed, and safe, and it  
15 meets the requirements, and then we just kind of -- we'll do a  
16 cost-benefit analysis. Because there's always -- you're  
17 always gonna find something better, but it might cost six  
18 times as much, and is that something that we can actually  
19 afford in our budget or if that's something that the community  
20 is willing to support because they essentially approve our  
21 budget. So that's kind of how the whole R&D process works.  
22 It's in-house, it's recommendations from in-house and testing  
23 in-house.

24 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Thank you, Chief. Appreciate  
25 that.

1 Thank you. I'm done, Chair.

2 CHAIR GINOZA: Excellent questions, Makalapua.  
3 Any other questions from commissioners?

4 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Yeah. I want an example of  
5 compensation for nonrequired training. What would that be?

6 CHIEF VENTURA: Okay. We're looking at the union  
7 interactions, and so we have required training that a  
8 firefighter needs to go through every single year to keep  
9 their job; we also have training that we offer that isn't --  
10 let's give you a clear example. If you're on a hazmat, you  
11 need to have your hazmat technician certificate. We can  
12 accomplish that in many ways. The way it's accomplished right  
13 now is you go to a two-week class, and you get your hazmat  
14 technician. So those people working on hazmat need that  
15 certificate to remain on that apparatus. If you were in Kula  
16 or Lanai and you wanted to take the class, but you're not  
17 required to have that class for your job, that is something  
18 that we as a department have been not paying people for  
19 because it's not required for their job; however, that is the  
20 issue that the union is having right now 'cause their position  
21 is that any training the department offers should be paid.  
22 And, of course, if we can build all of that into our budget --  
23 again, we'd be happy to do it -- we have to balance, as an  
24 administration, what we can afford and what the community  
25 wants to afford. But we make sure we're very selective in our

1 training. If we're gonna pay people, we make sure the right  
2 students are in the class.

3 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Thank you.

4 CHAIR GINOZA: Does that mean that -- thank you,  
5 Max. Does that mean that the consultation is still ongoing?  
6 You haven't decided what would be the final outcome for that?

7 CHIEF VENTURA: I can say there's probably gonna be  
8 more conversations. What we, for the most part, agreed upon  
9 is that if the department does offer training that we feel is  
10 gonna benefit the community, benefit the department, benefit  
11 the firefighter's safety, that it's something that we should  
12 pay for. If it's something out of that -- and you've kind of  
13 gotta be creative to find something outside of that, but if  
14 there is something that comes up that doesn't fall in line  
15 with that, then that would be something we talk to the union  
16 and say somebody's gonna offer this class, but we're not gonna  
17 pay for it, it's a volunteer class. They don't need to take  
18 it for their job, they don't need to take it for promotions,  
19 but they are able to take it if they want to. So it'll be  
20 case by case.

21 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, thank you.

22 And thank you, Max, for the question.

23 Any other questions from commissioners?

24 (No response.)

25 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, thank you,

1 Chief Fujioka and Chief Ventura.

2 Chief Lindo.

3 ASSISTANT CHIEF LINDO: Good morning, Chair. Good  
4 morning, Commissioners. Good to see you guys, as always. My  
5 report -- and I say this every time -- should be short.

6 (Laughter.)

7 ASSISTANT CHIEF LINDO: Yeah. So the first part of  
8 my report covers the major incident summaries, and you see the  
9 different fires. As we started our new fiscal year with the  
10 new Air One helicopter, one thing that did come up on that  
11 August 14th brush fire within this corridor at Hookele Street  
12 and Pulehu Road is the interaction between our fire operations  
13 and our use of the Air One helicopter and air traffic control  
14 with planes coming in. So that created a situation and our  
15 guys as well as Windward Aviation and the FAA -- or, I'm  
16 sorry, the control tower went into discussions and realized  
17 that within this corridor between Hana Highway, Hookele  
18 Street, Maui Veterans Highway, and Hansen Road could  
19 absolutely create one problem. So in order to -- and because  
20 of the requirements that -- because they're in the zone, our  
21 Air One aircraft has to communicate at all times with the  
22 tower. That created some communication issues with our  
23 personnel. So we're working on that and trying to figure out  
24 the right way to manage it, you know, short of shutting down  
25 the runway, which is absolutely a solution. But figuring out

1 there may be times, with huge aircraft coming in, that use of  
2 the Air One aircraft may not be suitable in this area, but  
3 we're working on it. There's avenues and solutions. So I  
4 just wanted to bring you guys up on that. If you ever come  
5 across a situation where there are fire impacts and the Air  
6 One aircraft, for one reason or another, cannot be used in  
7 that sense, so I just wanted to let you guys know. But the  
8 way it stands is we're gonna do everything we possibly can to  
9 make sure that we hit it fast, hit it quickly, hit it hard,  
10 yeah.

11 Also, with that, with the new Air One aircraft is  
12 creating a culture with the way we operate at brush fires.  
13 Because of the size of the bird and the amount of load that  
14 the -- the air hog that we use creates, they're not allowed to  
15 fly over highways and, you know, with cars and stuff, so that  
16 creates a situation that we've gotta change the culture in our  
17 fire department to make sure that we -- one, we may have to  
18 shut down highways in order to use the aircraft, and, two,  
19 we've gotta put what we call pumpkins in place right away. So  
20 normally how we were doing it all of these years is we send  
21 all of our resources, you know what I mean. On the back end,  
22 we're calling another crew to possibly set up a pumpkin in the  
23 air. Now we've gotta change our priorities and really put  
24 that up to the forefront so that way we minimize the impact to  
25 the community by shutting down roads. So I just wanted to

1 address that in operations.

2 On the back side, as far as the bureaus, training  
3 bureau, I mean, our recruit class continues to go on.

4 Ocean safety, probably the key things that we were  
5 able to do is we were able to remove and install lifeguard  
6 towers at Hookipa and Baldwin Beach, so that happened. Thank  
7 you, Public Works, thank you, Parks and Recreation, thank you  
8 for everyone doing their part. It was a huge undertaking, and  
9 it went pretty awesome, yeah, as far as the scope of work and  
10 getting it done in a timely fashion, so that was huge.

11 And that is all I have. You guys have any  
12 questions?

13 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Chief Lindo.

14 Any questions from commissioners?

15 (Daniel Kunkel entered the room.)

16 (No response.)

17 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, thank you,  
18 Chief Lindo.

19 Before we go to Chief Giese, I'd like to see if  
20 there's -- I saw some people joined the call, so I'd like to  
21 see if there's anybody from the public wishing to testify.

22 MR. KUNKEL: Chair Ginoza, just so you're aware, I'm  
23 Dan Kunkel, and I'm sorry I was late today. I had an  
24 unexpected problem in another remote meeting. My apologies to  
25 everyone here. But I'm here for the rest of the meeting now.

1           CHAIR GINOZA: Great. Nice to see you, Dan, and  
2 fortunately, we had Moana cover for you, so, yeah, all is  
3 good. Thank you for joining.

4           So seeing no other testifiers, we'll move on to  
5 Chief Giese, please.

6           ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: Good morning, everybody.  
7 So, as usual, I'll just expand on some of the highlights from  
8 my report, and, of course, you can ask any questions you have  
9 when I'm finished. We'll start with the fire prevention  
10 bureau. One thing that we've been working on for a while now,  
11 and we're getting to the point where it's pretty close to  
12 implementation, is adoption of a new software program related  
13 to inspection, testing, and maintenance of fire protection  
14 systems. So I'll fill you in a little bit more about that.  
15 So the codes require certain occupancies to have certain types  
16 of fire protection systems like fire alarms, sprinklers,  
17 standpipes, other kinds of suppression systems, and such.  
18 They also require that these be tested and that testing is  
19 usually done -- in fact, in our jurisdiction, it is done by  
20 private contractors. And the problem that we've had is we  
21 haven't really had a really effective, efficient system for  
22 managing all of this. We get reports in a variety of formats;  
23 we often -- there's often delays in reports. So a company may  
24 go out and find a system deficient, but the fire department  
25 doesn't find out about it for several months. It's been hard



1 to track compliance, it's been -- we've had to do just a lot  
2 of manual work for this.

3 So there's a company out there that has built a  
4 software system to help manage this, and so it's going to  
5 really help us be consistent in the way that the reports are  
6 done. They're going to be submitted electronically; the  
7 department will get automatic notices when reports are  
8 completed and when there's been violations or -- yeah,  
9 violations or just that there's, you know, maintenance that  
10 needs to be done. The system can auto-generate letters that  
11 go out to business owners, you know, informing them of, you  
12 know, what they need to do to get their systems up and running  
13 again. It's just gonna help us manage this whole process much  
14 more efficiently and effectively.

15 I think it's gonna also help us be -- you know, get  
16 these fire protection systems up and running much more  
17 consistently across the board because we're just gonna become  
18 aware of and be able to act upon deficiencies that are out  
19 there. So I think it's gonna be a win for us as a department,  
20 it's gonna be a win for the community, and the good news is,  
21 it was free for us. So, yeah, that doesn't happen too often.  
22 So we're really excited about that. It's still -- we still  
23 have things to -- you know, some work to do to actually get it  
24 implemented, but I think that's gonna be a big step forward  
25 for our fire prevention bureau.

1           We also had some personnel go to some specialized  
2 investigation training over on Oahu that was put on largely by  
3 the ATF, and one good thing that came out from that is they  
4 have a -- what's called a National Response Team and what we  
5 were informed about is if we have investigations that are  
6 especially challenging, complex, impactful, that National  
7 Response Team is at our disposal. So we can actually call in  
8 and get assistance from the ATF, and they have -- they have  
9 the -- you know, basically the top-level experts and resources  
10 for conducting investigations. So our prevention bureau is  
11 working on the process for how that's gonna work. So that's  
12 exciting as well because we certainly could use their  
13 expertise, you know, when we're presented with something  
14 that's just, you know, not routine.

15           If we go down to the health and safety bureau, I'll  
16 just talk a little bit about extractors. So we have a goal in  
17 our department of having an extractor at pretty much every  
18 fire station. An extractor is basically a heavy-duty,  
19 extra-duty washing machine that's built to clean the gunk out  
20 of our turnout gear post-fire or post like a biological  
21 exposure. So you wouldn't want to put any of that stuff in  
22 your regular washing machine where you wash your other  
23 clothes; you certainly don't want to be taking it home to  
24 wash, so we have these commercially made extractors for  
25 cleaning our gear, and it does a very good job. They're not a

1 hundred percent; nothing really is that's anything close to  
2 cost-effective right now, but they do a very good job at  
3 reducing the number of carcinogens and toxins and also, you  
4 know, basically reducing to zero the biological pathogens in  
5 our gear. So that's the background. The good news to report  
6 is we got the bids; we got contracts in the works for two more  
7 extractors; that means we're gonna have an extractor at every  
8 one of our stations except for Pukoo, and, of course, that's  
9 getting moved. Right? So this is kind of the fruition of a  
10 long-term project there, so that's good.

11 Some other really good news is that we were awarded  
12 over \$200,000 from an Assistance to Firefighters Grant through  
13 FEMA for -- it's called an NFPA 1582 physical. An NFPA 1582  
14 is just the national standard that will help dictate what sort  
15 of physical exam, the medical exams firefighters should have  
16 each year. We currently do require physicals for all of our  
17 personnel, but historically, they've been based upon the  
18 requirements for a CDL, and, you know, you can imagine a  
19 firefighter physical really ought to be more extensive than  
20 that, but, of course, very expensive. So we put in for some  
21 grant money, and we got it, and so we're really looking  
22 forward to being able to implement this. It has a fair amount  
23 of moving parts, there's lots of, you know, questions we've  
24 gotta answer to actually make this happen, but we know we can  
25 do it, and now we've got the funding to do it. So that was

1 really good news from our health and safety bureau.

2 And to our CIP or facility projects, the main things  
3 to report is there's two of these things that aren't gonna be  
4 on next year's commission -- or next month's commission report  
5 because they're done. The big apparatus shelter over just  
6 outside our station here, it is finally done. They did two  
7 mil tests for the paint, and we got that passed, so that  
8 project is complete. And the Wailuku bathroom renovation that  
9 was going on for a very, very long time, we were finally able  
10 to sign off on that as well. So more good news this month.

11 And that's the end of my report. Are there any  
12 questions?

13 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Chief Giese.

14 Any questions from commissioners for the chief?

15 COMMISSIONER GILLIS: (Gesturing.)

16 CHAIR GINOZA: Gordon, did you have a question?

17 COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Yes. Yes, I do.

18 Thank you, Chief. Just curious about how far along  
19 you are in the implementation of that new software program and  
20 how much work's gonna be required to input the existing -- I  
21 guess it would be a paper database on existing occupancies  
22 requiring annual inspections.

23 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: Yeah. So a lot of work is  
24 the answer to the question, but the company does much of that  
25 for us. So the way that -- you know, basically the way this

1 plays out is the company that runs this software tracking  
2 program will get -- gets paid by the vendors, right, so by the  
3 contractors who do the inspections. They submit a report, and  
4 there's a nominal fee; I think we've settled on I think \$13.  
5 We've got it down from the standard 15, so nominal for each  
6 business, but over time, you know, that's how they basically  
7 make their money. And so it behooves them to get this up and  
8 running as soon as possible, so they provide quite a lot of  
9 assistance for basically uploading our database of occupancies  
10 and such into their program. So there is a lot of that work  
11 to be done. We've just basically got to the point where the  
12 contract was signed, the agreement is in place, so we're kind  
13 of at the -- I guess the analogy would be the starting gun has  
14 gone off, the race is on, but we've got, you know, a few miles  
15 to go before we cross the finish line. Does that answer your  
16 question?

17 COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Yes. And a follow-up question  
18 would be: Do we have any way of currently knowing those  
19 business owners that don't utilize vendors or don't do annual  
20 inspections?

21 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: So that's one of the things  
22 this software will help us identify more readily because they  
23 all -- they will all be in the database, and we can get  
24 reports about, you know, like, who hasn't had an inspection  
25 done, who has had inspections done, who's had them done but

1 hasn't passed. Right now, it would be a -- it would take  
2 quite a bit of labor to answer that question, you know, a lot  
3 of kind of manual labor sifting through records and such. And  
4 so that's one of the benefits of this software is we can get  
5 answers to questions like that which we really would like to  
6 have now, not in, you know, three weeks after we find things  
7 that are wrong going through all the records. And so that's  
8 one of the things the software will help us do is identify  
9 where these gaps are and then help fill them.

10 COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Just a follow-up question.  
11 Have we ever notified OSHA of occupancies which are employers  
12 on inspections that are not up to date for OSHA enforcement  
13 activities?

14 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: That's a good question. I  
15 don't -- I don't want to answer definitely because I'm not  
16 sure. I don't think that that's something that we would  
17 routinely do. You know, our kuleana is the fire code, and so  
18 when our inspectors go out, what we're looking for are  
19 actionable violations of the fire code. We're not, you know,  
20 an extension of HIOSH or OSHA, you know, in terms of their  
21 enforcement activities. I would -- I would think that when  
22 our inspectors go out, if they see something that they believe  
23 is a genuine safety concern, they'll mention it, but in terms  
24 of what we do formally, it's all based on enforcement of the  
25 fire code.

1           COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Understood. Just, you know,  
2 OSHA/HIOSH has the same responsibility for annual inspections  
3 for occupancies that are workplaces, and I was just wondering  
4 if there's any connection that could be made there.

5           ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: Yeah. I don't think we --  
6 our fire prevention bureau really works closely with HIOSH in  
7 that respect.

8           COMMISSIONER GILLIS: Okay. Thank you.

9           ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: Mm-hmm.

10          CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Gordon.

11          Any other questions from commissioners for Chief  
12 Gieseae?

13          (No response.)

14          CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, thank you so  
15 much, Chief.

16          ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: You're welcome.

17          CHAIR GINOZA: Chief Ventura, would you like to  
18 introduce Captain Agdeppa, please?

19          CHIEF VENTURA: Certainly. So, Captain Agdeppa is  
20 our presenter today. He is assigned to our --

21          (Feedback.)

22          CHIEF VENTURA: He's assigned to our rescue --

23          (Feedback.)

24          CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: That was me. Sorry.

25          CHIEF VENTURA: That's okay.

1           And to give everybody an understanding of rescue,  
2 rescue covers the whole county. So their district isn't like  
3 most fire districts where it's one part of the island,  
4 rescue's responsible for Maui, Molokai, Lanai, Kahoolawe, and  
5 all the waters in between. So today, he's with us, and he'll  
6 be going over our fire ground survival program. And there's  
7 many components of it that I won't get into that he probably  
8 will, but it's basically -- this is a very, very important  
9 program that we have in our department because this is how  
10 we're gonna help our firefighters on scene if we ever get into  
11 an emergency. His crew is also responsible for, at some  
12 point, getting Commissioner Kincaid on our boat to do area  
13 familiarization with the island of Lanai and the reefs  
14 surrounding it, so that should be coming up here shortly as  
15 well.

16           Richelle is helping get that PowerPoint going right  
17 now. Without further ado, I will let them take over here.

18           (Pause for technical adjustments.)

19           CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: Good morning, everyone. Can you  
20 guys hear me?

21           CHAIR GINOZA: Yes.

22           CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: All right. Hi. Thanks for having  
23 me. I'm Roger Agdeppa, captain on Rescue 10. Been in the  
24 department for almost 30 years, February makes 30 years. I'm  
25 also the program director for our fire ground survival and



1 rapid intervention crew since 2008. And the reason why we  
2 have this program is to prevent firefighters from getting  
3 injured or having firefighter deaths on the fire ground. I'll  
4 give you about a ten-minute insight on what the program is  
5 about, and I'll do some question and answer after the  
6 PowerPoint.

7           Yeah, so some stats from on-duty firefighter deaths.  
8 Just in general, nationwide, the average firefighter deaths is  
9 about a hundred a year. The number one reason why  
10 firefighters die is heart attacks or medical, the second one  
11 is from -- two from falls or apparatus accidents, and then the  
12 third one is fire ground. 2021, there was a little bit of a  
13 spike in the fire ground deaths; it was 40 percent last year.  
14 Responding to or returning from alarms, 14 percent. Training,  
15 of course, 9 percent. Non-fire emergency could be COVID  
16 related or some kind of exposure. And other on-duty, just  
17 from reading the report, was traffic accidents or firefighters  
18 were responding to a traffic accident, and they were in the  
19 wrong place at the wrong time and got hit by another car.

20           This video -- hopefully, it plays for everybody.  
21 It's on March 14th, 2001; there was a supermarket fire in  
22 Phoenix. Phoenix Fire Department lost a firefighter and  
23 almost lost three more just trying to get that firefighter  
24 out. And this was basically put on the map as far as the  
25 firefighter nation; it was shared with everyone so everyone

1 else pretty much could learn from this, from this tragedy.

2 So I'll play it, and hopefully, it goes through, and  
3 I'll kind of talk about what happened after the video.

4 (Playing video.)

5 CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: Everyone hear that, Commission?

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Yes.

7 CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: All right. So that's the first --  
8 there's a few clips. There's a ten-minute video on that, on  
9 that fire that was shared, but I'll just show you guys a  
10 couple of clips. That was the first of two. And basically  
11 what we learned from that is communication was -- was kind of  
12 glitchy. The firefighter that went down was trying to  
13 communicate that he was in trouble for at least 30 seconds.  
14 The lesson learned there was he was off his hose line, and  
15 most of the time to get out of a burning building and to get  
16 the direction out, you just stay on your hose line, that's  
17 your birdseed, and you can get out safely.

18 Another thing that was learned is it took 12  
19 firefighters to get Firefighter Bret Tarver out. He was  
20 around 6'2" and 250 pounds, and it wasn't 12 firefighters at  
21 one time; it was three waves of four firefighters. And even  
22 then, just trying to get to him, they had three of them had  
23 heat exhaustion, and one of them almost passed away and had to  
24 go to the hospital, but he ended up living. So what happened  
25 there, real quick, it started off as a rubbish bin fire, and

1 it ended up a full-on wind-driven fire. There was lots of  
2 fuel in that supermarket, and he basically was stuck and  
3 overcome by fire. And he was fighting a fire in the  
4 meat-cutting section, so just imagine (inaudible) firefighting  
5 back there with all the stacks of meat and stuff. And he was  
6 off his line, he was temporarily off his line, and he couldn't  
7 make it out.

8 We'll move on here. This is our recent incumbent  
9 training for one of the skill stations that we teach our share  
10 with the firefighters. There's disoriented firefighter  
11 self-rescue, so similar -- we try to mimic Bret Tarver's  
12 situation where he was off the line, so all of -- most of our  
13 skill stations are a blacked-out area just simulating high  
14 heat and low visibility, but we've got a -- we set them out  
15 ten feet off the line, we have them search for their line, and  
16 once they find their line, then they just head out. And in  
17 our props here, we also try and simulate reality where there's  
18 a whole bunch of clutter in there. There's pallets, and  
19 there's furniture, and make it challenging there at the  
20 training facility, so it kind of makes them a little bit  
21 easier when he's on the fire ground.

22 This is Captain Joyo, he has 32 years in the  
23 department, and he really embraces this type of training.  
24 Same skill station, but we did throw in this middle prop here.  
25 It simulates crawling through debris or crawling from one room

1 to the other while staying on your line and manipulating your  
2 tank so you can fit through these little tunnels, and also,  
3 you still gotta stay on your line. One of the key things that  
4 we teach is air management and not to panic. It's easier said  
5 than done.

6 Another self-rescue technique that we teach the  
7 firefighter. So if they're at a two-story or three-story or  
8 more structure fire and they can't get out, you know, through  
9 the stairs or any other way except the window, each truck has  
10 five rope pillow bags, about 25 feet of small-diameter rope  
11 that they can use to rappel themselves out of a second-floor  
12 window if there's no ladder.

13 This one is a little bit easier way to bail out of a  
14 second-floor window. Just if you have enough resources on --  
15 at the structure fire, you can have another company throw up a  
16 ladder for you, and you're basically just climbing out of the  
17 window head first, and you're climbing down a ladder head  
18 first. The reason why we have them go out head first is  
19 because we don't want them on the windowsill, fire's coming  
20 out of that window, and you get exposed to the fire, so just  
21 stay low and get out.

22 The other part of our program is if you can't  
23 self-rescue, or you can't get yourself out, we also have a RIC  
24 team phase that teaches the team how to get to the downed  
25 firefighter, whether it's from the initial mayday all the way

1 to techniques of dragging and finally getting a firefighter  
2 out. So this team right here, we simulated two maydays. This  
3 team right here are making plans to go in, and once the cap  
4 has his plan, once they go in, they have to execute the plan.  
5 It takes a little bit of planning, but it works.

6 Brush fire firefighter caught mayday; they brought  
7 him out successfully. And then the other mayday firefighter  
8 found and extricated successfully. And we use manikins as our  
9 downed firefighters.

10 This last video clip here is a reality for most --  
11 for most departments. You know, if you're a chief or a  
12 captain or just a firefighter, you would never expect to be  
13 having this speech in front of the media.

14 (Playing video.)

15 CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: And that's it for my presentation.  
16 I'll take some questions.

17 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Captain Agdeppa.

18 CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: Thank you.

19 CHAIR GINOZA: That was excellent.

20 Does any commissioner have any questions? I  
21 actually cannot -- oh, okay, perfect. Does any commissioner  
22 have any questions?

23 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: I had one.

24 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Max.

25 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: I know in the PD we were

1 required to drag 185, but with the firemen, considering the  
2 equipment they have on, what would their weight be as far as  
3 having to have a dead drag pull?

4 CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: Commissioner Max, can you repeat  
5 your question? We got -- lost communications.

6 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: I know in the PD we have  
7 to -- all have to -- required to do a 185 dead drag pull,  
8 okay, but for the PD -- for the fire department, they've got  
9 all that extra equipment. I mean, how much of a weight pull  
10 do you guys -- are you looking at in that scenario?

11 CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: Our manikins vary from 160 pounds  
12 to 185, our heaviest is 205, and that's without our equipment.  
13 With our equipment, probably adding 30, 30 pounds with the  
14 SCBA pack.

15 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Okay, thank you.

16 CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: You're welcome.

17 CHAIR GINOZA: Any other questions from  
18 commissioners?

19 VICE CHAIR VARES: (Gesturing.)

20 CHAIR GINOZA: Yes, Lisa.

21 VICE CHAIR VARES: I wanted to thank Captain Agdeppa  
22 for that really moving, actually, presentation and -- and just  
23 let you know, we all really appreciate what you guys have to  
24 go through, and I certainly hope we never have to see anything  
25 like that over here. So thank you so much for that.

1           CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: Thank you.

2           CHAIR GINOZA: Any other -- any questions from  
3 commissioners?

4           COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Chief, is the PD gonna -- the  
5 fire department gonna get into that protective extrication  
6 scenarios that they're doing in Honolulu right now?

7           CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, thanks for the question,  
8 Commissioner Kincaid. We are definitely looking at the  
9 similar grant that Honolulu got, which is the Homeland  
10 Security grant, to secure that type of equipment. It's very  
11 expensive. We've also had meetings with the police chief to  
12 see if they are going to outfit their workforce with new body  
13 armor; their old body armor would still be usable for our  
14 purpose, that's a possibility to save some money. But just  
15 this morning, I did talk to him about creating that sort of  
16 integrated training between police and fire reporting to --  
17 responding to active shooter incidents. So something we're  
18 headed in that direction, it'll just take some time for us.

19           COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Okay, good. Thank you.

20           CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Max.

21           Any other questions from commissioners?

22           I had a question about is that typical that when the  
23 people go in, they go ten feet from their line?

24           CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: It's not typical at all to get off  
25 their line, but just because -- for that incident, for Bret

1 Tarver's incident, they had to -- because the fire was coming  
2 at them pretty good, they had to evacuate, and he lost his  
3 line walking to it because it was cluttered with, you know,  
4 meat and just produce and stuff. So he basically just got  
5 lost when he just -- when he got off his line.

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you.

7 Okay. I don't think we have any more questions from  
8 commissioners. Thank you, Captain Agdeppa; that was very  
9 informative.

10 CAPTAIN AGDEPPA: You're welcome.

11 CHAIR GINOZA: And before we get to the end, I'd  
12 like to ask one more time if there's anybody from the public  
13 wishing to testify on any of the items that we've had today?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, our next  
16 meeting is Thursday, October 20th, at 10:00 a.m.

17 Thank you, everyone, for your service and for your  
18 time today. It is 11:18, and I will adjourn today's fire and  
19 public safety commission meeting. Thank you, everyone. Have  
20 a great day.

21 (The proceedings were adjourned at 11:18 a.m.)

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