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Director

**ERNEST J. ROBELLO**  
Deputy Director  
Administration

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LT GOVERNOR  
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STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT**  
*Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai*  
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**JARED K. REDULLA**  
Deputy Director  
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**STATE FIRE COUNCIL (SFC)**  
**FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2025-2026 SECOND QUARTER MEETING MINUTES**

Date and Time: November 10, 2025, 1:00 p.m.

Place: Meeting held in person and via audioconferencing pursuant to HRS § 92-3.7. Remote meeting by interactive conference technology; notice; quorum. Effective: January 1, 2022

**Present:**

Kazuo Todd	SFC Chair and Fire Chief of the Hawaii County Fire Department (HCFD), Hawaii County
Dorothy Booth	SFC Vice Chair and State Fire Marshal Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) State of Hawaii
Sheldon Hao	SFC Member and Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) City and County of Honolulu
Bradford Ventura	SFC Member and Fire Chief of the Maui Department of Fire and Public Safety (MFD) Maui County
Michael Gibson	SFC Member and Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD), Kauai County
Martinez Jacobs	SFC Member and Airports Fire Chief Airports Division, Transportation Department (ARFF) State of Hawaii (came in person a little later)
Gary Lum	SFC Administrative Specialist III (AS)
Carol Suzuki	Secretary
Brenton Inouye	Deputy Attorney General Hawaiian Home Lands & Housing Division Department of Public Safety, State of Hawaii

Absent:

Michael Walker	SFC Member and Fire Protection Forester Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) State of Hawaii
Socrates Bratakos	SFC Administrative Specialist II
Michael O'Sullivan	Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette (RIPC) Administrator

Guests:

Pao-Chi Hwang	Battalion Chief, Fire Prevention Bureau, HFD
Max Lindsey Kanekawaiola	Code Specialist, Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), State of Hawaii (joined shortly after 1:00 p.m.)
Gary Honold	Regional Director, Northwest Division National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
Elizabeth Pickett	Co-Executive Director, Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization
Nani Barretto	Co-Executive Director, Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization
Laura Anderson	Peerless Pump
Phil Jamerson	Peerless Pump
Roldan Galvadores	Air Treatment Corporation Hawaii
Hanna Lesiak	(joined at 1:05 p.m.) Member of the public
Christine Reed	(joined at 1:05 p.m.) Member of the public
K. Johnson	(joined at about 2:30 p.m.) Member of the public

I. Introduction

A. Call to Order at 1:00 p.m.

B. Introduction of Attendees and Public Comments

Attendees introduced themselves; there were no public comments.

C. Approval of the SFC FY 2026 First Quarter meeting minutes

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of August 11, 2025, as written.

All members voted in favor of accepting the minutes as written; the motion was carried.

D. Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** To approve the November 10, 2025 meeting agenda.

All members voted in favor of accepting the agenda as presented; the motion was carried.

II. Old Business

A. 15<sup>th</sup> Emergency Proclamation Relating to Affordable Housing and impact to State Fire Code

AS Lum reported that the emergency proclamation continues and suspends the ability for the State Building Code Council to adopt any amendments to the building codes. However, the language does not preempt the SFC from adopting amendments to the code; therefore, the code adopted at the meeting on September 5, 2025, still stands. The two-year timer for counties to adopt the State Building Code starts whenever the Emergency Proclamation is completed. Chief Todd mentioned that on November 17, 2025, when the County Council of Hawaii hears the adoption of their code, he will recommend accepting the state code. Hawaii County has their own amendments to 2024, not tied to state building code.

B. MOA between the SFC, HFD, and DLE

The MOA is still pending signatures from the State.

C. Examination requirements for the Fire Protection Systems Certificate of Fitness (COF)

Discussed the availability of training and licensing of contractors to qualify them to inspect, test, and perform maintenance on water and non-water-based systems. Considered accepting NFPA certifications and indicating it on the SFC website. Administrative Rules signed July 2018. Deputy AG Inouye will report at the next meeting on the need to amend the Administrative Rules.

D. *Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment & Mitigation for the Fire Service class*

The class was informative and insightful. Resiliency and recovery were discussed; overall good class.

III. New Business

A. *Ensuring Wildfire Readiness in Hawai'i* project by the Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization (HWMO) contracted to do this work, project managers by training. HWMO has been around for 25 years, a nonprofit leading Hawaii wildfire education and information.

Guest Pickett presented a Unified Action Planning to Ensure Wildfire Readiness in Hawaii slide show. The plan addresses top ten State priorities from the Fire Safety Research Institute (FSRI) analysis of the 2023 Maui fires through a coordinated State action-planning and knowledge-building effort. Prepared by the HWMO for State Contract OAG-2025-01 for the Hawaii State Fire Council meeting. It's been ten months since the inception of the project. The project launched with State cabinet departments since

August 18, 2025. Pickett has been providing project updates to key stakeholders, i.e., county departments, University of Hawaii, Public Utilities Commission, etc. All stakeholders understand roles in a unified action plan for prevention mitigation and ensure wildfire readiness. Ms. Pickett shared the structured project flow to accomplish the ten priorities. There are three staff working on the project for the next two years. Two deliverables: 1) Knowledge building, and 2) Identifying system-wide interdependencies. The HWMO plans to present webinars in January to June 2026 on knowledge building and best practices, with the final draft of the wildfire action plan by February 2026. The Office of Safe Fire Management (OSFM) will provide the follow up leadership to ensure long-term continued progress on action plan. Eventually the State Fire Marshal's office will inherit the project of coordinating with stakeholders on wildfire management.

The meeting took a 10-minute break and resumed at 2:15 p.m.

#### B. NFPA Update

Honold will be island hopping in January 2026 to provide four-hour post adoption training on NFPA 1, 2024 Edition.

An AI (named Cassie) component has been added to the NFPA link to assist in researching standards. Cassie and go live on January 2, 2026, and will be available to all subscribers.

NFPA is running an ad campaign to educate the general public on standard development organizations. House Bill HR 4072 Pro Codes Act, is proposed to protect standard development organizations. Honold requests that fire chiefs and fire organizations support the bill protecting the assault on safety by writing testimony to your representative in the House and Senate.

NFPA 800, life cycle of battery technology standard first draft report will be available to read at the beginning of next year at "NFPA.org/800." NFPA invites public input to the report.

Urban Fire Forum met in September and released five position papers: 1) Combating the assault on codes and fire standards, 2) Fire leadership tool kit, 3) National fire apparatus specifications, 4) Support for advancing national fire emergency services through strategic leadership and unified advocacy, and 5) Statement in support of reauthorization of first net for emergency responders, (6) Confronting the risk of wildfire initiated urban calibrations.

#### C. Bill Proposals for the 2026 Legislative Session

No proposals received by AS Lum; he will resubmit past proposals for legislators to reconsider.

Overturning the State prohibition requiring new construction fire sprinklers.

#### D. Act 302 Requirements

1. The fire chief of each county shall generate compilations and statistical investigations on an annual basis.

On January 1 of each year, the fire chief of each county shall transmit records and statistical investigations to the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). On January 1 of each alternating year, the fire chief of each county shall transmit the inspection records of property that may constitute a fire hazard within their county compiled pursuant to subsection (b)(2) to the OSFM.

2. A county fire chief may request the OSFM to assist with the investigation of a fire as provided in section 132-C.
  3. Counties will continue to inspect public schools until the OSFM is able to hire fire inspectors to conduct fire and safety inspections at all state facilities at least once a year.
  4. Will inform the SBCC once they resume meeting, what codes have been adopted by the counties.
- E. Certificate of Fitness (COF) requirements to sell fireworks. (tests handling and display aspect)

AS Lum brought a question to the attention of the SFC regarding retailers who sell firecrackers. In the COF requirements under A, HIOSH says no one shall possess or store explosives...without first attending a COF (COF deals with the handling and display aspect of fireworks). Do retail outlets need a COF? Does each individual at retail need a COF to sell firecrackers? Chair Todd asked, "Do people who sell ammunition have a COF?"

AS Lum will send the link of the HIOSH to all SFC members and AG's office. Chief Hwang explained that each location needs to apply for a permit to sell fireworks. When company applies for licensure, HFD follows state guidelines by asking if they have an ATF license if they plan to store fireworks, and if you are handling fireworks, do you have a COF. HFD verifies that they have proper COF and licensure with ATF, and they do fire code inspection(s) at the location(s) to verify. Once verified, HFD issues them a permit (license) when company has met the State requirements.

#### IV. Discussion of Next Quarterly Meeting

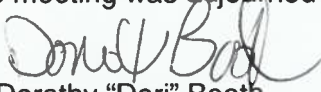
January 20 & 21 or January 21 & 22, 2026 to coordinate legislature opening and reconnect with legislators.

At 3:11 p.m. a five-minute recess was taken to check calendars and confirm if Jan. 22 is a viable meeting date. At 3:16 p.m. the meeting resumed.

The next SFC meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at HFD.

#### V. Adjournment

Hearing no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m. by Chair Todd.

  
Dorothy "Dori" Booth  
Acting Chair