

Honolulu Emergency Services Department

Ho 'opakele i ke ola
(To Preserve Life)





Honolulu Emergency Services Department

CHAPTER 6

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Section 6-603. Powers, Duties and Functions --

The director of emergency services shall:

(a) As to medical services:

- (1) Be the primary provider of emergency medical care;
- (2) Develop programs and provide training and educational programs related to emergency medical services and injury prevention;



July 29, 2015



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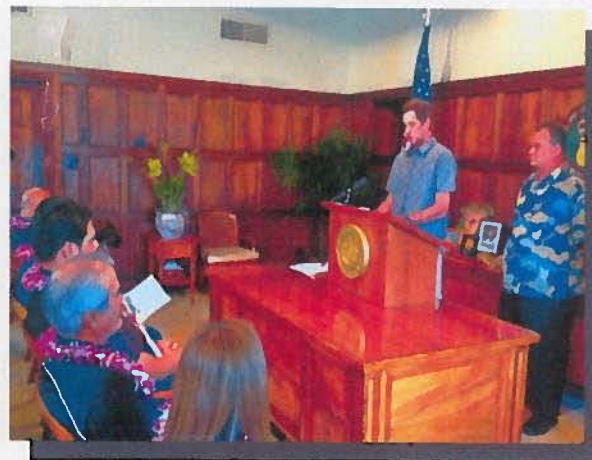
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Section 6-603. Powers, Duties and Functions – Continued

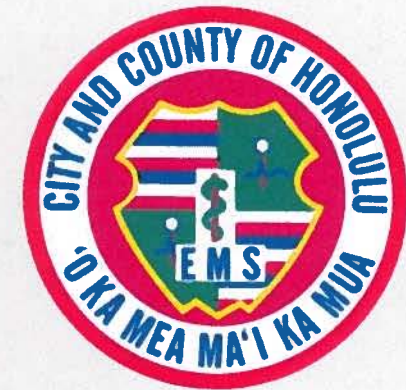
- (3) Be responsible for medical matters relating to public health and welfare.
- (4) Be responsible for the administration of the city's health services programs and medical evaluations of current and prospective city employees.



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DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Section 6-603. Powers, Duties and Functions – Continued

(b) As to ocean safety:

- (1) Be the primary responder to emergencies arising on the beach and in the near shore waters;
- (2) Be responsible for ocean safety training, educational, and risk reduction programs relating to ocean safety.

(c) Perform such duties as may be required by law.

(1992 General Election Charter Amendment Question No. 16; 1998 Reorganization; 2006 General Election Charter Amendment Question No. 10; 2012 Reorganization)





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HESD ADMIN POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS

The Honolulu Emergency Services Department (HESD) is comprised of the Emergency Medical Services Division (EMS), Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services Division, and the Health Services Branch. The department is responsible for the efficient, effective, and economical operation of the pre-hospital emergency medical care and advanced life support emergency ambulance service on Oahu; a comprehensive ocean safety program, to include lifeguard services such as patrol and rescue activities, and emergency response to medical cases on the beach and near shore waters; injury prevention, public education, disaster planning activities in coordination with other local, state, federal, and private organizations; and physical and medical evaluations for personnel as required for their positions or maintenance of licensure or physical standards.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS

The State Department of Health (SDOH) contracts with the city to provide emergency medical services on Oahu. There are a total of 20 ambulance units. All are Advanced Life Support ambulances and the Rapid Response Units are staffed with one Mobile Emergency Care Specialist (paramedic). A paramedic is trained and authorized to perform invasive techniques under medical supervision and standing orders. In addition to the field ambulance units, the EMS Division has five support elements: Communications, Specialty Services, Equipment, Supplies, and Vehicle Maintenance. HESD provides training for outside emergency providers.



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OCEAN SAFETY AND LIFEGUARD SERVICES DIVISION POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS

The Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services Division runs a comprehensive operation along the 198 miles of Oahu's coastline. The services performed by city lifeguards includes ocean rescues, emergency medical treatment, mobile patrol and response, and educational/prevention strategies directed toward the 18 million beach users on Oahu every year.

HEALTH SERVICES BRANCH POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS

Health Services performs pre-employment screening and physical examinations for prospective city employees. Periodic physical examinations are also conducted specific to job requirements, with special attention given to providing health promotion and disease prevention counseling to city employees. Department of Transportation (DOT) medical certification is provided to the city's commercial drivers and operators of crane and hoist equipment. Examinations are mandated under the Hawaii Occupations Safety and Health (HIOSH) regulations and are conducted to support departmental hearing conservation, respiratory protection, and blood borne pathogen programs.

Health Services provides a critical service in administering the city's various controlled substance testing policies, in particular the city's pre-employment drug screening policy. Medical Review Officer (MRO) assessment is provided for pre-employment testing for the Honolulu Police Department's and the Honolulu Fire Department's random testing. The MRO also assesses urine drug screens of candidates of the Department of Parks and Recreation's Summer Fun Program.



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