



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

New Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 586-4410
Fax: (808) 586-4444

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FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORK INJURIES DECREASE BY 26%

HONOLULU - According to the Hawaii State Department of Health's Injury Prevention and Control Program, 17 people were treated at Hawaii emergency departments for fireworks-related injuries that occurred during this year's 4th of July.

The 17 injuries this 4th of July period is the lowest total since the 2003 July 4 period. The current total is 26% lower than the 23 injuries documented in July 2006, and 3 times less than the total of 57 in July 2005. Thirty-two injuries were reported in 2004 and 17 injuries were reported in 2003.

All patients were taken to the hospital via private transport and all who were treated were discharged. Almost all (16) of the patients were injured on Oahu. There was one injury on the island of Hawaii, and none reported from Kauai or Maui counties.

As per previous years, most (81%) of the patients were under 18 years of age, including 6 who were less than 10 years of age. All of the injuries were burns, with hands and fingers (88%) being the most commonly injured areas. About half (7, or 41%) of the injuries occurred on July 4, between 8:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.

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For information contact:
Janice Okubo
Communications Office
(808) 586-4442