

FEDERAL AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS

The following departments and agencies of the federal government have offices in Hawaii. The services they provide are outlined below.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usdahome>

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, in cooperation with state governments, administers federal laws and regulations pertaining to animal and plant health and quarantine, the humane treatment of animals, and the control and eradication of pests and diseases. Regulations to prevent the introduction or interstate spread of certain animal or plant pests or diseases are also enforced by the Service. It also carries out research and operational activities to reduce crop and livestock deprecations caused by birds, rodents, and predators.

Farm Service Agency

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) serves to stabilize farm income, help farmers conserve land and water resources, provide credit to new or disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and help farm operations recover from the effects of disasters.

FSA was established when the Department of Agriculture was reorganized in 1994, incorporating programs from several agencies, including the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (now a separate risk management agency), and the Farmers Home Administration.

Food and Nutrition Service

The Food and Nutrition Service administers the Food Stamp Program. In administering the Food Stamp Program, the Service assists state and county governments, wholesale and retail food distributors, the general public, and others involved with the Program. In addition, the Food and Nutrition Service in Hawaii administers the School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, Child/Adult Care Food Program, Food Distribution Program, Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children, and the Emergency Food Assistance Program.

Food Safety and Inspection Service

The Food Safety and Inspection Service is responsible for regulating the meat and poultry industries to ensure that meat and poultry products moving in interstate and foreign commerce are safe, wholesome, and accurately labeled. The Service also conducts surveillance of foreign inspection systems exporting meat or poultry products to the United States.

Forest Service, Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry

The Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry conducts research on forests and assists managers of natural resources in Hawaii and other islands of the Pacific Basin. Programs include restoration of ecosystem processes, control of non-indigenous plant species, ecology of forested wetlands, and forest management services.

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service

The Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service, a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, administers programs to collect and publish statistics related to farm production level agriculture, and other related statistics.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly the Soil Conservation Service, is focused on conservation and management of natural resources primarily on private lands. The assistance of the Service in Hawaii is provided through sixteen locally organized Soil and Water Conservation Districts, local sponsors of small watershed projects, four Resource Conservation and Development Councils, and direct consultation with other individuals and groups.

NRCS conducts a Natural Resources Inventory every five years to assess conditions and trends of the land, especially regarding soil erosion. Additional resource assessments are also conducted, usually in conjunction with others. NRCS is also responsible for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Forestry Incentives Program, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, Wetlands Reserve Program, Farmland Protection Program, and the Grazing Land Initiative. In the area of water resources, the Service is responsible for the Watershed Protection and Flood Control Act and the Emergency Watershed Protection Program.

Rural Development

Created in 1994 as part of the restructuring of the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development represents the merger of the Farmers Home Administration, Rural Development

Administration, and the Rural Electrification Administration. Financial assistance programs are administered by three agencies under the Rural Development mission area:

Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS): Provides business programs that help fund projects that create or preserve jobs or promote a clean rural environment. RBS also provides technical assistance services for newly created and existing cooperative businesses. The Business and Industrial Guaranteed Loan Program provides rural businesses with access to loans for business expansion or start-up.

Rural Housing Service (RHS): Provides single-family and multiple-housing assistance to moderate- or low-income families in rural areas. RHS also administers a Community Facilities Program to build or improve public facilities such as hospitals, health clinics, fire and police stations, community centers, libraries, and other essential community facilities.

Rural Utilities Service (RUS): Provides financial assistance for electric energy, water, and waste disposal projects, and telecommunications. The Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program provides for the installation or improvement of community water systems, sewer systems, and solid waste disposal systems serving rural areas.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<http://www.commerce.gov/>

Economic Development Administration

The mission of the Economic Development Administration is to create and retain jobs; stimulate industrial, technological, and commercial growth in economically distressed areas; and to assist communities in creating projects that economically grow the community in areas both urban and rural -- areas experiencing high unemployment, low per capita income, and other signs of economic distress. Grants are available to state and local governments; public and private nonprofit organizations in cooperation with local governments; public and private universities; community-based nonprofit organizations in cooperation with local governments; and business groups with trade adjustment issues.

International Trade Administration

The activities of the International Trade Administration are intended to promote progressive business practices and world trade, strengthen the international trade and investment position of the United States, actively support a vital private economic sector, and assist in adapting to changes within the American economic system. To achieve its goals, the Administration engages in export development, East-West trade, trade regulation, international economic policy, research and development, and domestic business development.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is the nation's premier earth science agency. NOAA's mission is to describe and predict changes in the earth's environment and to conserve and manage the nation's coastal and marine resources. The agency comprises six major organizations: (1) National Weather Service, (2) National Marine Fisheries Service, (3) National Ocean Service, (4) National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, (5) Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, and (6) Office of Marine and Aviation Operations.

Among NOAA programs in Hawaii are the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, and Mauna Loa Observatory on the Big Island.

National Weather Service. The National Weather Service (NWS) provides weather, water, and climate warnings, forecasts, and data for the United States, its territories, adjacent waters, and ocean areas. The NWS Pacific Region Headquarters in Honolulu includes the Honolulu Weather Forecast Office, Central Pacific Hurricane Center (collocated with the Honolulu Weather Forecast Office), Pacific Tsunami Warning Center at Ewa Beach, Oahu, and International Tsunami Information Center, collocated with the Pacific Region Headquarters.

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council

The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council is the policy-making organization for the management of fisheries in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) around American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, the Northern Mariana Islands, and other U.S. possessions in the Pacific, an area of nearly 1.5 million square miles. The Western Pacific Council is one of eight regional fishery management councils established to prevent overfishing, minimize bycatch, and protect fish stocks and habitat. Council decisions are based on the best available scientific information provided largely by the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center and the Pelagic Fisheries Research Program, at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, and are transmitted to the Secretary of Commerce for approval.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

<http://www.defenselink.mil/>

U.S. Pacific Command

Vision: A joint command directing and coordinating the employment of U.S. Forces in peace, crisis, or war to advance U.S. interests as an active player, partner, and beneficiary in pursuit of a secure, prosperous, and democratic Asia-Pacific community.

Mission: Ready today and preparing for tomorrow, the U.S. Pacific Command enhances security and promotes peaceful development in the Asia-Pacific region by deterring aggression, responding to crisis, and fighting to win.

Overview: The U.S. Pacific Command is the oldest and geographically largest unified command. Its area of responsibility encompasses forty-three countries, nearly sixty percent of the world's population, supports five of seven worldwide U.S. mutual defense treaties, contains six of the world's largest armies, and is the source of about one-third of U.S. trade.

U.S. Pacific Command forces consist of 300,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and civilian employees stretching from the West Coast of the mainland U.S. to the eastern shores of Africa, and from the Arctic to the Antarctic. Our forces represent about twenty percent of all U.S. active duty military with approximately 100,000 forces forward deployed.

U.S. Pacific Command consists of:

- Four subordinate unified commands: U.S. Forces Japan; U.S. Forces Korea; Alaskan Command; and Special Operations Command, Pacific.
- Four component commands: U.S. Army Pacific, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Pacific Air Forces, and Marine Forces Pacific.
- Three direct reporting units: Center of Excellence in Disaster Management, Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, and Joint Intelligence Center Pacific.
- Three standing Joint Task Forces: Joint Task Force-Full Accounting, Joint Interagency Task Force West, and Joint Task Force 510.

Pacific Fleet

The U.S. Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) is the world's largest naval command. It includes nearly half of the U.S. Navy's total strength. The fleet is active in the Arctic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans. PACFLT is responsible for the protection of sea lanes that link the United States with Asian and Pacific nations and trading partners, and supports allied forces ashore.

PACFLT coordinates Navy support activities ashore through regional coordinators. Western Pacific regional coordinators command U.S. Navy shore activities in Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Guam. The remaining regional coordinators command U.S. Navy shore activities in San Diego, Seattle, and Pearl Harbor.

Marine Forces Pacific

The single largest U.S. Marine Corps command is designated as both Marine Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC) and Fleet Marine Force, Pacific (FMFPAC). Headquartered at Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii, MARFORPAC consists of two-thirds of the total operational forces of the Marine Corps. MARFORPAC is comprised of two of the Corps' three Marine Expeditionary

Forces (MEFs), each of which has a division, an aircraft wing, a force service support group, and a command element.

U.S. Army Pacific

The U.S. Army, Pacific (USARPAC), is the Army Service Component Command (ASCC) headquarters for the United States Pacific Command. USARPAC's mission is to provide United States Commander in Chief, Pacific (USCINCPAC), trained and ready forces in support of security operations, from theater security cooperation to war fighting, to promote regional stability, and ensure successful crisis response or decisive victory. Commander, USARPAC, commands active and Army reserve units in Alaska, American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, and Japan. He is responsible for the mobilization readiness of Army National Guard units in Alaska, Guam, and Hawaii. As a Major Army Command (MACOM), USARPAC provides installation support to the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii; U.S. Army, Alaska; and U.S. Army, Japan; and to agencies of the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense, and other government agencies that depend on the U.S. Army for support.

Pacific Air Forces

Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) is the Air Force component of the U.S. Pacific Command. PACAF's mission is to plan, conduct, and coordinate offensive and defensive air operations within the U.S. Pacific Command. Its four numbered air forces operate in Japan, the Republic of Korea, Alaska, and Guam.

National Guard Bureau

The National Guard Bureau oversees, on behalf of the Departments of the Army and Air Force, the formulation, development, and coordination of all programs, policies, concepts, and plans pertaining to the Army and Air National Guards of the United States. The primary presence of the National Guard Bureau in Hawaii is through the United States Property and Fiscal Office, which among other functions: (1) receives and accounts for all funds and property of the United States possessed by the Hawaii National Guard; (2) ensures that federal funds are obligated and expended in conformance with applicable statutes and regulations; (3) ensures that federal property is maintained and utilized in accordance with National Guard Bureau directives; (4) manages the federal logistics systems for Hawaii; and (5) provides the support necessary for the transition of mobilized units to active duty status.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

<http://www.energy.gov/>

The Department of Energy promotes consumer interests, encourages competition in the energy industries, and protects the nation's environment and the health and safety of its citizens. The activities of the Department include: research, development, and demonstration of energy technology; marketing federal power; energy conservation; the nuclear weapons program; regulating energy production and use; pricing and allocation; and a central energy data collection and analysis program.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

<http://www.os.dhhs.gov/>

Administration for Children and Families

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) has programmatic, financial management, coordination, and oversight responsibilities for a broad range of programs that promote and enhance the economic and social well-being of children, families, individuals, and communities. The agency provides policy guidance and technical assistance to state, territory, county, city, and tribal governments and community-based organizations responsible for administering these programs. The agency also monitors and evaluates performance and financial operations to ensure consistent and uniform adherence to federal requirements for these same entities.

ACF has responsibility for administering the following programs: adoption assistance; Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); child abuse and neglect; child care; child support enforcement; child welfare services; developmental disabilities; foster care; Head Start; Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Training (JOBS); and runaway and homeless youth.

Food and Drug Administration

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is responsible for protecting the health of the nation's people against impure and unsafe foods, drugs, and cosmetics, and other potential hazards. It assures the compliance of manufacturers with labeling standards and evaluates the sanitation conditions of manufacturers to assure that products are manufactured under established standards. In addition, it is responsible for ensuring that interstate commercial carriers provide their passengers with safe drinking water, food, and sanitary facilities. FDA develops workshops on problems that are inherent in particular manufacturing processes and participates in meetings to distribute information on issues and policies. It is also concerned with radiological health, veterinary medicine, medical devices, and toxicological research.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services administers the Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance programs, and is responsible for the health care delivery of these programs.

Public Health Service Quarantine

The Public Health Service Quarantine's mission is to prevent the importation and spread of communicable disease from foreign areas. This involves the inspection of persons, biologicals, insects, and animals that may be vectors of human diseases.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/homeland/index.html>

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Created in March 2003, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative branch of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The agency was created after 9/11, by combining the law enforcement arms of the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and the former U.S. Customs Service, to more effectively enforce immigration and customs laws and to protect the United States against terrorist attacks. ICE does this by targeting illegal immigrants: the people, money and materials that support terrorism and other criminal activities. ICE is a key component of the DHS "layered defense" approach to protecting the nation.

United States Coast Guard, Fourteenth District

The United States Coast Guard's Fourteenth District commands 29 operational units ashore and afloat throughout the Pacific Ocean which regularly perform missions in maritime safety, maritime mobility, protection of natural resources, maritime security, homeland security, and national defense. The Fourteenth District's search and rescue area of responsibility covers nearly 12.2 million square miles of the Central Pacific Ocean, an area more than two and a half times larger than the continental United States. The Fourteenth Coast Guard District ensures the safety and full economic availability of Hawaii's ports, regulates access to vessels and waterfront facilities, enforces laws governing the security of ports and anchorages, and supervises the handling of dangerous cargo. The Fourteenth Coast Guard District's preventive programs for commercial vessel safety minimize loss of life, property damage, and personal injuries sustained in commercial, scientific, or exploratory activity in the marine environment.

The Fourteenth Coast Guard District also enforces federal laws on the high seas and navigable waters of the U.S. and its possessions, including illegal alien and drug interdiction, and protection of living marine resources. It maintains aids to navigation such as buoys and harbor

entrance day boards. It manages a maritime environmental protection program aimed at preventing, detecting, and controlling pollution on Hawaii's navigable waters and also administers a boating safety program (through the direction of the Coast Guard Auxiliary) aimed at making the operation of small craft pleasurable and safe. Additionally, the Coast Guard Auxiliary assists the Fourteenth District in many missions and provides extensive boating safety educational courses for the boating public.

The Fourteenth District Commander is also the Coast Guard Pacific Area's Deputy Commander for East Asia-Pacific Engagement and fosters working relationships and partnerships with similar sea-going services of other Pacific Rim countries (such as Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, China and Japan). A Coast Guard admiral also serves as Director, Joint Interagency Task Force West, the U.S. Pacific Command's executive agent for planning and conducting counter-drug strategy in an area of operations covering more than 105 million square miles. There are approximately 1,500 active duty Coast Guardsmen in the Fourteenth District. The Fourteenth Coast Guard District stands always ready to fulfill its role in our nation's defense system.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

<http://www.hud.gov/>

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the federal agency responsible for national policy and programs to address America's housing needs, to improve and develop the nation's communities, and for enforcing fair housing laws. It provides housing assistance for the poor, resources to communities to spur housing and economic development, and plays a major role in supporting homeownership by underwriting homeownership for lower- and moderate-income families through its FHA mortgage insurance program. Through both competitive and noncompetitive formula-based programs, HUD supports the needs of a variety of constituencies, such as housing opportunities for persons with AIDS, persons with disabilities, and the elderly.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

<http://www.doi.gov/>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Pacific Islands

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 96-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System--the world's largest and most diverse collection of lands set aside specifically for wildlife--which encompasses 547 national wildlife refuges, including 19 refuges in the Pacific Islands. The Service also serves as co-trustee of the new Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

The Agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitats such as wetlands, and helps foreign and Native American tribal governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Assistance program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

The Pacific Islands area from Midway Atoll in the north to American Samoa in the south includes all of the insular areas under U.S. jurisdiction in the Pacific Ocean.

Geological Survey, Water Resources Discipline

The Water Resources Discipline (WRD) of the United States Geological Survey is responsible for determining and evaluating the quantity, quality, and distribution of water resources in Hawaii and the territories in the Pacific. Included in WRD activities are the systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of hydrologic and geologic data; evaluating water resources by areas or by problem; conducting basic and applied hydrologic research; and preparing the results of investigations for publication. WRD investigations are conducted in cooperation with state, county, and territorial agencies. In addition, WRD provides scientific and technological assistance to other federal agencies involved with water problems.

National Park Service

The Pacific Islands System Support Office of the National Park Service administers in Hawaii the operations and development of two national parks (Hawaii Volcanoes and Haleakala), three national historic parks (Pu'uuhonua O Honaunau, Kaloko-Honokohau, and Kalaupapa), one national historic site (Pu'ukohola Heiau), and the Arizona Memorial.

In addition to the seven units of the National Park System in Hawaii, the Office also administers the National Park of American Samoa, the War in the Pacific National Historical Park in Guam, and the American Memorial Park in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

<http://www.usdoj.gov/>

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) enforces and administers federal laws relating to firearms, explosives, alcoholic beverages, and tobacco products. ATF collects revenues due from the alcohol and tobacco industries; discovers and eliminates illegal firearms and explosives; and suppresses illegal alcohol traffic.

Drug Enforcement Administration

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) enforces federal drug trafficking laws and brings to the criminal and civil justice systems those organizations, and their principal members, involved in controlled substances; and supports non-enforcement programs aimed at reducing the availability of illicit controlled substances on the domestic and international markets.

The major functions of DEA include: acting as the lead agency responsible for the development of overall federal drug enforcement strategy, programs, planning, and evaluation; managing a national narcotics intelligence system in cooperation with federal, state, and foreign officials; seizing assets related to illicit drug trafficking; and maintaining liaison with the United Nations, INTERPOL, and other organizations on matters relating to international narcotics control programs. DEA is responsible for programs associated with drug law enforcement counterparts in foreign countries under the policy guidance of the Secretary of State and U.S. ambassadors.

Executive Office for Immigration Review

The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) was created on January 9, 1983, through an internal Department of Justice (DOJ) reorganization which combined the Board of Immigration Appeals with the Immigration Judge function previously performed by the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) (now part of the Department of Homeland Security). Besides establishing EOIR as a separate agency within DOJ, this reorganization made the Immigration Courts independent of INS, the agency charged with enforcement of federal immigration laws. The Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer was added in 1987.

EOIR is also separate from the Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices in the DOJ Civil Rights Division and the Office of Immigration Litigation in the DOJ Civil Division.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Since its inception in 1908 under the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has been the principal investigative agency for the U.S. Government. The FBI's investigative responsibilities cover both violations of federal criminal laws and matters involving U.S. national security. Currently, the FBI is responsible for more than 500 different federal criminal violations including, but not limited to, trafficking in illegal drugs, racketeering/organized crimes, white-collar crimes, cybercrimes, crimes against children, and violent crimes.

The FBI is the lead counter-intelligence agency in the U.S. and is responsible for threats to U.S. national security interests. The top threats to national security interests include, but are not limited to, terrorism, espionage, economic espionage, targeting of information infrastructure, and foreign intelligence gathering. Pursuant to Presidential Decision Directive 39 (PDD-39), the

FBI is the lead federal law enforcement agency in counterterrorism investigations and has primary crisis management responsibilities for acts of terrorism occurring in the U.S., its territories, and whenever U.S. interests and/or citizens are targeted abroad.

The FBI provides a variety of services to domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies including, but not limited to, laboratory/forensic examinations, psychological profiling, and police training. The FBI National Academy also provides leadership/management training to domestic and foreign police officials.

United States Attorney's Office

The United States Attorney serves as the local representative of the Attorney General of the United States. It is the duty of the United States Attorney to prosecute for all offenses against the United States, and all civil actions in which the United States is concerned.

Bureau of Prisons

The Bureau of Prisons protects society by confining offenders in the controlled environments of prisons and community-based facilities that are safe, humane, cost-efficient, and appropriately secure, and that provide work and other self-improvement opportunities to assist offenders in becoming law-abiding citizens.

Federal Detention Center. The Federal Detention Center (FDC) in Honolulu is an administrative facility housing male and female inmates. The 12-story center, designed to hold 670 inmates, opened in July 2001. Inmates include defendants awaiting trial in U.S. District Court in Hawaii and sentenced inmates from Hawaii who have nearly completed their prison terms in federal facilities on the mainland. The FDC is located adjacent to Honolulu International Airport.

United States Marshals Service

The United States Marshals Service is responsible for a variety of administrative and law enforcement duties that facilitate the administration of the federal judicial process in Hawaii. The responsibilities of the Service include the preservation of order in the federal courts; execution of all lawful writs, processes, and orders that are issued under authority of the courts; transportation and commitment of federal prisoners; and protection of witnesses to organized crime. The United States Marshals Service also performs special assignments at the direction of the Attorney General of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

<http://www.dol.gov/>

Employment Standards Administration

Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs. The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) promotes federal contractors' compliance with equal employment opportunity laws during the performance of their federal contracts. Through Executive Order 11246, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, OFCCP enforces equal opportunity standards for all individuals, including women, minorities, Vietnam era veterans, and persons with disabilities.

OFCCP serves a wide variety of constituents, working in collaboration with corporations and community liaison groups, providing an array of products and services, and ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Office of Workers' Compensation Programs. The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is responsible for the administration of the three basic federal workers' compensation laws: the Federal Employees Compensation Act, which provides workers' compensation for federal employees and others; the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act and its various extensions, which provide benefits to employees in private enterprise while engaged in maritime employment on navigable waters in the United States, as well as employees of certain government contractors and to private employers in the District of Columbia; and the Black Lung Benefits Act.

Wage and Hour Division. The Wage and Hour Division is responsible for administering programs designed to increase and protect low-wage incomes; safeguard the health and welfare of workers by regulating overtime provisions; prevent curtailment of employment and earnings for students, trainees, and handicapped workers; minimize the loss of income and employment rights due to indebtedness; and direct a program of farm labor contractor registration for the protection of migrant laborers. The Division predetermines the prevailing wage rates for federal construction contracts and programs.

Employment and Training Administration

The Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training is concerned with the welfare of apprentices and the formulation of apprenticeship programs through the provision of assistance, technical information, and training to sponsors.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration develops and promulgates occupational safety and health standards and regulations; conducts investigations and inspections

to determine compliance with standards and regulations; and issues citations and proposes penalties for noncompliance.

Office of Labor-Management Standards

The Office of Labor-Management Standards administers those provisions of federal laws which affect labor organizations representing employees in private industry and most federal agencies subject to similar standards of conduct. These provisions regulate certain internal union procedures and protect the rights of members in approximately 36,000 unions and govern the handling of union funds; the reporting and disclosure of certain financial transactions and administrative practices of unions, union officers and employees, surety companies, employers, and labor relations consultants; the election of union officers; the imposition and administration of trusteeships; and other related matters.

Veterans Employment and Training Service

The Veterans Employment and Training Service is responsible for assuring that the policies of the Secretary of Labor and the United States Employment Service are carried out by the local public employment service offices. The Service provides job placement, training, and counseling activities directly and through affiliated state employment services.

The Service also enforces the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act and ensures that members of the uniformed services do not lose their jobs and other employment benefits because of military service.

The Service is responsible for the Transition Assistance Program which provides information and assistance to members of the Armed Forces who are within 180 days of separation, their spouses, and Department of Defense civilians, with the aim of providing skills which will decrease the period of unemployment and the information to make a suitable educational or career choice.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

<http://www.state.gov/>

Honolulu Passport Agency

The Passport Agency is responsible for the issuance of U.S. passports and for providing information on other related services to U.S. citizens and nationals for the purposes of travelling abroad. Tourist and military dependent applications, amendments, and additions of visa pages are handled locally. Applications for official and diplomatic passports are accepted locally and then forwarded to Washington, D.C., for issuance. The Agency also provides extensive information on foreign visa requirements for U.S. citizens, and consular information sheets and travel warnings to all customers.

Diplomatic Security Service

The Diplomatic Security Service is the security and law enforcement arm of the Department of State dedicated to providing a safe and secure environment for the conduct of U.S. foreign policy. Responsibilities of the Honolulu Resident Office include investigating passport and visa fraud, providing protection for high ranking foreign dignitaries, protective liaison with foreign consulates, and liaison with the local, state, and federal law enforcement community in Hawaii and the U.S. territories in the Pacific.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

<http://www.dot.gov/>

Federal Aviation Administration

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is responsible for the promotion, regulation, and safety of civil aviation, and for the safe and efficient use of airspace by the military and civilians within a geographical area of approximately 24.7 million square miles. In addition, the FAA enforces air safety regulations; certifies pilots and airports; issues and enforces standards relating to the manufacture, operation, and maintenance of aircraft; provides guidance to public sponsors in developing, improving, and maintaining airports; and maintains air navigational aids.

Federal Highway Administration

The Federal Highway Administration is concerned with highway transportation and facilities. Its duties include the administration of federal-aid highway programs of financial assistance to the states for highway construction; the development and administration of highway safety programs; the administration of the transportation enhancement program; the promotion of new technologies; provisions for intermodal planning and connections; provisions for relocation assistance to persons displaced by highway construction; and encouragement of the joint use and development of highway corridors.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

The primary mission of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is to prevent commercial motor vehicle-related fatalities and injuries. The agency's goal is to reduce commercial truck-related fatalities fifty percent by 2010. It provides technical assistance and education on commercial motor vehicle safety and hazardous material regulations to interstate motor carriers, highway hazardous material shippers, and state and local law enforcement agencies. The FMCSA conducts regulatory compliance reviews of commercial entities that operate trucks or buses in interstate commerce, commercial hazardous material shippers and carriers, and all entities that employ drivers who are subject to federal drug and alcohol testing requirements.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

<http://www.treasury.gov/>

Internal Revenue Service

The mission of the Internal Revenue Service is to provide America's taxpayers top quality service by helping them understand and meet their tax responsibilities and by applying the tax law with integrity and fairness to all.

Secret Service

The Secret Service has investigative responsibility for detecting and arresting persons engaged in: the counterfeiting, forgery, or alteration of currency and other obligations of the U.S. and foreign governments; fraud involving credit and debit cards; telecommunication and computer crimes; the manufacture and possession of false identification; fraudulent government and commercial securities; and electronic funds transfer fraud.

The Secret Service also provides protection to the President and the Vice President or the next officer in succession to the presidency and their immediate families, the President-elect, the Vice President-elect, major presidential and vice-presidential candidates, any former President and spouse, any widow or minor child of a former President, and any visiting head of a foreign state or government.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

<http://www.va.gov/>

The Honolulu Regional Office of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is responsible for delivering non-medical VA benefits and services to 113,858 veterans and their families. This is accomplished through the administration of comprehensive and diverse benefit programs established by Congress. Its goal is to deliver these benefits and services in a timely, accurate, and compassionate manner.

The Honolulu Regional Office serves the veteran population in Hawaii and the Pacific Basin. This covers an enormous geographic area of approximately 4.6 million square miles, including Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan, Tinian and Rota). Examples of the benefits and services administered by the VA Regional Office are as follows:

- Disability compensation, including death compensation benefits to eligible survivors
- Disability and death pensions for veterans and their dependents

- Vocational rehabilitation and employment assistance
- Loan guaranty and Native American direct home loans
- Special benefits for the disabled
- Outreach
- Burial benefits

Veterans Benefits Administration

The Regional Office for benefits administration is comprised of four divisions: Adjudication, Loan Guaranty, Veterans Services, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling. Specialized personnel from the Veterans Services and Vocational Rehabilitation divisions conduct field visits throughout the State and the Pacific Basin to provide services to veterans and active duty military members who are geographically isolated.

Veterans Health Administration

The VA Pacific Islands Health Care System (VAPIHCS) Honolulu provides a broad range of medical care services, serving an estimated 127,600 veterans throughout Hawaii and the Pacific Islands. VAPIHCS provides outpatient medical and mental health care through a main Ambulatory Care Clinic on Oahu (Honolulu) and through five community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs) on the neighboring islands including: Hawaii (Hilo and Kona), Maui, Kauai, Guam, and American Samoa. Traveling clinicians also provide episodic care on Lanai. A fee basis internist residing on Molokai provides medical care eight hours/week at the Molokai Rural Health Center. Mental health care is provided by traveling clinicians from the Maui CBOC. Specialized services are provided for veterans through the Pacific Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and a Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Residential Rehabilitation Program. VAPIHCS is affiliated with the University of Hawaii School of Medicine in the fields of medicine, psychiatry, and geriatrics. Long-term and transitional rehabilitative care services are provided by the VA 60-bed Center for Aging on the Tripler Medical Center grounds.

National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific provides burial benefits with dignity and honor to America's veterans who were honorably discharged from the U.S. military, and their eligible dependents. Burial benefits include the opening and closing of a niche or gravesite, a casket liner for casketed burials, and perpetual care. Burial benefits were also authorized, by public law, to certain foreign nationals fighting with U.S. forces during World War II and to U.S. Merchant Marines serving aboard vessels in support of the U.S. military during World War II. The national cemetery is maintained as a national shrine that evokes, for the next of kin,

families, and visitors, a sense of patriotism and history regarding the service and sacrifice of the American citizen soldier.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE

The Corporation for National Service (CNS), formerly ACTION, is an independent agency which administers and coordinates the domestic volunteer programs sponsored by the federal government. Its purpose is to mobilize Americans for voluntary service throughout the nation and in the territories. Programs included in CNS are AmeriCorps, VISTA, Foster Grandparents, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Senior Companions, and Learn and Serve.

The efforts supported by CNS address the nation's challenges in the areas of education, public safety, human needs, and the environment--with a strong emphasis on achieving direct and demonstrable results.

CNS programs are public-private partnerships with national and community-based service organizations; corporations and foundations; colleges and universities; and local schools and police districts.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The Environmental Protection Agency provides coordinated and effective governmental action in the protection of the environment by, among other things, abating and controlling air, water, solid waste, noise, radiation, pesticide, and toxic waste pollution; conducting research; supporting environmental programs of state and local governments; and commenting on environmental impact statements.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-352), as amended; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) of 1967 (Public Law 90-202), as amended; the Equal Pay Act (EPA) of 1963 (Public Law 88-38); and Section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-112), as amended.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, is the federal law that prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion, or national origin. Title VII was extended to cover federal, state, and local public employers and educational institutions by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-261). This amendment to Title VII also gave the Commission the authority to file suit in federal district court against employers in the private sector on behalf of individuals whose charges were not successfully conciliated.

In pursuing its mission of eradicating discrimination in the workplace, EEOC utilizes a number of strategies including investigation, settlement, litigation, mediation, and education. It encourages employers to be proactive in preventing discrimination and provides technical assistance to employers through education about employment discrimination laws.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is the focal point within the federal government for emergency planning, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. FEMA works closely with state and local governments by funding emergency programs and providing technical guidance and training. These coordinated activities at the federal, state, and local levels ensure a broad-based emergency program to protect public safety and property.

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service promotes the development of sound and stable labor-management relationships. It assists labor and management to settle their disputes through mediation in order to prevent or minimize work stoppages; advocates collective bargaining, mediation, and voluntary arbitration; develops the art, science, and practice of dispute resolution; and fosters mutual understanding and solution of common problems between labor and management.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

The General Services Administration (GSA) is the government's "landlord," meeting the office and other space requirements of the federal workforce. GSA is also the premier federal acquisition and procurement force offering equipment, supplies, telecommunications, and integrated information technology solutions to customer agencies.

Federal Acquisition Service

The Federal Acquisition Service (FAS) is a consolidation of the Federal Supply Service and Federal Technology Service. The key goal of FAS is to deliver acquisition services that provide the best value, in terms of cost, quality, and service, for federal agencies and taxpayers. This includes the acquisition of products and services and full-service programs in information technology, telecommunications, professional services, supplies, motor vehicles, and travel and transportation. FAS provides multiple channels, including multiple awards schedules, governmentwide acquisition contracts, and online websites, for customers to acquire what they need.

Public Buildings Service

The Public Buildings Service (PBS) is the largest public real estate organization in the United States with an inventory of over 342 million square feet of workspace for 1.1 million federal employees in 2,100 American communities. PBS is responsible for the design, building, leasing, management, and maintenance of most federally controlled buildings in the United States. It is a leader in energy conservation, building green, and recycling. PBS also preserves and maintains more than four hundred historic properties in the federal government's inventory.

The Honolulu Property Management Office, located in the Prince Kuhio Federal Building, manages a real property portfolio of 61 buildings, representing 1.8 million square feet of owned and leased space. The office spaces of the Honolulu portfolio are located in Hawaii, Guam, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

HONOLULU-PACIFIC FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board (FEB), like executive boards in other jurisdictions, is a concept introduced by former President John F. Kennedy and is directed toward achieving greater unity of purpose and a better focus on the federal government's efforts to effectively serve its citizens. The Board is composed of principal representatives of each federal agency in the State who meet to improve interagency communication and coordination between their respective agencies. Members of the Board also establish communication between the Board and Washington so as to keep informed of national programs which have presidential interest and to secure support for local activities from high levels of government. The FEB provides the context and contact by which resources can be shared and joint federal initiatives can be implemented on a broader scale and thereby made more effective.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) administers the laws relating to labor relations. Its two principal functions are preventing and remedying unfair labor practices through investigation and adjudication, and conducting secret ballot elections among employees to determine whether they wish collective bargaining representation. Additionally, the NLRB conducts secret ballot elections when employees wish to change collective bargaining representatives and settles jurisdictional disputes concerning performance of types of work among groups of employees.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Small Business Administration provides aid and counseling to small businesses; works with lenders to guarantee loans made to small businesses and local development companies; ensures that small businesses receive a portion of government purchases, contracts, subcontracts, and government property when disposed; guarantees surety bonds of small

business contractors; licenses, regulates, and makes loans to small business investment companies; makes loans to victims of natural catastrophes or certain types of economic injury; improves the management skills of small business owners and managers through counseling, workshops and special programs; and conducts studies.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The Social Security Administration assists applicants in filing claims for benefits under Social Security's retirement, survivors, disability, and Medicare insurance programs, and for Supplemental Security Income benefits for the needy aged, blind, and disabled. The Social Security Administration also provides for and administers appeals and reviews of its operation and decisions.

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is responsible for the administration of the merit based federal personnel system. OPM's responsibilities include recruitment and staffing operations; program evaluation and training; leadership in affirmative action and labor relations; and the administration of the federal employee retirement and insurance programs.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

The Postal Service is an agency independent of the executive branch of the federal government. It provides mail processing and delivery services within the United States and internationally.

There is a Postal Inspection Service Office in Honolulu. Its responsibility is to protect the mails, postal funds, and property; investigate internal conditions and requirements affecting security and effectiveness; and apprehend violators of postal laws. The Inspection Service also inspects and audits financial and nonfinancial operations.

UNITED STATES COURTS

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

The Courts of Appeals are intermediate appellate courts, immediately below the United States Supreme Court, which review appeals of cases decided by lower courts.

The nation is divided into twelve circuits, and Hawaii is part of the Ninth Circuit. Of the twenty-eight active circuit judges assigned to the Ninth Circuit, and thirteen senior circuit judges on its roster, one senior judge is based in Honolulu.

**United States District Court
District of Hawaii**

The District Court is a trial court with general federal jurisdiction. There is at least one District Court in each state. Hawaii has one District Court with four District Judges. In addition, as allowed under federal law, there are two federal judges called Senior Judges who are assigned a reduced caseload.

Other officers of the District Court include the Bankruptcy Judge, Magistrate Judges, Federal Public Defender, Clerk of Court, Federal Probation Officer, and Federal Pretrial Services Officer.