



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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**ATTORNEY GENERAL RELEASES ANNUAL
FIREARM REGISTRATION STATISTICS**

HONOLULU -- The Department of the Attorney General released its annual report detailing state firearm registration statistics for Calendar Year 2007.

A record high total of 8,835 personal/private firearm permit applications were processed statewide during 2007, marking a 9.8 percent increase from the previous record high of 8,049 applications processed in 2006. Of the applications processed in 2007, 94.2 percent were approved and resulted in issued permits; a record high of 4.8 percent were approved but subsequently voided after the applicants failed to return for their permits within a specified time period; and a record low of 0.9 percent were rejected due to one or more disqualifying factors. For comparison, the most current national data show a 2.4 percent rejection rate for all state and local agencies conducting background checks in 2003.

**Firearm Registration Activity,
State of Hawai'i and Counties, 2007**

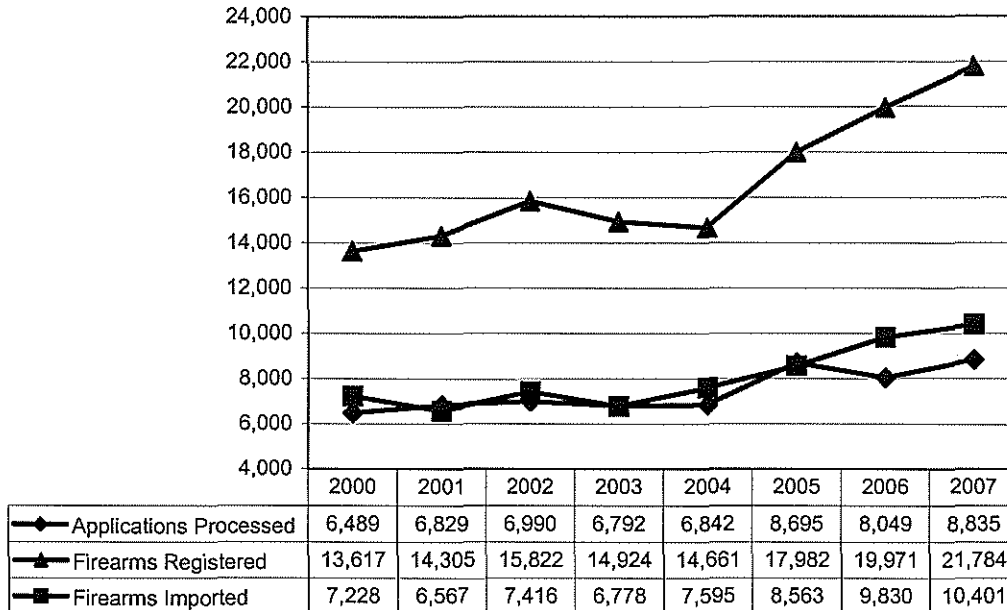
	C&C of Honolulu	Hawaii County	Maui County	Kauai County	State Total
Applications Processed	5,120	1,794	1,018	903	8,835
Applications Approved/Permits Issued	4,859	1,724	969	774	8,326
Applications Approved/Permits Voided	241	32	29	124	426
Applications Rejected	20	38	20	5	83
Rejection Rate	0.4%	2.1%	2.0%	0.6%	0.9%
Firearms Registered	13,641	4,377	2,251	1,515	21,784
Firearms Imported	7,069	1,813	972	547	10,401

The 8,326 permits issued statewide in 2007 cover a record high total of 21,784 firearms registered. Just under half (10,401, or 47.7 percent) of the firearms registered during 2007 were imported from out-of-state, with the remainder (11,383, or 52.3 percent) accounted for by in-state transfers (i.e., firearms that were already in Hawai'i).

Firearm registration activity increased considerably over the eight-year period in which these data have been compiled and reported. From 2000 through 2007, the number of permit

applications processed increased 36.2 percent, the number of firearms registered surged 60.0%, and the number of firearms imported rose 43.9 percent.

**Firearm Registration Trends,
 State of Hawaii, 2000-2007**



The vast majority of the 83 rejections in Hawai'i during 2007 were for longarm (70, or 84.3 percent) rather than handgun (13, or 15.7 percent) permit applications. Following a trend since this annual report was first published, longarm permit applications in 2007 were rejected at a rate that is several times higher than the rejection rate for handgun permit applications (1.4 percent for longarm permit applications versus 0.3 percent for handgun permit applications).

It is a misdemeanor in the State of Hawai'i to provide falsified information on firearm permit applications, unless the falsified information pertains to criminal or mental health histories, in which case it is a felony offense (HRS §134-17). In 2007, falsified criminal and/or mental health information was provided in 61.4 percent (51) of the 83 rejection cases; falsified information pertaining to anything other than criminal or mental health histories was provided in 9.6 percent (8) of the cases; and no falsified information was provided in 28.9 percent (24) of the cases.

Roughly three-fifths (49, or 59.0 percent) of the rejections in 2007 were due to applicants' prior criminal convictions, while 10.8 percent (9) were due to pending criminal cases. The remaining 30.1 percent (25) of rejections in 2007 were not based on the criminal histories of the applicants.

The full report can be downloaded from the Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division web site at hawaii.gov/ag/cpja.

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