



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
Regulated Industries Complaints Office

DCCA News Release

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STATE ISSUES 26 CITATIONS FOR UNLICENSED ACTIVITY IN HILO AND HONOLULU

HONOLULU – The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Regulated Industries Complaints Office (RICO) conducted two separate enforcement operations on April 18. The operations concluded with 17 citations issued for unlicensed activity in Honolulu, and nine citations issued in Hilo and the Pahoa area of the Big Island, for a total of 26 citations.

The enforcement operations are part of the department's ongoing effort to stop individuals who violate the state's professional licensing laws by setting up operations without the required professional licenses.

The Honolulu operation, which dealt primarily with unlicensed massage establishments, was executed in a joint operation with the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) and RICO investigators. The Hilo operation was conducted by RICO investigators, who issued citations for unlicensed beauty shop, unlicensed beauty operator, unlicensed massage and unlicensed auto repair.

“The state’s licensing laws are designed to ensure that Hawaii’s consumers receive services from people and businesses that comply with the law and that meet certain qualifications and standards,” said Jo Ann Uchida, complaints and enforcement officer for the Regulated Industries Complaints Office. “Individuals and businesses that violate the law by operating without a required license will be cited and prosecuted.”

To verify whether a particular person or business is licensed, log onto:

www.hawaii.gov/dcca/areas/rico/business_online.

At that site, you can perform the following business checks:

- *Professional and Vocational License Search

- *Complaints History Search

- *Business Registration Search

- *General Excise Tax Search

License information and complaints history is also available from RICO by phone at 587-3222 on Oahu or 1-800-394-1902 toll-free.

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