

## **Person / Organization of the Week**

Welcome Back. Now, each week, we will try to acknowledge people or agencies that have done an outstanding job in helping our communities, and who we feel are responsible for making our citizens safer in Hawaii.

This week, we'd like to recognize Big Island Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Mitchell Roth.

Everyone knows that as prosecutors, we charge individuals with crimes based on the reports of police and witnesses. As prosecutors we are trial attorneys and representing the government in court.

However, some prosecutors are also community prosecutors. These special breed of attorneys are also very involved in the communities and will network heavily with neighborhoods to try to specifically address their problems by seeking solutions.

Mitch Roth is one of the best community prosecutors in this state. He was a motivating force for establishing the successful Pahoia Weed and Seed Program.

Four years ago, the town of Pahoia was seriously deteriorating with crime. It was infested with drug dealers, and its citizens were fearful of even being in town.

Mitch met with Pahoia's community leaders and heard their concerns and frustrations. He then solicited local, state and federal resources to assist the community to address the crime and drug problems in that area.

Today, Pahoia's drug dealers have been run out of town, their crime rate is down, neighborhood watch groups are active, and the community is receiving recognition for its beautification projects. This is a good thing for Pahoia and it is a tribute to the concept of community prosecution.

Accordingly, Mitchell Roth is this week's "Helping Our Communities - Person of the Week," and he will be notified of this recognition - with our thanks and praise.

If you know of a person in our community that has contributed so much to the safety of our citizens, please let us know by writing to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Federal Building, 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 6100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850.

## **Events Involving U.S. Attorney's Office:**

In this last segment of our show, we will update the public on our activities for the state of Hawaii.

This week, I am attending the Hawaii State Law Enforcement Officials Association Conference at the Waikiki Sheraton Hotel. Each year, this statewide conference is held to discuss issues of common concern to local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in Hawaii.

Recently, some of our communities on Oahu held their “National Night Out” Celebrations. I was very honored to have been invited to Mililani’s event and to Downtown Honolulu’s Night Out.

At these events, the community comes together to celebrate their anti-drug and crime reducing efforts. Hundreds of families mingled with law enforcement officers and community organizations and leaders to enjoy great food and entertainment.

My congratulations to these neighborhoods for their success in making their communities a safer place to live.

Finally, last month, Hawaii was a host to the American Bar Association National Convention. Along with myself, four other U.S. Attorneys were invited to participate in various panel discussions for the delegates in the areas of corporate fraud and human trafficking.

I was very proud to be a participant at this National event.

**Conclusion:**

“Well, this ends our show for this week. I hope you found it informative. If you would like to report what you believe is a federal crime, please call:

- the FBI at (808) 566-4300, or
- for drug crimes, call the DEA at (808) 541-1930, or
- for gun crimes, call the ATF at (808) 566-4800, and
- for immigration crimes, call the Immigration and Customs Enforcement at (808) 541-2623.

On behalf of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for Hawaii, thank you for tuning in. Stay safe, and please join us next time for “This Week With Hawaii’s Law Enforcement.” Aloha.