



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

**News Release**

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GOVERNOR

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**Keiki ID Kit Events**

(HONOLULU) The Department of the Attorney General Missing Child Center-Hawaii, the Hawaii Sheriff Association, and the Friends of the Missing Child Center-Hawaii are sponsoring three events to obtain a Keiki ID kit. A child identification kit or Keiki ID kit contains information on the child, a recent photo, and sometimes DNA and dental information.

If a child goes missing, all the basic information about the child needed by law enforcement is contained in the Keiki ID kit. This helps to expedite the investigation because all of the child's information is in one place. According to Cherlene Takeno, Director of the Missing Child Center – Hawaii, "Authorities tell us that every second counts. Time is of essence when a child goes missing."

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, approximately 800,000 children go missing nationwide a year. That is an average of 2,185 children being reported missing each day. Statistics show that the first three hours are the most crucial. Seventy-six percent of abducted children who are murdered are dead within three hours of the abduction. Police say the quicker the photo and information on the child is distributed to the public, the more likely the chance of a recovery.

Because this is the time of year when families like to take vacations to the mainland and internationally, Takeno encourages parents to obtain a Keiki ID kit. "No one would suspect that their child could be taken away. However, as the numbers reported by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children indicate, abductions do occur. A Keiki ID kit is an important safety precaution and should be updated on a regular basis," said Takeno.

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Free Keiki ID Kits will be available from 10:00 am-2:00 pm on the following dates:

Sunday, May 20th Pearlridge Phase I

Sunday, May 20th Kahala Mall (near the centerstage area)

Saturday, June 16th Windward Mall

For more information, check the Missing Child Center-Hawaii website at [www.missingchildcenterhawaii.com](http://www.missingchildcenterhawaii.com).

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