



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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Kaneohe Man Sentenced for Felony Water Pollution

HONOLULU – A Kaneohe man has been sentenced for failing to connect his dwelling to a permitted wastewater system, in violation of Hawai'i water pollution laws.

Graeme Mankelow, 54, was living in a house boat raised on wheels and barrels on an oceanfront property in Kaneohe. The property belonged to Mankelow and his former wife. In February 2006, a Department of Health inspector found that Mankelow's dwelling had a toilet, sink, and shower, but no wastewater system. The inspector issued a citation. In March 2006, the inspector returned, found that Mankelow had done nothing to fix the problem, and issued a second citation. In April 2006, the inspector returned a third time and found that Mankelow was allowing human waste and toilet paper to drain from his toilet into a sewage pit that had been dug into the ground.

The Department of Health referred Mankelow's case to the Department of the Attorney General's Environmental Crimes Unit for criminal prosecution. In December 2006, a Honolulu grand jury indicted Mankelow for Water Pollution, a class C felony. Mankelow was later charged with the felony offense of Criminal Property Damage in the Second Degree, for damaging the garage that was co-owned by his former wife, and two misdemeanor counts of Violating an Order for Protection, for disobeying a court order that prohibited him from entering certain areas of the property during certain hours, and from approaching his former wife's workplace.

In January 2008, Mankelow pled guilty to Water Pollution, Criminal Property Damage in the Second Degree, and two counts of Violating an Order for Protection. On April 23, 2008, the Honorable Dexter Del Rosario sentenced Mankelow to five years of probation with two days in jail, a \$5,000 fine, 200 hours of community service, and \$3,958 in restitution.

To report suspicious activity that may be a crime against the environment, call the Environmental Crimes Unit at 586-1240.

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