



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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**DRUG NUISANCE ABATEMENT ACTION FILED
AGAINST FOUR ALLEGED LAHAINA DRUG DEALERS**

HONOLULU – The Department of the Attorney General’s Drug Nuisance Abatement Unit has filed its fifth Maui drug nuisance abatement action. The complaint, filed on January 26, 2006, alleges that defendants Nolan Fraser, Solomon M. Fraser, Jr., Desmond Morris, and Kaipō Mitchell Oponui were causing, maintaining, aiding, abetting, or permitting a drug nuisance in the area of the Banyan Tree Park in Lahaina. The purpose of the lawsuit is to obtain a permanent order of abatement that would prohibit the four defendants from residing in or entering into a significant portion of Lahaina.

This is the second nuisance abatement action filed by the Attorney General to seek imposing a broad geographical restriction on a defendant. The defendants have twenty days from the date the defendants were served with the complaint, January 26, 2006, to respond to the allegations in the complaint.

Attorney General Mark J. Bennett said, “This action sends a message to drug dealers that the sale of drugs in the community will not be tolerated. We expect this action to bring some relief to the Lahaina community and its residents and visitors. We are committed to working with the community and other law enforcement agencies to disrupt drug distribution throughout the State of Hawaii.”

The four defendants were also indicted by a Second Circuit Grand Jury on the offenses of Promoting a Controlled Substance in, on, or Near Schools, School Vehicles, or Public Parks and Promoting a Detrimental Drug in the Second Degree. Their cases

are scheduled for trial in February 2006. At present, all four defendants have been ordered not to go closer than 100 yards of the Banyan Tree Park during the pendency of their criminal trial.

This nuisance abatement action was accomplished through the cooperation and efforts of the Department of the Attorney General, the Maui Police Department, and the Maui Office of the Prosecuting Attorney.

Bennett added that the public is also a necessary ally and encouraged the public to report their observations regarding suspected drug houses and illegal drug activity to the police, or to contact the Attorney General's Drug Nuisance Abatement Unit at the following hotline numbers:

Oahu: (808) 586-1328

Neighbor Islands toll free: (800) 9NO-METH (966-6384)

Fax: (808) 586-1371

E-mail: stopice@hawaii.gov

The public may also file a report with the Drug Nuisance Abatement Unit by logging on to www.hawaii.gov/ag/stop_ice_index.htm.

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