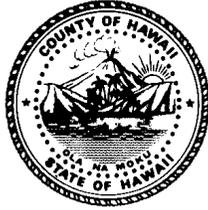


William P. Kenoi
Mayor



William T. Takaba
Managing Director

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 4, 2009

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Kenoi hands Kubo key to the County

Mayor Billy Kenoi presented U.S. Attorney Ed Kubo with a Ko'a wood key to Hawai'i County Monday in a ceremony at the County's Aupuni Center conference room in Hilo.

Kubo, who was named U.S. Attorney in Honolulu by President George W. Bush in 2001, has worked tirelessly to fight crime in Hawai'i County, Kenoi said. Practicing the concept of Lokahi, or unity, Kubo brought all sectors of the community – law enforcement, community leaders, businesses, educators, faith-based organizations and volunteers – together to attack crime.

"Ed Kubo has served the County of Hawai'i in a way that no other U.S. Attorney has before him," said Mayor Kenoi, reading from a proclamation designating Ed Kubo Day in the County. Kenoi noted that Kubo has "significantly expanded the presence of his office on our island and established the first office of the federal bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in Hawai'i County."

Kubo also was the first U.S. Attorney to visit the town of Pāhoā, in the District of Puna, where he recognized the need for resources to combat rampant drug activity in the community and successfully committed his office to help take back the streets from the criminals. He was instrumental in establishing the first federally designated Weed and Seed on a Neighbor Island in 2007 with awards of \$190,000 in grants to Pāhoā Weed and Seed, which has improved the safety and morale of the community significantly.

Kenoi cited Kubo's "deep sense of compassion and concern for all communities within his jurisdiction, while at the same time maintaining a tough stance against crime."

(more)

County Police Chief Harry Kubojiri and Prosecutor Jay Kimura also lauded Kubo's contributions to crime prevention on the Big Island while many of the County's Department heads, police officers and other County officials looked on.

Kubo, upon accepting the key, said he always stands ready to help the County in any way he can. Kubo also said he intends to retire to Hawai'i County.

"We don't give many of these out," said Kenoi, after presenting the key to Kubo. "But you deserve it."

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