



**ALAN M. ARAKAWA**  
MAYOR

OUR REFERENCE  
YOUR REFERENCE

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## COUNTY OF MAUI

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**TIVOLI S. FAAUMU**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

**DEAN M. RICKARD**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

February 17, 2015

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
The Senate  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Senate Bill No. 533, S.D. 1, RELATING TO EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

The Maui Police Department opposes the current draft of Senate Bill No. 533.

This bill allows the news media, under the supervision of emergency management agency personnel, to access areas that are closed pursuant to emergency management powers of the governor and mayor.

The Maui Police Department opposes this measure to allow the newspaper, television, radio, blog, and online news media to access areas that are prohibited from access during an emergency, whether it is a drill or actual emergency event.

The media currently has direct access via the Public Information Officer of this department and other State, County, and Federal agencies. This will not only place media personnel in harm's way, but, also the emergency personnel that must respond to their location when a crisis occurs. In addition, it will also impede governmental operations during these major events.

Information during an emergency is always available to the media by the Maui Police Department. We have always been open with sharing information to the public and media. Information of this type is disseminated more so during an emergency to keep everyone informed of the dangerous environment.

The media has a clear line of communication with our department via landline, cell phone, and email. They also have monitored the emergency communication radio system to get the most up-to-date information.

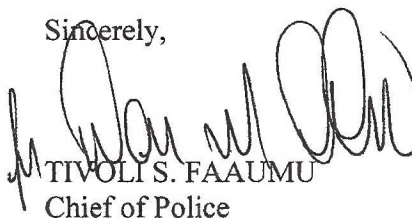
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran Chair  
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February 17, 2015  
Page 2

Technology has also given the media the opportunity to provide live feeds from a safe distance without being near or in a cordoned off area that is designated to be dangerous to the public and emergency personnel.

The Maui Police Department asks for you to oppose S.B. No. 533.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tivoli S. Faaumu', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

TIVOLI S. FAAUMU  
Chief of Police