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TODD G. RAYBUCK
Chief of Police

Testimony of Todd G. Raybuck
Chief of Police
Kaua'i Police Department

Before the
House Committee on Public Safety, Veterans & Military Affairs
March 11, 2020; 10:30 am
Conference Room 430

In consideration of
Senate Bill 2406 SD2
Relating to Explosion Detection Technology

Honorable Chair Takayama, Honorable Vice Chair Gates and Members of the
Committee:

The Kaua'i Police Department (KPD) is **opposed** to Senate Bill 2406 SD2, which appropriates an unspecified sum to certain county police departments for the purchase and deployment of explosion detection technology to assist departments in locating and responding to explosions caused by illegal use of firearms and fireworks.

Acoustic Gunshot Detector Systems (AGDS), like ShotSpotter, are cost prohibitive and the return on investment for a largely rural island like Kaua'i, which has relatively few illegal gunshot calls, is not fiscally tenable. In a recent article from the Police Chief Magazine that evaluated AGDS it states, "Typical vendor costs for AGDS are around \$65-\$90,000 per mile per year, but these vendor costs do not account for the increases in call volume agencies may experience, nor losses of efficiency in the response."

Kauai's population resides in five districts over approximately 562 square miles. If only 10% of the island was covered by this technology, it would cost an estimated \$3,653,000 to \$5,058,000 per year to operate this system. This does not include the cost to train personnel or the potential need for additional staff to monitor or maintain the devices.



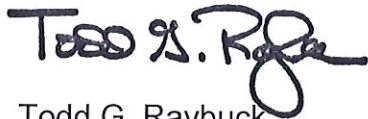
Further, AGDS are systems designed to detect gunshots, not fireworks. We are unaware of any AGDS designed to detect fireworks. Even if an AGDS could detect and identify illegal fireworks, using AGDS to locate where fireworks are being detonated does not mean enforcement will occur. The system will not aid in the identification of the perpetrator that ignited the illegal fireworks. The responding officer would have to witness the perpetrator in possession or igniting the illegal firework or gather evidence to prove such. In many cases involving illegal fireworks, knowing the locations where a firework was exploded is not difficult. It is the identification and proving of who ignited or possessed the illegal firework that is difficult. We do not believe that AGDS will prove meaningful in the reduction of illegal fireworks or increase the potential for prosecutable illegal fireworks cases.

AGDS is a cost prohibitive and improbable methodology to enforce fireworks laws. On a rural island such as Kaua'i, with very few illegal gunshot calls, the return on investment is untenable and current AGDS technology is designed for gunshot not fireworks identification. Even if an AGDS could detect illegal fireworks, it would not aid in enforcement efforts or increase prosecutable cases.

For these reasons the Kauai Police Department is **opposed** to Senate Bill 2406 SD2.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Todd G. Raybuck
Chief of Police
Kaua'i Police Department



LATE

SB-2406-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 1:57:46 PM

Testimony for PVM on 3/11/2020 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
elizabeth tatofi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: