



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Region 9
Arizona, California, Hawaii
American Samoa, Guam
Northern Mariana Islands

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February 23, 2016

Ford N. Fuchigami, Director
Governor's Highway Safety Representative
c/o Hawaii Department of Transportation
869 Punchbowl Street – Room 509
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
 DEPT. OF
 TRANSPORTATION
 2016 FEB 26 P 1:04

Dear Director Fuchigami:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank your Highway Safety Coordinator, Lee Nagano, and her staff for many years of dedicated service in striving to make Hawaii's roadways a safer place.

We have reviewed the Hawaii Department of Transportation's Highway Safety Annual Report covering the progress achieved in your 2015 federally funded traffic safety programs, as per 23 CFR Part 1200.35. We are pleased to provide you with comments on some of the program areas in the Annual Report.

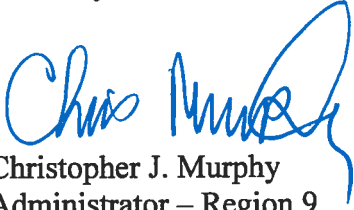
First, we would like to congratulate you on Hawaii's continuing high seat belt usage. Hawaii currently ranks as one of the highest in the nation with a 93 percent usage rate in 2015. These high seat belt usage rates can be attributed to your continued participation in the national "Click It or Ticket" Media Campaign in combination with education and enforcement and the efforts of your many traffic safety partners.

We commend you in continuing your efforts to reduce pedestrian fatalities and to be the only state in the nation to designate the month of August as *Pedestrian Safety Month*. We noted that pedestrian fatalities increased slightly from 23 in 2013 to 24 in 2014. We know you will continue your traffic safety efforts to meet the challenges of your increasing population, drivers, and vehicles. Also, traffic fatalities decreased from 102 in 2013 to 95 in 2014. We also noted that the number of alcohol-impaired driving fatalities decreased from 34 in 2013 to 32 in 2014.



We appreciate your efforts in compiling this comprehensive report and look forward to meeting with you and your staff at the upcoming *Regional Leadership and Training Meeting* on April 6-7, 2016, in Long Beach, California. As always, please feel free to contact me if you need assistance or if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Christopher J. Murphy
Administrator – Region 9
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

cc: Scott Haneberg, Motor Vehicle Safety Administrator, HDOT
Lee Nagano, Highway Safety Manager, HDOT
Mayela Sosa, Division Administrator, FHWA – HI Division