

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

**EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION
RELATED TO GRAND JURY IMPANELING**

By the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Hawai'i, to provide relief for disaster damages, losses, and suffering, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people, I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, hereby determine, designate and proclaim as follows:

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, I issued a Proclamation declaring a state of emergency to support ongoing State and county responses to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19);

WHEREAS, I subsequently issued several proclamations related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including proclamations that, *inter alia*, suspended laws to enable State and county responses to COVID-19; implemented a mandatory self-quarantine for all persons entering the State and traveling between counties; directed statewide coordination between the State and counties; and mandated safe practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, as of January 3, 2022, the State continues its efforts to vaccinate our population and the activities of the State continue with appropriate and additional mitigation measures;

WHEREAS, the recorded number of cases has continued to increase at a significant rate, with more than 121,800 documented cases of COVID-19 in the State and approximately 1,094 deaths attributed to this disease;

WHEREAS, the highly contagious SARS-CoV-2 Delta and Omicron strains continue to cause high case numbers around the world, across the United States, and in our State;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to create considerable risk of infection for members of our community, and continues to endanger the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Hawai'i to require the serious attention, effort, and sacrifice of all people in the State to avert catastrophic impacts to the State;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues, directly and indirectly, to pose a substantial risk of economic loss and dislocation;

WHEREAS, the impaneling of grand juries by State courts involves the congregation of large groups of potential jurors in indoor spaces, which must be carefully scheduled and coordinated to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission among potential jurors, attorneys, and court staff;

WHEREAS, State courts must have adequate flexibility in scheduling and coordinating the impaneling of grand juries as COVID-19 case counts fluctuate;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, pursuant to section 127A-13(a)(3), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), hereby suspend, but only as explicitly set forth below and as allowed by federal law, section 612-16(a), HRS, **grand jury**, only to the extent necessary to suspend the requirement that the court hold an annual initial impaneling of a grand jury not later than January 15. This limited suspension ensures that courts can safely impanel grand juries given the recent increase in COVID-19 cases, while retaining in force all other provisions of section 612-16, HRS.

I FURTHER DECLARE that my Proclamation issued on November 29, 2021 remains in effect through January 28, 2022, my Proclamation issued on December 29, 2021 remains in effect through February 28, 2022, and this Proclamation shall remain in effect through March 4, 2022, unless terminated or superseded by a separate proclamation, whichever shall occur first.

Done at the State Capitol, this 3rd day of January, 2022.



DAVID Y. IGE,
Governor of Hawai'i

APPROVED:



Holly T. Shikada
Attorney General
State of Hawai'i