

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY JOINS HAWAII STATE FUSION CENTER TO ENHANCE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OAHU'S DRINKING WATER

HONOLULU – To further improve its ability to protect Oahu's critical water infrastructure and provide its customers with safe and dependable water service, the Board of Water Supply (BWS) has become a partner of the Hawaii State Fusion Center (HSFC), under the direction of the State of Hawaii Department of Defense, through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) earlier today.

The MOU establishes efficient and timely sharing of information between the two organizations to increase situational awareness of possible cyber-security issues and concerns. As a partner of the Hawaii State Fusion Center, the BWS will have regular access to information to help prevent or lessen attacks and threats from cyber-criminals and terrorists and develop strategies and programs to strengthen security and safeguard the water supply. The BWS will work closely with the HSFC and its partners, including Hawaiian Electric Company, to help better protect Hawaii critical infrastructures. While member agencies collaborate operationally, they do not share confidential customer information.

“As a critical service provider, we are pleased to collaborate with the Hawaii State Fusion Center and its partners to share and be able to acquire information that can help better predict, prevent, and respond to disasters and threats against our island home as well as the nation,” said BWS Manager and Chief Engineer Ernest Lau. “We also want to reassure our customers that the information shared does not include customer information.”

The MOU was signed by Maj. Gen. Arthur J. Logan, state adjutant general and homeland security advisor who oversees the HSFC's operations, and BWS Manager and Chief Engineer Ernest Lau. It requires the BWS to designate an employee to serve as a subject matter expert and dedicated point of contact for the HSFC.

Other HSFC partners include federal, state, local, military, law enforcement and private sector agencies.

About the Board of Water Supply

The Board of Water Supply (BWS), a semi-autonomous agency of the City and County of Honolulu, manages Oahu's municipal water resources and distribution system. As the largest water utility in the State, the BWS serves approximately one million customers on Oahu. The BWS embraces its mission of “Water for Life – *Ka Wai Ola*”—to provide a safe, dependable, and affordable water supply, now and into the future. *Uwē ka lani, ola ka honua* – “When the heavens weep, the earth lives.” For more information about the BWS, visit www.boardofwatersupply.com, follow [@BWSHonolulu](https://twitter.com/BWSHonolulu) or like the BWS's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/BWSHonolulu>.

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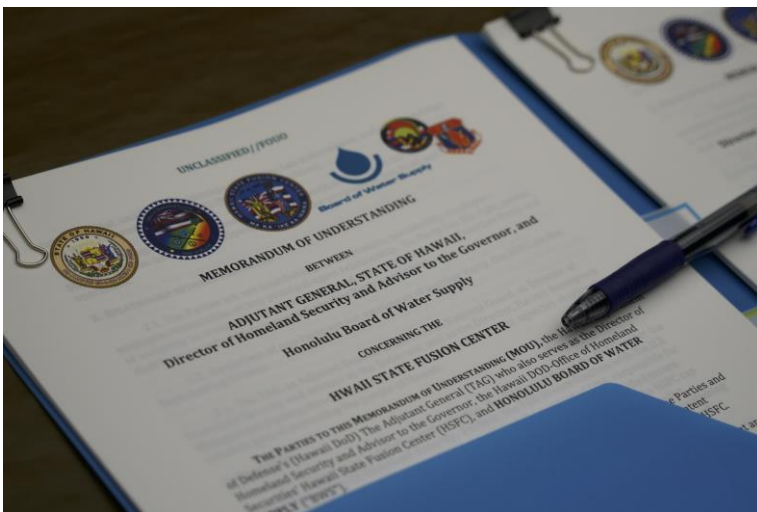
Photos courtesy of the Hawaii National Guard



Attendees. (Top row: L-r) Henderson Nuuhiwa, Program Administrator, Information Technology Division, Board of Water Supply (BWS); Michelle Dietz, Senior Intelligence Officer to Hawaii & America Samoa, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Constance Lau, President and CEO, Hawaiian Electric Industries, Inc.; Bryan Tepper, Manager, Information Assurance, Hawaiian Electric; Paul Putzulu, former Director, Hawaii State Fusion Center. (Bottom row, l-r) Maj. Gen. Arthur J. Logan, state adjutant general and homeland security advisor; and Ernest Lau, Manager and Chief Engineer, BWS.



Handshake. (L-r): With the signing of the MOU and a handshake between (left) Maj. Gen. Arthur J. Logan, state adjutant general and homeland security advisor, and Ernest Lau, Board of Water Supply (BWS) Manager and Chief Engineer, the BWS joins Hawaiian Electric, represented by (middle) Constance Lau, President and CEO, Hawaiian Electric Industries, Inc., as a partner of the Hawaii State Fusion Center.



MOU. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Hawaii State Fusion Center and the Board of Water Supply that was signed today will enhance the safety and security of Oahu's drinking water.