



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR  
MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

## News Release

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COUNTY OF KAUA'I  
KAUA'I POLICE DEPARTMENT  
TODD G. RAYBUCK, CHIEF  
(808) 241-1600

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### **Search suspended for Moloa'a man who went missing in waters off Rock Quarry in Kīlauea**

KĪLAUEA – The active search for 44-year-old Huy Nguyen of Moloa'a, who went missing Monday in waters off Rock Quarry Beach in Kīlauea, has been suspended pending any new information.

First responders were dispatched Monday evening at approximately 7:45 p.m. following the report of a swimmer who had gone missing while in the coastal waters of Rock Quarry Beach.

Firefighters with the Hanalei, Līhu'e, and Kaiakea fire stations, Rescue 3, Air 1, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Ocean Safety Bureau, the Kaua'i Police Department (KPD), personnel with the state Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), and the on-duty Battalion Chief initially responded to the incident and began conducting thorough land, air and sea searches.

The search resumed Tuesday morning and continued through Thursday afternoon.

The operation was a joint effort by KPD, the Kaua'i Fire Department (KFD), USCG, DLNR and the U.S. Navy.

KPD and DLNR conducted ground and shoreline searches.

KFD conducted zodiac, jet ski, dive, drone, and ground and shoreline searches, along with Air 1 helicopter searches.

The USCG had a Cutter vessel for 24-hour, around-the-clock, search operations for the full three days, along with helicopter and small vessel searches.

The U.S. Navy conducted helicopter searches on Tuesday.

The active search was suspended on Thursday afternoon.

“I am sincerely grateful to all of the agencies and individuals who had no hesitation assisting with this operation. This was another extensive search within the time span of one week, where everyone put in an incredible amount of time and effort, especially considering the dangerous surf conditions and strong currents that occur on Kaua‘i’s North Shore during the winter season,” said KPD’s Investigative Services Bureau Assistant Chief Bryson Ponce. “We offer our sincere condolences to Huy’s family and friends. I understand that he was a beloved family man and a kind community member who will be sorely missed.”

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