HAWAII
Death Benefits Available to the Surviving Families of Law Enforcement Officers Killed in the Line of Duty

To obtain certified copies of registered personal documents, contact the Bureau of Vital Statistics: Submit written request to PO Box 3378, Honolulu, HI 96801. Office: (808) 586-4733. http://health.hawaii.gov/vitalrecords/

STATE DEATH BENEFITS
There is no one-time death benefit in Hawaii.

FUNERAL BENEFIT
Employer shall pay funeral expenses not to exceed ten times the maximum weekly benefit rate. Burial expenses shall not exceed five times the weekly benefit rate. Payments paid directly to the mortician and cemetery selected by the family or next of kin. If expenses are prepaid, benefits go directly to the survivors or next of kin. For more information contact Hawaii Workers’ Compensation Disability Compensation Division, Labor and Industrial Relations, 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 404, Honolulu, HI 96813-5080. Office: (808) 586-8600. http://labor.hawaii.gov/lirab/

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
There is no educational benefit available in Hawaii.

WORKERS’ COMPENSATION
Workers’ Compensation coverage is compulsory for employers in Hawaii. Sec. 386-41.

(a) Funeral and burial allowance. Where a work injury causes death, the employer shall pay funeral expenses not to exceed ten times the maximum weekly benefit rate to the mortician and burial expenses not to exceed five times the maximum weekly benefit rate to the cemetery selected by the family or next of kin of the deceased or in the absence of such family or next of kin of the deceased or in the absence of such family or next of kin, by the employer. Such payments shall be made directly to the mortician and cemetery; provided that when the deceased has a pre-paid funeral and burial plan such payments for funeral and burial expenses, not to exceed the foregoing limits, shall be made directly to the surviving spouse or the decedent’s estate if there is no surviving spouse.
(b) Weekly benefits for dependents. In addition, the employer shall pay weekly benefits to the deceased’s dependents at the percentages of the deceased’s average weekly wages specified below, taking into account not more than the maximum weekly benefit rate prescribed in said section divided by .667.

To the dependent widow or widower, if there be one or more dependent children of the deceased, sixty-six and two-thirds per cent. The compensation to the widow or widower shall be for the use and benefit of the widow or widower and of the dependent children, and the director of labor and industrial relations may from time to time apportion the compensation between them in such way as the director deems best.

If there be no dependent widow or widower, but a dependent child, then to dependent parent, then to the parent, if wholly dependent fifty per cent, or if partially dependent twenty-five per cent; if both parents be dependent, then one half of the foregoing compensation to each of them; if there be no dependent parent, but one of more dependent grandparents, then to each of them in the same compensation as to a parent.

If there be no dependent widow, widower, child, parent or grandparent, but there be a dependent grandchild, brother, or sister, or two or more of them, then to such dependents thirty-five per cent for one dependent, increased by fifteen per cent for each additional dependent, to be divided equally among the dependents if more than one.

(c) Maximum weekly amounts. The sum of all weekly benefits payable to the dependents of the deceased employee shall not exceed sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the employee's average weekly wages, computed by observing the limits specified in subsection (b), if necessary, the individual benefits shall be proportionally reduced.

(d) Liability in the absence of dependents. If there be no dependents who are entitled to benefits under this section, the employer shall pay an amount equal to twenty-five per cent of three hundred and twelve times the effective maximum weekly benefit rate provided in section 386-31, to the
nondependent parent or parents. If there be no such parent or parents, the employer shall pay the sum into the special compensation fund, pursuant to an order made by the director. The employer, pursuant to an order made by the director, shall pay any remaining balance into the special compensation fund, if the weekly benefits to which dependents are entitled terminate without totaling the amounts as calculated above.

To receive workers’ compensation benefits the surviving spouse must take the initiative and file a worker’s compensation claim through a workers’ compensation attorney to receive any compensation. The determination as to whether the claim will be paid will be determined by the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board.

Contact the Disability Compensation Division of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 209, Honolulu, HI 96813. Office: (808) 586-8844. http://labor.hawaii.gov/dcd/

**HEALTH BENEFITS**

Health benefits vary depending upon police department benefits. Spouses of state and county officers may elect to continue to participate in the same benefit program in effect at the time of the officer’s death. Contact the Benefits Coordinator at your agency.

**RETIREMENT/PENSION**

Individual cities and municipalities are responsible for providing retirement and pension plans for law enforcement officers. Contact your local agency’s Benefits Assistance Officer.

**ADDITIONAL BENEFITS**

**PEER SUPPORT ORGANIZATION**

Established in 1984, Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., (C.O.P.S.), is a national, non-profit organization that works with law enforcement agencies, police organizations, mental health professional, and local peer-support organizations to provide assistance to surviving families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. C.O.P.S. has become a “lifeline” to police survivors nationwide. Contact the C.O.P.S. National Office at (573) 346-4911 or visit https://www.nationalcops.org/localchapters.html for information on a chapter in your area.

**FUNERAL AND CREMATION BENEFITS**

Dignity Memorial funeral, cremation and cemetery providers created the Public Servants Program for emergency service personnel. This program provides dignified and honorable tributes, at no cost, for career and volunteer law enforcement officers who fall in the line of duty. Visit their website for complete information at their website:
www.dignymemorial.com and look under Public Servants for details. You may also call (800) 343-4464 and speak with a representative 24/7.

**Wilbert Funeral Services, Inc.** provides complimentary burial vaults and related services for fallen law enforcement officers. For more information, visit www.wilbert.com or call (800) 323-7188.