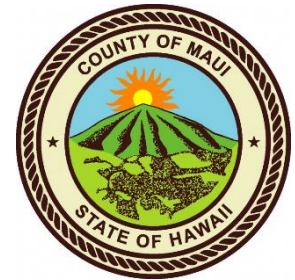


# PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Kahului Councilmember Tasha Kama Issues Statement on Disaster Relief from Maui Fires**

KAHULUI, MAUI, HI (11:30 a.m. August 9, 2023) – Councilmember and Presiding Officer Pro Tempore Tasha Kama offered the following comments today regarding the ongoing response and recovery efforts related to the numerous Maui fires:

“I am devastated at the loss of lives, and the tremendous property losses and even chapters of our community’s history that we are currently witnessing. My heart ached when I heard this morning that six people have lost their lives in this disaster. My prayers are with the first responders and all who have been displaced by the fires across our island.

“At this time, my focus is on making sure our emergency shelters in Central Maui have the supplies and food needed to care for the anticipated influx of evacuees, as yet another shelter is closing due to its proximity to an active fire.

“We ask that the public continue to heed all official guidance, and that visitors with hotel reservations in West Maui reschedule their vacation to a future date due to multiple and likely extended road closures and power outtages.

“Soon we will have more information on official websites with information on where donations can be dropped off and monies donated online. We thank the public in advance for helping our beloved Maui community recover from this devastating turn of events. We will need everyone’s prayers and assistance locally and offshore to make it through this difficult time.”

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