

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

NOLAN P. ESPINDA Director

** NO NEWS RELEASE - JUST NIXLE MESSAGE WENT OUT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 27, 2018

HCCC PRE-TRIAL DETAINEE ARRESTED BY HAWAII POLICE

HILO – The Hawaii Island Prosecutors office has confirmed that Brian Smith is in Hawaii Police custody.

Smith was supposed to be detained on \$1.15 million bail but was erroneously released from Hawaii Community Correctional Center on 7/24/18. He was scheduled to appear in court Thursday afternoon but didn't show. A bench warrant was issued this afternoon for \$2 million dollars. The Department of Public Safety is conducting an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the erroneous release.

Hawaii County Prosecutors informed HCCC Thursday (7/26/18) at 8:40 a.m. that the facility may have erroneously released of Brian Smith on 7/24/18. The Public Safety Director's Office was notified at 11:30 a.m. Following contact with HCCC, it was determined that Brian Smith was released on 7/24/18, as ordered, for matters before the District Court. It was quickly confirmed through documentation that the inmate should have remained in custody in a Circuit Court matter, and public notification was made. As soon as we knew, we took action to alert the public.

He is awaiting trial on Murder 1 & 2, as well as firearms charges including Ownership or Possession of a Firearm, and Carrying a Firearm in the Commission of a Separate Felony. An escape charge is expected to be added.

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