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December 4, 2020

For immediate release

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Statement from the Metal Trades Department on the Anniversary of the Shooting at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard that Killed Two, Wounded One HFEMTC Members

On December 4, 2019 a young Navy sailor assigned to the submarine the USS Columbia stationed at Pearl Harbor Navy Shipyard fired his service issued M-4 rifle at a group of civilian workers, killing Roldan Agustin, 49, and Vincent Kapoi Jr., 30, and wounding Roger Nakamine, 36. All three victims were members of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE) and the Hawaii Federal Employees Metal Trades Council (HFEMTC).

On the anniversary of this tragic event, I call on our government, armed forces, employers, labor and allies to put in place meaningful programs to address mental health issues. Mental health must be destigmatized.

Our IFPTE brothers and all workers deserve to work in a safe workplace.

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The Metal Trades Department is a trade department of the AFL-CIO. It was chartered in 1908 to coordinate negotiating, organizing and legislative efforts of affiliated metalworking and related crafts and trade unions. Seventeen national and international unions are affiliated with the MTD today. More than 100,000 workers in private industry and federal establishments work under contracts negotiated by MTD Councils. Workers retain membership in their own trade unions.

The Hawaii Federal Employees Metal Trades Council represents 3600 workers at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.