

Anonymous

6/09

I had been enjoying the quiet morning with my dog at Laniakea Beach while me husband went surfing several Sundays ago. A volunteer from Malama Na Honu walked by stating, "Stay on the blanket, keep the beach clean." My dog was leashed, on my towel next to me, not roaming the beach urinating or defecating all around. I enjoy a clean beach like most people; if my dog was not under control, I can understand a remark such as that.

While I am all for the protection of the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle and education of the public, this volunteer seemed to have taken on other responsibilities to include policing the beach. I have heard other beachgoers and surfers comment that the volunteers have "gone too far".

There were no turtles visible at the time mentioned above. Tourist vans have been seen two abreast dropping off people at the beach, where there is a No Parking sign clearly visible. Perhaps Malama Na Honu should address the tourist vans if not already. This is just one incident; are there others that have not been reported?