

# animal wellness action

## INVESTIGATIVE SPECIAL REPORT

VERSION 1.0 SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

### **HAWAII: THE HUB FOR PACIFIC RIM COCKFIGHTING TRADE**

AN INVESTIGATION OF GUAM SHIPPING RECORDS REVEALED MORE SHIPPERS  
FROM HAWAII TO GUAM THAN ANY OTHER STATE

# SUMMARY AND OVERVIEW

---

Hawaii is one of just eight states without felony-level penalties for cockfighting, and the activity is widespread though largely clandestine on the islands. Fights occur on multiple islands, but particularly so on plantations in rural areas.

Hawaii has an anti-cockfighting provision, but it mainly applies to the organizers of fights. To have a more comprehensive and effective statute, the state should have a stronger prohibition on the fighting itself and should ban possessing fighting animals or attending a cockfight. The statute, as it exists, says that “(1) A person commits the offense of cruelty to animals in the second degree if the person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly: (d) Keeps, uses, or in any way is connected with or interested in the management of, or receives money for the admission of any person to, any place kept or used for the purpose of fighting or baiting any bull, bear, cock, or other animal, and includes every person who encourages, aids, or assists therein, or who permits or suffers any place to be so kept or used.”

Hawaii is near the center of the Pacific Ocean, and it’s both a destination and a stopover point for fighting birds. There is a brisk trade in fighting animals from the United States to the Philippines, Vietnam, and until recently, to Guam and the Northern Marianas Islands. Birds shipped to Hawaii from other states come in barren boxes, without food or water often on a multi-day journey, they are illegally transported through the U.S. mail. The animals are fraudulently described as “brood fowl,” when in fact they are destined for fighting pits.

This recent AWA investigation reveals illegal shipments of fighting animals to Guam. A review of avian shipping records to Guam from U.S. states found more than 500 probable illegal shipments of fighting birds during a three-year period ending in September 2019. There were 137 Guamanians who imported nearly 9,000 fighting birds onto Guam, and 71 “exporters” who sent birds from U.S. states to Guam. Hawaii cockfighters accounted for the largest number of total shippers, even as a small number of exporters from Oklahoma and California sent more birds. Those three states, plus Alabama and North Carolina accounted for 52 percent of all cockfighting roosters sent to Guam during the period we examined. Given that Guam has no commercial poultry production, or a show-bird circuit, there’s no other logical explanation for this large volume of rooster shipments.

Cockfighters have long falsely claimed that “we are only gamefowl breeders,” as if training, possessing, and selling birds for fighting purposes is a legally accepted business strategy. Based

on our investigation, we have reason to believe that the individuals named in this report are engaged in prohibited activities and are at the center of world-wide trafficking of fighting animals. We examined satellite images of their farms, captured social media posts and images explicitly demonstrating involvement in illegal animal fighting ventures, and even obtained video providing tours of their farms and marketing their birds to the Philippines. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured U.S gamefowl farms showcasing their fighting birds, and in 2020, AWA and AWF reviewed six separate broadcasts advertising gamefarms in Hawaii.

These individuals below are suspected of collectively raising tens of thousands of fighting animals and then selling the birds to other jurisdictions and profiting in the millions off those allegedly illegal sales. We list multiple individuals with farms and allege that they are involved in illegal cockfighting operations. We provided detailed evidence that supports our concerns about their activities.

While all states ban cockfighting, with 42 allowing for felony-level penalties for perpetrators, most states also ban possessing fighting birds and attending a cockfight. While Hawaii's law is one of the weakest in the nation, cockfighters there still face tremendous legal jeopardy because of U.S. law. The United States bans cockfighting itself everywhere in the country and it also makes a wide range of associated activities a felony. A new federal provision went into effect on December 20, 2019 that makes a ban on cockfighting a felony offense in every part of the United States, including the Pacific-based territories of the United States. It has been illegal since 2002 to ship fighting animals from any state to any other jurisdiction, whether a state, territory, or other nation.

**Under federal law, it is a crime to:**

- Knowingly sponsoring or exhibiting in an animal fighting venture;
- Knowingly attending an animal fighting venture, or knowingly causing an individual who has not attained the age of 16 to attend an animal fighting venture;
- Knowingly buying, selling, possessing, training, transporting, delivering, or receiving any animal for purposes of having the animal participate in an animal fighting venture;
- Knowingly using the mail service of the U.S. Postal Service, or any "written, wire, radio televisions or other form of communications in, or using a facility of, interstate commerce," to advertise an animal for use in an animal fighting venture, or to advertise a knife, gaff, or other sharp instrument designed to be attached to the leg of a bird for use in an animal fighting

venture, or to promote or in any other manner further an animal fighting venture except as performed outside the U.S.;

- Knowingly selling, buying, transporting, or delivering in interstate or foreign commerce “a knife, a gaff, or any other sharp instrument” designed or intended to be attached to the leg of a bird for use in an animal fighting venture.

Penalties for each violation of any one of these provisions allows for a maximum of 5 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for perpetrators, except for an adult attending an animal fighting venture. Penalties for adult attendance are 1 year in prison and a \$5,000 fine. An “animal fighting venture” involves “a fight conducted or to be conducted between at least 2 animals for purposes of sport, wagering, or entertainment, except that the term animal fighting venture shall not be deemed to include any activity the primary purpose of which involves the use or one or more animals in hunting another animal.”

Rank	Exporter Last	Exporter First	Brood Fowl	Address	City	State	Zip
8	Kagimoto	Erwin/Sam	340	910 Kulaloa Rd	Hilo	HI	96720
10	Staszko	Christian	227	151644 Poha Avenue	Keaau	HI	96749
12	Torres	Richard	166	PO Box 2638	Kamuela	HI	96743
13	Hashimoto	Donovan	162	21B Kalaniana'ole Avenue	Hilo	HI	96720
16	Mandawe	Joseph	130	66 Anuenue Street	Hilo	HI	96720
28	Galiza	Eddie	51	PO Box 877	Haleiwa	HI	96712
30	Sato	Sanford	48	41-1641A Kalaniana'ole Hwy	Waimanalo	HI	96765
31	Botelho	Jason	45	55-780 Hawi Road	Hawi	HI	96719
32	Jarneski	Kelvin	38	64-5208 Alanui Ohana Place	Kamuela	HI	96743
33	Inn	Edward	35	4778 Likni Street	Honolulu	HI	96818
38	Lapina	Eugene	25	PO Box 1515	Pahoa	HI	96778
39	Llanes	Bernie	24	PO Box 2269	Kealahou	HI	96750
40	Patao	James	24	18-8197 North Kulani Road	Mt. View	HI	96771
44	Jugas	Randy	20	350 Ward Avenue #106	Honolulu	HI	96814
47	Torres	Romeo	20	92-267 Hoalii Place	Kapolei	HI	96743
48	Saniatan	Dennis	15	21B Kalaniana'ole Ave	Hilo	HI	96720
52	Kaohu	Ryan	12	816 Ihi Ihi Avenue	Wahiwa	HI	96786
53	Lupina	Eugene	12	87-1665 Paakea Road	Waianae	HI	96705
56	Tanaka	Randal	10	66-947 Kuewa Drive	Waialua	HI	96791
58	Uchima	Roger	8	PO Box 251	Honolulu	HI	96728
59	Etrata	Sid Jr.	2	PO Box 1515	Pahoa	HI	96778
60	Cambra	John	1	47-929 Kamakoi Road	Kaneohe	HI	96744

# PROFILES



## ERWIN AND SON SAM KAGIMOTO

RANK: 8

910 Kulalooa Rd., Hilo, HI 96720

Samuel Kagimoto Facebook Page: [Click here](#)

- The dogs killed 23 roosters and 3 hens
- The suit pegs the estimated cost for replacing the roosters at \$9,775 and the breeder hens at \$4,380. In addition, the Kagimotos estimate the production loss of the hens within a five-year period to be \$140,250, and the projected revenue loss during the three years needed to raise the breeder hens to productivity at \$14,038.

### Satellite picture of his property



# PROFILES

---



## CHRISTIAN STASZKOWO

RANK: 10

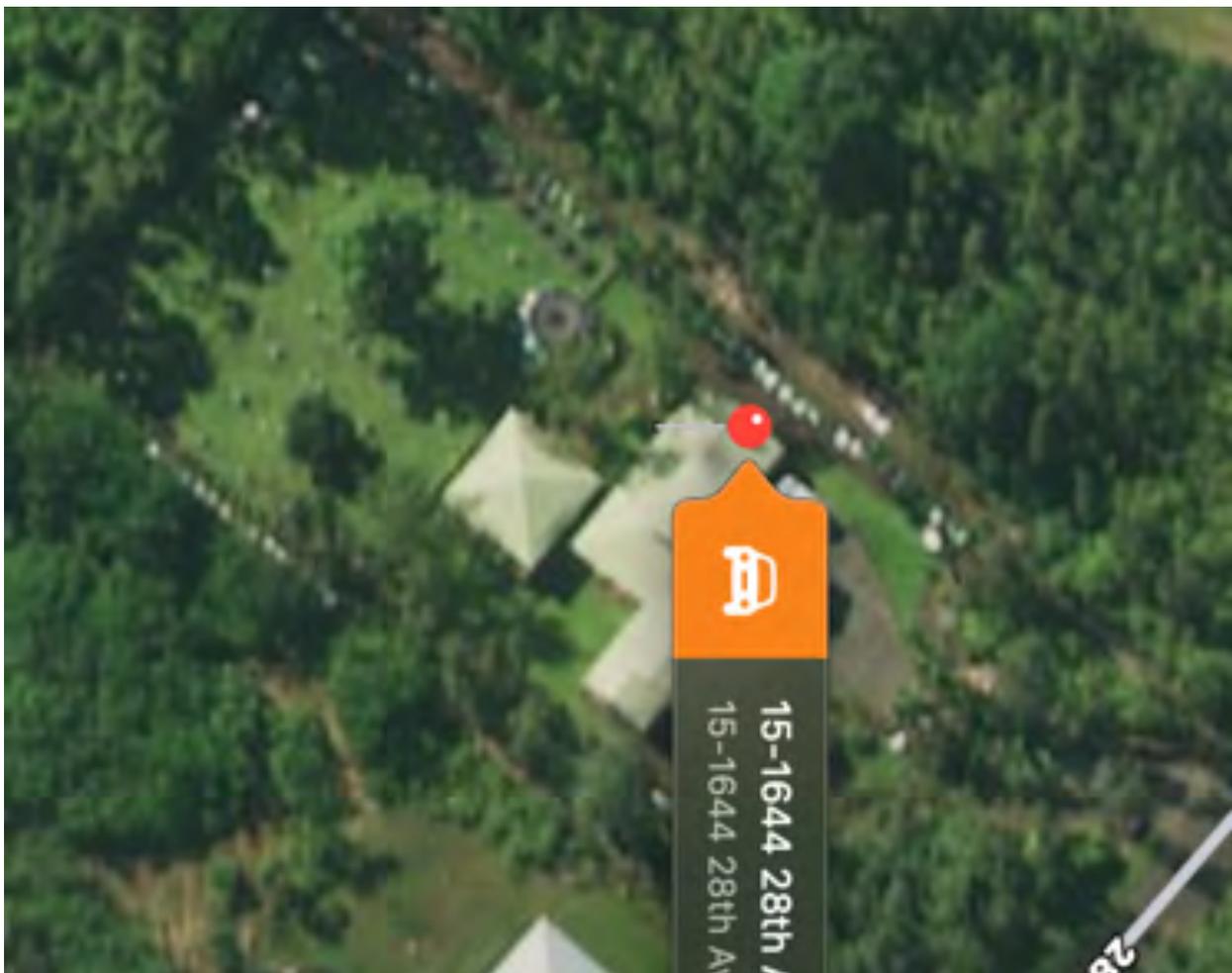
15-1644 28TH Ave, Keaau, HI 96749

Christian Staszko Facebook Page: [Click here](#)

Possible arrest during a cockfighting raid: [Click here](#)

- Officers recovered 20 dead or injured gamecocks and 20 other gamecocks that had leg bands identifying matching birds to be fought.

Satellite picture of his property



# PROFILES

---



## RICHARD TORRES

RANK: 12  
Triple T Gamefarm  
PO Box 2638, Kamuela, HI 96743  
Phone: 808.990.0651

Richard Torres Facebook Page: [Click here](#)

Video of an interview he did for Tukaan in 2014: [Click here](#)

- When asked what he likes about them he stated, “Just the beauty, their courage, the way they, you know, no matter what they’ll continue fighting even if they’re chopped up, you know, chopped up to pieces and they just keep coming, you know, determination.”
- “...bred over a thousand chicks so over a thousand stags.”
- “The thing that gives me the most pride is when my customers call and they tell me that they won a derby.”
- “Don’t screw around with sickly chickens, get rid of them...you’re not running a hospital. It’ll cost you more money to try and heal chickens...don’t waste your time with them.”
- “People around the world know my name because of my chickens.”

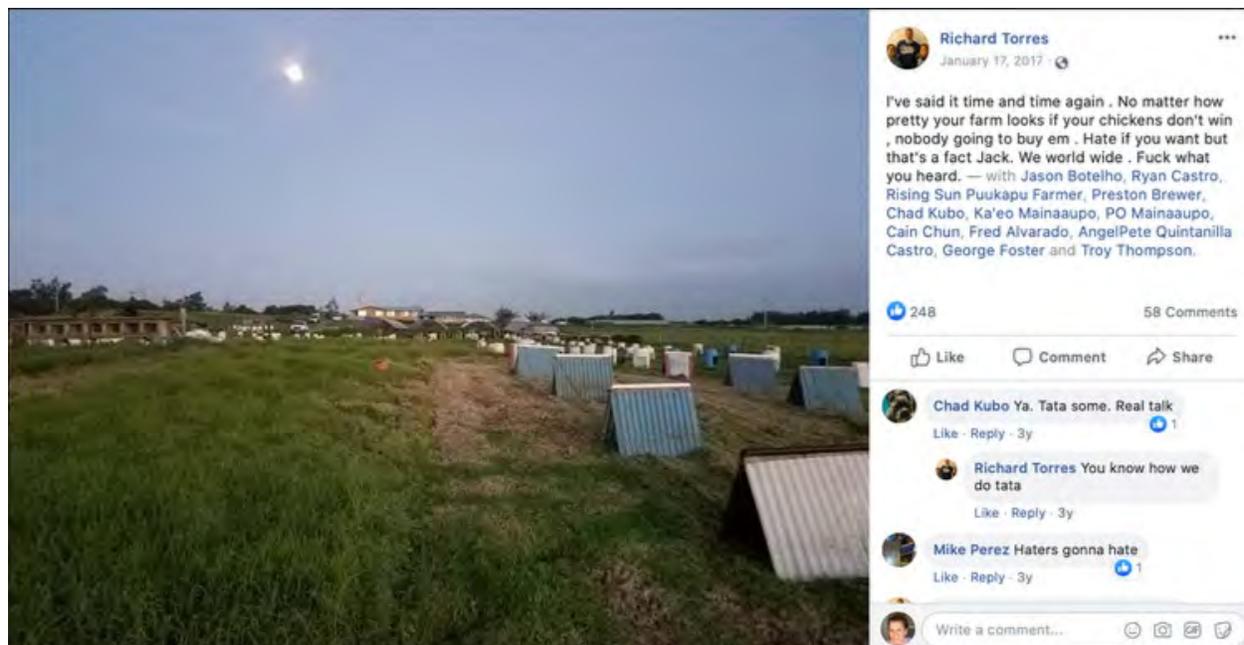


## RICHARD TORRES (Continued)

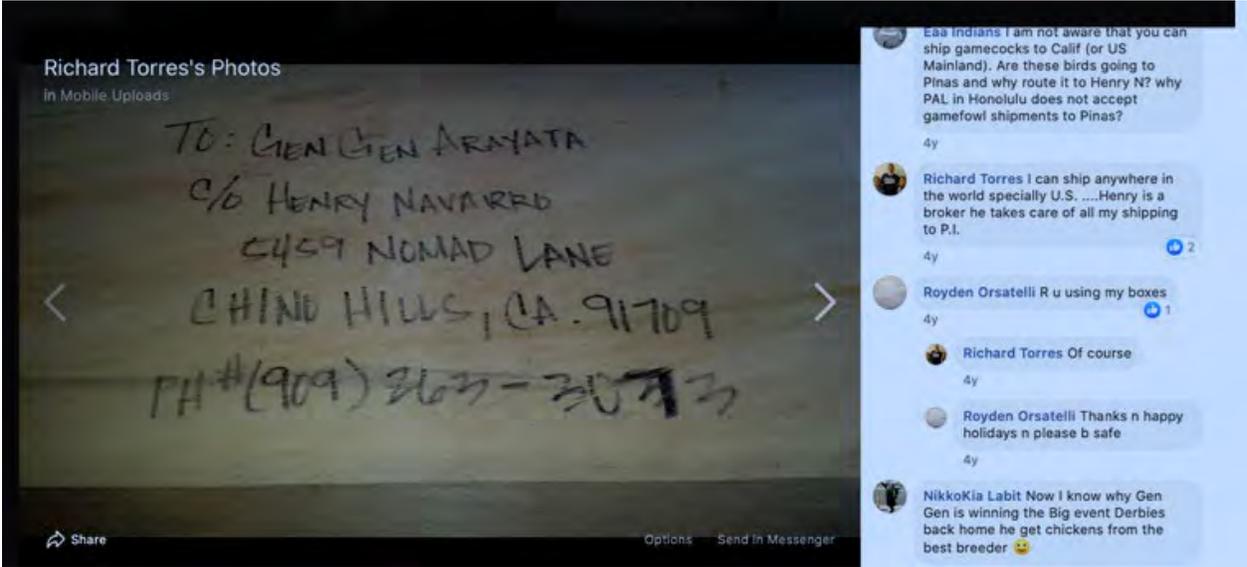
### Using the USPS to ship birds.



“If your chickens don’t win, nobody going to buy em’...we world wide” – Shipping birds for the purpose of cockfighting. Describing shipping birds worldwide and using a broker to ship to the Philippines.



# RICHARD TORRES



# PROFILES



**EDDIE GALIZA**

RANK: 28

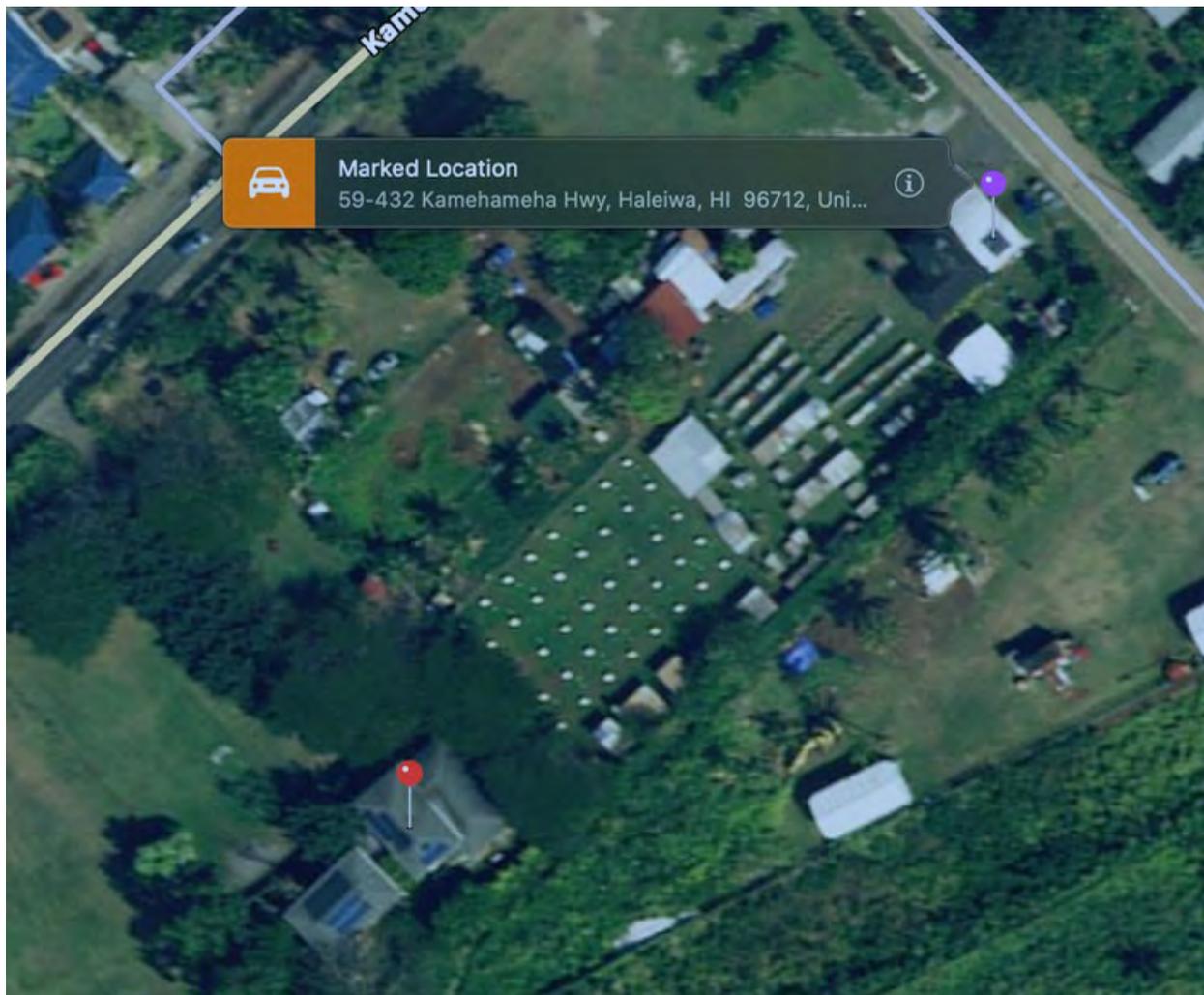
Pipeline Gamefarm

59-432 Kamehameha Hwy, Haleiwa, HI

Eddie Galiza Facebook Page: [Click here](#)

Pipeline Gamefarm Facebook Page: [Click here](#)

Satellite picture of his property



## EDDIE GALIZA (Continued)

Interview he did on BNTV in 2018. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion: [Click here to view interview](#)



- "...when I was working for lumbar shipyard we had just hack fighting."
- Host asks: "And you don't miss sabong, because you have sabong here." (sabong means cock-fighting in Filipino) – Galiza answers, "yes we do...".

Article from 2003 describes the federal law making it illegal to ship birds for the purpose of cock-fighting. Galiza is interviewed: [Click here](#)

- "The demand for fighting birds and the need to constantly fortify bloodlines with stock from diverse gene pools has made Hawai'i a unique and important gamecock breeding crossroads between Asia and Latin America, according to breeders here."
- "Galiza and his counterparts say that since more than half their sales come from birds shipped out of state, the law could drive a spur through their financial hearts. They also don't feel it's fair that they should be held responsible for what buyers do with their product."

# PROFILES

---



## SANFORD SATO

RANK: 30

41-1641A Kalaniana'ole Hwy, Waimanalo, HI 96765

Sanford Sato Facebook Page 1: [Click here](#)

Sanford Sato Facebook Page 2: [Click here](#)

Satellite picture of his property



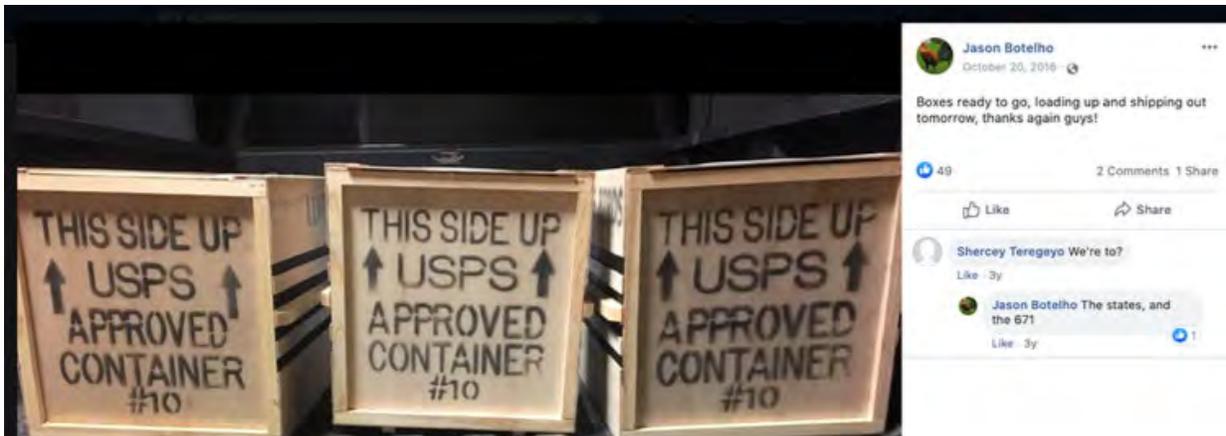
# PROFILES



RANK: 31  
OER Farm  
55-780 Hawi Rd, Hawi, HI 96719

OER Farm Facebook Page: [Click here](#)

Satellite picture of his property does not show signs of roosters.



“Boxes ready to go, loading up and shipping out tomorrow, thanks again guys!”

# PROFILES

---



**KELVIN JARNESKI**

RANK: 32

64-5208 Alanui Ohana Place, Kamuela, HI 96743

Kelvin Jarneski Facebook Page 1: [Click here](#)

Satellite picture of his property



# PROFILES



## BERNIE LLANES

RANK: 39

Aggressive Gamefarm

75-5437 Mamalahoa Hwy, Holualoa, HI 96725-8621

Aggressive Gamefarm Facebook Page 1: [Click here](#)

Bernie Llanes Facebook Page 1: [Click here](#)

Satellite picture of his property



**AggressiveGamefarm**  
Like This Page · September 4, 2018 · 🌐

Hatch Stags Available will be Shipping in The Fall..Thanks For Looking 🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌

👍 22      7 Comments 1 Share

👍 Like    💬 Comment    ➦ Share    👤

Most Relevant ▾

**Edzel Villarosa** Sir gud day how much and shipping in the philippines  
Like · Reply · 1y

**AggressiveGamefarm** Author  
\$400.landed.to Philippines  
Like · Reply · 1y

**Edzel Villarosa**  
AggressiveGamefarm 400\$ and shipping sir possible sir send your stag  
Like · Reply · 1y

**AggressiveGamefarm** Author  
Yes.Edzel

# PROFILES



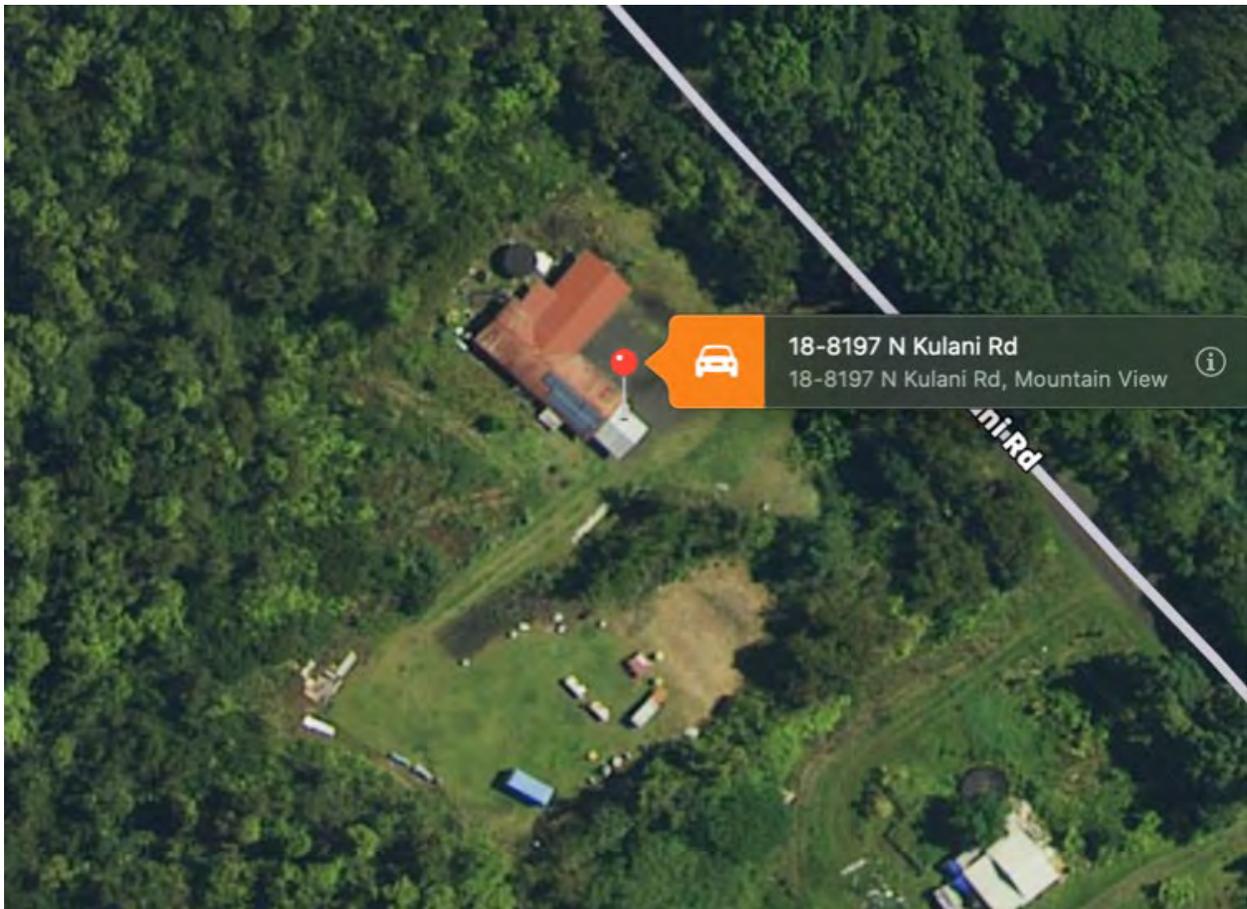
**JAMES PATAO**

RANK: 40

18-8197 North Kulani Road, Mt. View, HI 96771

James Patao Facebook Page 1: [Click here](#)

Satellite picture of his property



# PROFILES (Continued)

“training my sparring partner” – putting on the muffs used for sparring/training.”



# PROFILES

---



**EUGENE LUPINA**

RANK: 53

87-1665 Paakea Road, Waianae, HI 96705

Eugene Lapina

Eugene Lupina Facebook Page: [Click here](#)

Satellite picture of his property



# PROFILES



## SID ETRATA

RANK: 59

One Nation Gamefarm

PO Box 1515 Paho, HI (cannot locate physical address)

Sid Etrata Facebook Page: [Click here](#)

Participating in a cockfight in the Philippines



“Not much people can say they show in the pi. I’m very fortunate to say that I’m with Gerry Ramos fighting under “Hawaiian Sid”

## SID ETRATA (Continued)

Spectator at a fighting derby in Guam



“Big thanks to team silver star for treating me like family while having me there in Guam! – with Marceiel N Elisha Manago, Jay Jacaine and Chrystal Etrata.”

---

# SID ETRATA (Continued)

Doing business with other exporters we've included in other state investigations. Tammy Marco is Tammy Shive-Ayala in KY.



## SID ETRATA (Continued)

Video of One Nation at the “World Slasher’s Cup” cockfight in the Philippines, looks like they were winners: [Click here](#)



0:22 / 0:38

One Nation Gamefarm Hawaii at the 2016 World Slasher Cup VIP press conference at the Novotel

24,275 views · Jan 29, 2016

14 0 SHARE SAVE ...

# PROFILES

---



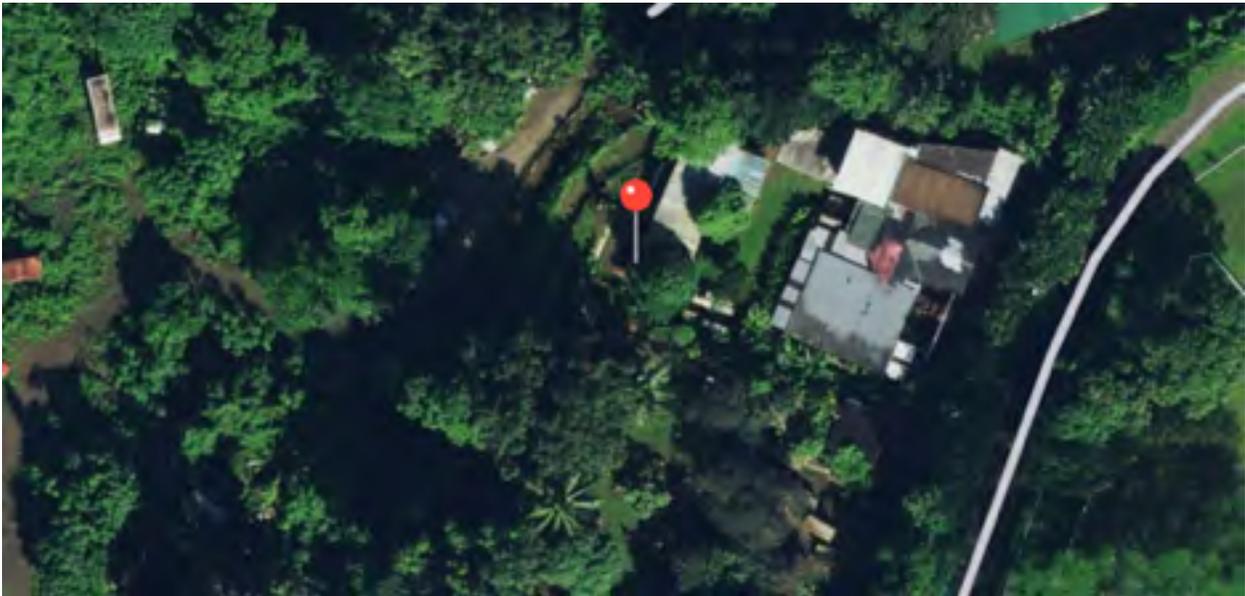
## JOHN CAMBRA AKA BUTCH

RANK: 60  
OER Farm  
47-929 Kamakoi Road, Kaneohe, HI 96744

John Cambra Facebook Page: [Click here](#)

Cambra Gamefowl Farm Facebook Page: [Click here](#)

Satellite picture of his property



# JOHN CAMBRA (Continued)



The image is a screenshot of a Facebook post. On the left is the profile page for 'PRM Boston Round Head' (@asgardgamefarm), which includes a circular logo for 'ASGARD GAME FARM' featuring a red rooster head. The post itself is from 'PRM Boston Round Head' dated February 23, 2018. The text of the post reads: 'JOHN CAMBRA III " BUTCH " MY AMERICAN FRIEND BASED IN HAWAII HOLDING THR MOST BEAUTIFUL ROUNDHEAD STAG FROM YELLOW ROSE GAMEFARM'. The main image shows a man with a mustache, wearing a red baseball cap and sunglasses, holding a large, dark-colored rooster with a red comb. The background is an outdoor setting with trees and a building.

## **JOHN CAMBRA** (Continued)

**Article from 2005 describing his participation in breeding and selling “fighting roosters”:**

[Click here](#)

- John Cambra, 53, a longtime state employee who lives on his family’s 30-acre compound in Kahalu’u, grew up around gamebirds.
- Today he runs Cambra Game Fowl Farm/Onipa’a and sells fighting roosters to cockfighters in Guam, Latin America, Micronesia, Louisiana, Oklahoma, California and New Mexico.
- He made \$21,000 selling birds last year and he said the side business has helped him put two sons and a daughter through college. A 2003 federal law prohibits the interstate transportation of chickens for fighting purposes, so he has buyers sign affidavits saying they won’t use the bird for fighting.
- He currently has about 500 chickens of various ages at his Kahalu’u farm, as well as ducks and pheasants. He also rents a two-acre farm in Louisiana, where fighting birds still is legal. Cambra does all his fighting in Louisiana these days because he doesn’t want to risk his legitimate business of selling birds, nor does he want to get his family in trouble.
- “My son’s a policeman; my brother is a policeman; I don’t want to jepordize them,” he said.

**Article from 2006 regarding an FBI investigation into cockfighting that lead to indictments:**

[Click here.](#)

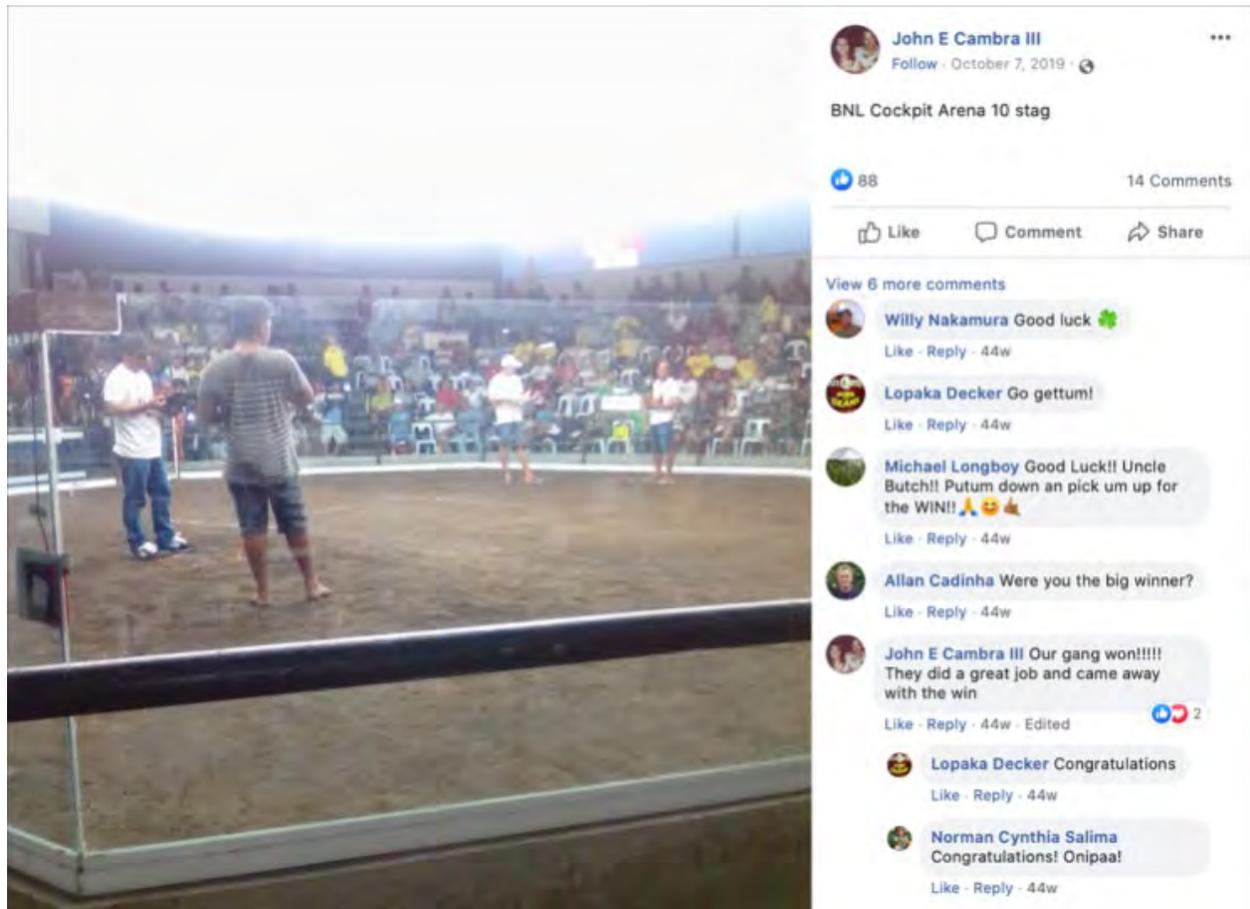
- The second indictment alleges officer John Edwin Cambra IV and his father, John Edwin Cambra III, tried to prevent the FBI on June 21, 2005, from recovering cockfight gaffs from the family’s farm during a search.

**Participation in cockfighting in 2017 at the World Slasher Cup in Manila: [Click here](#)**

- “The World Slasher Cup 2017 is actually a 9-cock invitational derby featuring the best breeders and cockers and the finest winged warriors.”
- “Among the Americans vying in the event are Titing Ariosa and Erik Rosales of California, Tim Fitzgerald of Utah, Butch Cambra of Hawaii, Larry Whitehead of Tennessee, Dr. Bel Almojera of Chicago, Roger Roberts of Georgia, and Matthew Dunne, Cornelio Amby, Lester Chow, Ken Graham and Patrick Dunn of various states in US.”

# JOHN CAMBRA (Continued)

## Winning a cockfight in 2019





In addition to the gamefarms listed previously in this report, the following breeders were identified as major players in the industry.

## PROFILES



### BRYSON AU

Red Raiders Gamefarm  
Phone: 808-600-1344

“Butch” John Cambra (included in this report) is his uncle. In this interview from 2018, it sounds like they are openly fighting in derbies in Hawaii.

Interview he did on BNTV in 2018. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured the U.S showcasing what they consider to be the best gamefowl farms. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion:

[Click here to view the interview](#)

- Host says, “So you been winning a lot on this side of town?” – Au responds, “yes”.
- “I spar everyday.”
- “I band all the chickens that are sparring good.”
- “If I pick one on entry, I go spar them all the way until the day I fight...no rest.”
- “I’m more of an aggressive fighter.”
- “5 derbies this year so far.”
- Host says, “...you still have a regular job?” – Au responds, “Not right now. No, because I’m winning.”
- “My kids walk with me in the pit.”
- Host states, “taking about Hawaii and the Philippines. I heard that, number one, you have a five-minute limit...in the Philippines it’s ten minutes, draw. Here, only five minutes, it’s a draw.” Au responds, “Yes”.

## BRYSON AU (Continued)

- Host states, "...and then if you send gamecocks from Hawaii to the Philippines it's going to cost you a lot of money...so you send them by post office to California and then send it through Willy Dunca, or Henry Navarro, or Dom Corpus to the Philippines, it's a lot cheaper." – Au responds, "Yes". (Note – Com Corpus is included in our CA investigative report)
- Host says, "How long have you been showing." Au responds, "I been fighting since I was a little kid, but I really got into it in 2003."



The image shows a YouTube video player interface. At the top, there is a search bar containing the text "thunderbird tour BNTV". The video thumbnail features three men standing outdoors in a grassy area with blue chairs. The man on the left is wearing a red polo shirt and holding a microphone. The man in the middle is wearing a dark t-shirt with "HIJIN" on it. The man on the right is wearing a dark polo shirt and holding a small object. A red banner at the bottom of the thumbnail reads "BRYSON AU RED RAIDERS GAMEFARM". Below the thumbnail, the video title is "2018 BRYSON AU", with "391 views · Apr 26, 2020" below it. There are icons for likes (7), dislikes (0), share, save, and a menu icon. At the bottom left, there is a channel icon for "BNTV Production Presents" with "4.3K subscribers". A red "SUBSCRIBE" button is located at the bottom right.

# PROFILES

---



## CHRIS IBANEZ

Phone: 808-479-3398

### Listed on Pit Games list of breeders:

IBANEZ GAMEFARM

**Country:** United States

**Address:** Waianae, Hawaii

**Owner:** Mike And Chris Ibanez

**Email:** mikeibanez1976@gmail.com

**Facebook page is private:** [Click here](#)

Interview he did on BNTV in 2018. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured the U.S showcasing what they consider to be the best gamefowl farms. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion: [Click here to see interview](#)

- Host says, "...they like off season, off colored gamecocks...the blacks, the gold, the greys and of course a sprinkling of red." Ibanez says, "Just get different colors to spar the chickens to everything. Use it to fight in all different colors I guess."
- Host asks, "And which are good for the long knife?" Chris says, "I like the buliks and the greys..."
- Host asks, "Do you mean to say other than derbies you have hack fights here?" Chris says, "Yeah, we got hack fights here."
- Host asks, "But for the hack fights, is there any special prize?" Chris explains, "Just whatever you bet."

# CHRIS IBANEZ (Continued)



YouTube

thunderbird US Tour BNTV



2018 CHRIS IBAÑEZ

227 views • Apr 29, 2020

2 0 SHARE SAVE ...

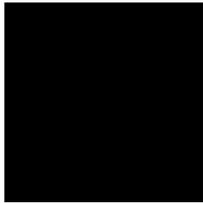


BNTV Production Presents  
4.31K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

# PROFILES

---



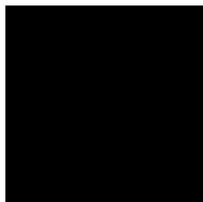
**GINO JOSEPH**  
Oahu, HI

Interview he did on BNTV. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured the U.S showcasing what they consider to be the best gamefowl farms. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion: [Click here to view the interview](#)

- Host says, “So you’ve been fighting gamefowl for a long time already?” Gino responds, “We call it elementary school, 9-10 years old.”
- Host says, “So you breed them cousin to cousin mating?” Gino says, “I guess you could say that.”
- “You know, there are some people here with really good roosters. There’s a lot of people here, that are really good rooster men. What holds us down is the fact that we not supposed to be doing it here.”
- “There is a lot of animal species that will fight but injured badly and maybe go off and die, you know, in an hour or two hours or what it may be so, it is a cycle of a lot of animals not just roosters, you know.”
- Host asks, “You have a lot of neighbors that are in it small time.” He says, “Yes, small time.”



# PROFILES



## STONEY POCOCK

Stoney & Sons Gamefarm  
Waimanalo, HI  
Phone: 808-479-3149

Facebook page is private: [Click here](#)

Interview he did on BNTV in 2018. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured the U.S showcasing what they consider to be the best gamefowl farms. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion: [Click here to view the interview](#)

Hosts describe this as the largest farm they've been to in Hawaii

- "They do well here for as long as I can remember in the long knife." (talking about the pumpkin bloodline he has)
- Host asks, "What is your market?" He says, "Mostly local and Guam."

Stoney also calls John Cambra an uncle. (John Cambra is included in this report and is seen in this video) and he states that, "My brother he also breeds and fights also too...if he needs something then I give hm or vice versa. Just to help keep the birds just how we like them, you know, winning."



# PROFILES

---



## VERNON LOWRY

Phone: 808-258-8946  
85-1256 D Waianae Valley Rd, Waianae, HI

Facebook page is private: [Click here](#)

2017 – sued by Dept of Labor for not paying laborers at his construction business: [Click here](#)



## VERNON LOWRY (Continued)

Interview he did on BNTV in 2018. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured the U.S showcasing what they consider to be the best gamefowl farms. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion: [Click here to view the interview](#)

- “Far as their ability...high flying good cutting roosters, very game.”
- “Very good for long knife.”
- “Depends if I’m training roosters, then it takes longer.” (discussing time spent on raising roosters)



animal  
wellness  
**action**

animal  
wellness  
**foundation**

**Marty Irby**

*Executive Director, Animal Wellness Action*

Email: [Marty@AnimalWellnessAction.org](mailto:Marty@AnimalWellnessAction.org)

Phone: (202) 821-5686