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“Dr. Beach” Names Hawaii’s Kapalua Bay Beach America’s Best Beach

Miami, FL—Kapalua Bay Beach is number one in the 28th annual Top 10 Beach List, produced by coastal expert Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman, professor at Florida International University.

Kapalua Bay Beach is a secluded, crescent-shaped beach lined by palm trees. This small beach is protected from the oceanic waves by the “arms” of lava flows, making it a great place for snorkeling with the plethora of beautiful tropical fish, which are just offshore of the white coral sand. Getting there from the main road is an easy drive through a golf course. There are showers and restrooms nearby; lunch and drinks can be purchased from the nearby Ritz Carlton. The only problem is the limited parking so arrive early to snag one of the spots.

As “Dr. Beach” (www.DrBeach.org), Leatherman has selected the annual Top 10 Beaches since 1991. Fifty criteria are used to evaluate beaches, which include water and sand quality as well as safety and management. Dr. Leatherman is an internationally known coastal scientist who has published 20 books and hundreds of scientific articles and reports about storm impacts, coastal erosion and ways to improve beach health and safety.

Bonus points are awarded for prohibition of smoking on beaches. Previous National Winners are retired and listed on my web site.

Additional Online Resources:

Biography for Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman: www.drbeach.org/pressreleases/CV_Leatherman.doc

Photographs: www.drbeach.org/mediakit.htm

Dr. Beach’s 50 Criteria: www.drbeach.org/50criteria.htm

TOP 10 BEACHES 2018

1. Kapalua Bay Beach
Maui, Hawaii
2. Ocracoke Lifeguarded Beach
Outer Banks of North Carolina
3. Grayton Beach State Park
Florida panhandle
4. Coopers Beach
Southampton, New York
5. Coast Guard Beach
Cape Cod, Massachusetts
6. Lighthouse Beach, Buxton
Outer Banks of North Carolina
7. Caladesi Island State Park
Dunedin/Clearwater, Florida
8. Hapuna Beach State Park
Big Island, Hawaii
9. Coronado Beach
San Diego, California
10. Beachwalker Park
Kiawah Island, South Carolina