



My first exposure to “Shaka” was when I was stationed in Hawaii, in my early twenties. There was a particular moment when I learned of its legal significance. As described in another story, I found myself at a “locals” Luau. Actually the locals were Oahu Police officers and families, and I was the odd man out. Invited by one of the officers as my “punishment”, he wanted ALL his friends to be familiar with me. But again, that’s another story. While at the Luau, I learned of a couple of local customs, one of them was the hand sign for “Shaka”. In the context of Hawaiian Police officers, Shaka; in addition to the other meanings stated in the video from Wikipedia; has an all important meaning. It meant “Hey yeah, I screwed up, but I’m in control of the situation, and there is no harm / no foul.” When you do something that is clearly a misdemeanor in Hawaii, and you know that you were observed by an officer of the law, you will get away with it if you acknowledge it with an obvious Shaka hand sign for the benefit of the observing officer. With that said, if there was minor “harm” or someone you didn’t notice was “fouled”, you might still get stopped and talked to. The only time you will get ticketed or arrested in Hawaii, even if you use the Shaka hand-sign, is when you use it inappropriately, in the eyes of the observing officer. So you should use it sparingly.

With that said, the hand sign, does have its generic meaning. And in this case, it was to show my appreciation to the two guys who were busy working on capturing my visual memories for me. As I write this, it is hard to decide who to thank first, but Mike will understand, and because of the “links”; I’ll cover “the photographer” first, because some of Mike’s videos are not on Calypso’s web-site. The Photographer’s work is shown here and there all over this web-site. But two of note are on the “[Music](#)” page. Check out “Spring Mountain Mans...” with Whisper a Thrill by Thomas Newman, and “Sand” by Nathan Lanier. Both have some of the photographers’ stills embedded in the video, particularly “Sand”. I wish I had obtained his name, and or even his company name back then, so I could give him all due credit, but I didn’t. So here I sit in retrospect, in deep appreciation for his skill and workmanship, hoping that the people up at Spring Mountain, can get in touch with him for me.



That brings me to my good friend Mike Smith. I'm pretty sure he knows that I have immense value in our friendship. We first met through the dice game "Bunko". He calls me "[Bunko Pete](#)", and I call him "Bunko Mike". We have been through a lot together. He is truly a kindred soul when it comes to the experiences of life. You can get a momentary video of Mike on the "[Shorts](#)" page. And appreciate some of his work shown here on the left (the Straight run).

But, perhaps the most common tie we have is our now past love of motorcycle rides. And I must say, that our "tours" of Maui, are right up there with my love of Calypso. I often say that our rides around Maui (literally), are the best bike rides in the world. In one day you can drive through seven different climate zones. But also check out two videos of our "Maui" days, First "[Maui Ride](#)" and then a ride through "[Lahaina](#)"; Mike has always had my back, or my side!!!



And in the context of May 2016, Mike gave me an entire weekend capturing 10 second clips here, 20 seconds there; sometimes as many as 30.

To hear it in his own words – click these pictures below this document.



From BUNKO PETE – THANK YOU BUNKO MIKE!!!

SHAKA