



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

**“Tsunami Awareness and Preparedness Day  
September 27, 2024”**

**WHEREAS**, high ocean waves created by a seismic event, known as a tsunami, have always placed the lives, homes, and livelihoods of American Samoa’s coastal residents in grave peril; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 29, 2009, an 8.1 magnitude earthquake near 122 statute miles southwest of Tutuila, American Samoa, generated a tsunami that claimed 35 lives in American Samoa, of which three were not found; and

**WHEREAS**, the September 29, 2009 tsunami caused millions of dollars in damages along the American Samoa coast; and

**WHEREAS**, education, preparedness, and warning systems, such as the Emergency Alert System, played a vital role in reducing these losses, as they have in past natural emergency events; and

**WHEREAS**, during Tsunami Awareness and Preparedness Week, the American Samoa Department of Homeland Security, the NOAA National Weather Service – WSO Pago Pago, other federal and local government agencies, and non-profit organizations throughout American Samoa will participate in events designed to educate the public about the dangers of tsunamis; and

**WHEREAS**, I encourage all residents of American Samoa to learn more about the tsunami threat and take appropriate steps to secure their lives and properties against future tsunami events.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA**, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim September 27, 2024, as “Tsunami Awareness and Preparedness Day” in American Samoa, which will be observed on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, to commemorate all tsunami victims.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four.

**LEMANU P. S. MAUGA**

Governor