



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

PROCLAMATION

**“Tsunami Remembrance Day”
September 29, 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.
- WHEREAS,** this year, September 29 falls on a Sunday, I encourage the People of American Samoa to take a moment of silence to remember and honor those souls we lost in this devastating event.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim September 29, 2024, as “Tsunami Remembrance Day” in American Samoa, dedicated to honoring 2009 tsunami victims.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 25th day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four.


LEMANU P. S. MAUGA
Governor