



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

PROCLAMATION

**“TSUNAMI AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS DAY
September 29, 2023”**

WHEREAS, high ocean waves created by a seismic event, known as 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 square 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 damage 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 steps, as appropriate, to secure their lives and properties against future tsunami.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim September 29, 2023, as “Tsunami Awareness and Preparedness Day” in American Samoa, which will be observed on Friday, September 29th, to commemorate all tsunami victims.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 31st day of August, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three.

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA
Governor