



PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA
GOVERNOR

PULUMATAALA AE AE JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA 96799

Telephone: (684) 633-4121

**PROCLAMATION
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH (DVAM)
“With Survivors, Always”
October 2025**

- WHEREAS,** Domestic violence is a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate relationship. It can happen to anyone at any point in a relationship. Domestic violence includes behaviors that physically harm, cause fear, prevent a partner from doing what they wish, or force them to behave in ways they do not want; and
- WHEREAS,** the number of adult protective services cases in American Samoa continues to grow each year. Reported cases for adults have increased by 19% from October 2023 to September 2025; and
- WHEREAS,** we must continue to increase education, awareness, and understanding of domestic violence and its causes, recognizing the need to understand the complexity of violence as perpetuated within communities and against communities, and the fear of many survivors to report to law enforcement; and
- WHEREAS,** we can all help build and maintain a cultural framework that addresses family violence, where abuse is not tolerated and where survivors are heard, supported, and protected. We must remain committed to building a better American Samoa where everyone is safe, respected, lives free from abuse, and embraces healing. We eliminate the misconception that “violence is part of our Samoan Culture” and perpetuate the core values of faa’Samoa being founded on love and respect, centered on family, and restore communities; and
- WHEREAS,** the theme for this year’s Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) is ***“With Survivors, Always”***, which encourages us to explore what it means to be in partnership with survivors towards safety, support, and solidarity. It is both a love letter and a call to action for us to advocate for the needs and rights of survivors. Survivors deserve safety. Survivors deserve support. Survivors deserve solidarity. Learning more about advocates, allies, and how you can help them expand domestic violence awareness is a great way to stand up for survivors and help prevent domestic violence in American Samoa.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim October 2025 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" and in recognition of the ongoing efforts to address domestic violence in our communities I encourage all residents of American Samoa to join in recognizing the courage of all survivors, the dedication of service providers, and the importance of creating safe, supportive communities. I encourage recognition of the valuable work being conducted by the Department of Human and Social Services, service providers, and non-governmental organizations in advocating for and supporting victims of violence. I encourage reflection on how our fa'a-Samoa values of respect, honor, love, and compassion guide us in creating communities free from violence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 30th day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-five.



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POLOAIGA FA'ALAU'AITELE
O OKETOPA E FA'ALAUILOA AI LE TĀUA O LE PUIPUI MA I SAUĀGA
FA'ALOTOIFALE

TALUAI, o sauāga fa'alotoifale o ni amioga e faia e le tasi o pa'aga e fa'amautū ai lona malosiaga ma lona pulea o le isi pa'aga i se mafutaga vāvālalata. E mafai ona tupu i so'o se tasi i so'o se taimi o se mafutaga. O sauāga fa'alotoifale e aofia ai amioga e afaina ai tulaga fa'ale-tino, tupu ai le fefe; taofia ai se pa'aga mai le faia o mea latou te manana'o i ai, po o le fa'amalosia o i latou e faia amioga e lē o mōnana'o ai; ma

TALUAI, o lo'o fa'atupula'ia pea le aofai'ga o matā'upu ona o sauāga sa a'afia ai tagata mātutua i tausaga ta'itasi. Ua si'itia i le 19% le aofa'iga o matā'upu mo tagata mātutua sa sauāina ma na ripotia mai ia Oketopa 2023 aga'i atu ia Setema 2025.

TALUAI, e tāua tele le fa'aauau o a'oa'oga, ma le fa'alautele atili o le silafia ma le malamalama o tagata i sauāga fa'alotoifale ma ona mafua'aga. E ao foi ona tatou malamalama i le faigatā ma le iviivia o le matā'upu o le sauāga. E pei o le sauāina i totonu o nu'u ma afioaga, le fa'asaga tau i nu'u ma afioaga, ma le fefefe o le toatele o i latou e ripoti i le tulafono; ma

TALUAI, e mafai ona tatou fesoasoani uma i le fausia ma fa'atumauiina se 'auivi fa'aleaganu'u e mafai ona gafataulimaina ai le taofia o le sauāga i totonu o aiga. Ia avea tatou ma se atunu'u e lē talia le sauāga i so'o se tasi. Ia o tatou lagona le leo o i latou ua a'afia i sauāga, lagolago ma puipui ia i latou. E tatau ona tatou tumau ma tāmāu i le fausiaina o se Amerika Samoa e sili atu ma ia saogalemu tagata uma, e fa'a'aloalogia, e ola sa'oloto mai sauāga, ma e talia fa'amalologa. E tatau ona tatou lafoa'i le manatu ua fa'apea, "O sauāga o se vaega o le aganu'u Samoa". 'Ae ia tatou fa'alauiloa o le fa'a-Samoa e fa'avae i le alofa ma le fa'a'aloalo, e fa'a'autū i aiga mo le toe fa'aleleia o nu'u ma afioaga; ma

TALUAI, o le manulauti o lenei tausaga mo le masina o Oketopa o lo'o fa'alauiloa ma fa'atāua ai le tete'e atu i sauāga, o le **"Lagolagoina Pea o le Tagata Puapuagatia"**. Ia avea ma avanoa e sa'ili ai le tāua ma le a'ano moni o le galulue faipa'aga ma e ua puapuagatia i feso'ota'iga mo le puipuia, lagolagoina, ma le loto gatasi. O se tusi aualofa ma se vala'au ina ia tatou tutū fa'atasi i le sapaasapaia

o mana'oga ma aiā tatau o e ua puapuagatia. O i latou sa puapuagatia e tatau ona saogalemu. O i latou sa puapuagatia e tatau ona lagolagoina. O i latou sa puapuagatia e tatau ona loto gatasi. O le fa'alauteleina o lou malamalama i ē o lo'o galulue ina ia taofi lea fa'afitauli, o se tasi lea o 'auala e fa'ailoa ai lou tula'i mai e te sapaasapaia ē ua a'afia ma fo'ia ai le sauāga fa'alotoifale i Amerika Samoa.

ONA O LEA, O A'U, PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA, Kovana o le Teritori o Amerika Samoa, ou te poloa'ia ai le Masina o Oketopa 2025, e fa'alauiloina ma puipui mai i sauāga fa'alotoifale, ma ia lagolago taumafaiga ina ia fa'amuta le sauāga fa'alotoifale i Amerika Samoa. Ou te vala'au atu i tagatānu'u uma ina ia tatou fa'aleo ma tula'i e tete'e atu i sauāga fa'alotoifale. Ou te vala'au atu ia Amerika Samoa ina ia lagolago le a'oa'oina o tupulaga talavou e fa'atatau i mafutaga māloloina e fa'avae i le fa'aaloalo. Ou te vala'au atu ia Amerika Samoa e lagolago i latou ua a'afia i sauāga o lo'o i totonu o tatou aiga ma feso'otaiga. Ou te vala'au atu ia Amerika Samoa e lagolagoina le Matāgaluega o Tautua ma Alāgamanuia mo Tagata Lautele ma i latou uma o lo'o tautuaina ma avatu 'au'aunaga ese'ese mo i latou ua a'afia i sauāga. Ou te vala'au atu ia Amerika Samoa e fa'amuta sauāga fa'alotoifale ma toe fa'afo'i le tatou atunu'u i fa'avae o la tatou fa'asamoa o le fa'aaloalo, mamalu, alofa, ma le agalelei.

I LONA MOLIMAUINA, ua ou tu'uina ai lo'u lima atoa ma le fa'ailoga o le Teritori o Amerika Samoa ina ia fa'amauiina i le aso lena 30 o Setema, i le tausaga o lo tatou Ali'i, lua afe ma le lua-sefulu ma le lima.

PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA
Kovana