



PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA  
GOVERNOR

PULUMATAALA AE AE JR.  
LT. GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

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**PROCLAMATION  
SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH  
“Looking Back, Moving Forward”  
April 2026**

- WHEREAS,** April 2026 is observed under the theme “Looking Back, Moving Forward,” calling us in American Samoa to reflect on the progress we have made in addressing sexual assault through greater awareness, stronger survivor support, and growing community partnerships, and to move ahead with renewed unity and hope toward a future free from sexual violence; and
- WHEREAS,** as a Samoan community grounded in *fa’aaloalo* (*respect*), *alofa* (*love*), and *tautua* (*service*), and guided by our sacred responsibility to protect our families, we declare that preventing sexual assault and safeguarding the dignity of every person is not merely an ideal we speak of, but a shared duty we live out through our words, our actions, and our care for one another; and
- WHEREAS,** insights gathered through the CDC Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) program in American Samoa affirm that sexual violence is recognized as a serious issue in our community, and that prevention begins with education, open dialogue, and breaking the silence that too often prevents survivors from seeking support; and
- WHEREAS,** we honor the strength and resilience of survivors of sexual assault, whose courage moves us toward greater compassion and accountability, and we recognize with deep gratitude the steadfast commitment of advocates, counselors, service providers, first responders, faith and cultural leaders, and community partners who stand alongside them in the pursuit of healing and justice; and
- WHEREAS,** even as the work to end sexual harassment, abuse, and assault is challenging, we stand united in purpose, strengthening prevention, deepening education, and fostering accountability so that the future generations of American Samoa may live free from violence, protected in dignity, and secure in their communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA**, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim April 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in American Samoa, and we call upon our leaders, our families, our churches, our schools, and our entire community to stand together as one people, committed to justice, committed to healing, and committed to ensuring that every person lives in safety, dignity, and respect.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-six.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pulaali'i', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

**PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA**  
Governor