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American Samoa Department of Homeland Security is Removed from Restricted Draw Status by FEMA

“We thank FEMA for their assistance and service to our people, and we look forward to continuing our partnership to strengthen the American Samoa Government’s accountability and management systems.”

As of July 7, 2022, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX has removed American Samoa Department of Homeland Security (ASDHS) from restricted draw status, for a probationary period of twelve months.

Caitlin Gliniecki, Acting Director of the FEMA Region IX Grants Management Division complimented Director Samana S. Ve’ave’a in the email correspondence stating, “I congratulate you on this accomplishment and thank you for the continued work your team has done to get ASDHS to this important milestone.”

Lieutenant Governor Talauega Ale remarked, “On behalf of Governor Lemanu P. S. Mauga, I would like to commend Director Samana and his staff for their diligence and efforts.” He further stated, “We also thank FEMA for their assistance and service to our people; we look forward to continuing our partnership to strengthen the American Samoa Government’s accountability and management system.”

Acting Director Gliniecki mentioned that five issues were identified in ASDHS’s previous corrective action plan (CAP) of November 3, 2021 that remained unresolved and open. As of July 7, those issues have been resolved and closed.

“The resolution of these areas of noncompliance has satisfied FEMA’s remaining requirement to remove the restricted draw status for a probationary period of twelve months with continued participation in bi-weekly technical assistance calls with FEMA Region IX Grants Management Division.”

Correspondingly, on May 19, 2022, FEMA lifted the restricted draw status for the Office of Disaster and Petroleum Management (ODAPM).

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