May 25, 2022

GENERAL MEMORANDUM NO. 067-22

To: Secretary of Samoan Affairs, CEOs, President and Executive Directors of Authorities, Directors, Agency and Office Heads

From: Acting Chief of Staff

Subject: Public Accountability

As employees of the American Samoa Government, we must recognize that we are here to serve the people of American Samoa. Part of that service includes complying with the laws of American Samoa.

In order to do our jobs, many ASG employees operate government-owned or leased vehicles. Those vehicles are marked with government license plates to make it clear who is in those vehicles. Those tags are placed on vehicles to keep us accountable.

In recent months, we have seen pictures in the media of government vehicles in handicapped parking spots without having handicapped tags hanging from their mirrors. We need to be better than that. We must comply with the letter and the spirit of the law as we conduct our business.

I expect directors to handle these matters administratively. Additionally, I have encouraged the Office of Protection and Advocacy to enforce the handicapped parking law with regard to government vehicles.

I recognize that there are hundreds of employees who drive government vehicles in a lawful and courteous manner. For that, I thank you.

Let this serve as a reminder to all of us that we are in the public eye, and that we have to conduct ourselves accordingly.

Jason Mitchell
Acting Chief of Staff