For Official Release PR 001-08182023 Office of the Governor Utulei, American Samoa August 18, 2023



## Special Visit from US Navy Commander Moran to Shape Future Navy Recruitment and Collaborative Endeavors

"The integration of Navy ROTC programs in our educational institutions is welcomed. Together with the Army ROTC programs that are currently in place, our youth will have another career opportunity to easily transition to if they choose."



Acting Governor Talauega E. V. Ale welcomed U. S. Navy Commander Robert L. Moran at the Governor's Office on August 17, 2023. They engaged in a productive discussion regarding the future of Navy recruitment and collaborative efforts in American Samoa.

During the meeting, Commander Moran and Acting Governor Talauega exchanged insights on the promising prospects for enhancing Navy recruitment within the territory. They also discussed strengthening educational ties by introducing a Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) program in local schools, fostering leadership skills, and providing young individuals with valuable opportunities to serve their nation while pursuing higher education.

In response to these initiatives, Acting Governor Talauega expressed his enthusiasm, stating, "We are excited about the prospects that the Navy's engagement brings to our youth," He further stated, "The integration of Navy JROTC programs in our educational institutions is welcomed. Together with the Army JROTC programs that are currently in place, our youth will have another career opportunity to easily transition to if they choose."

Acting Governor Talauega also underscored the historical significance of the territory's relationship with the United States Navy, remarking, "American Samoa has a long history with the U. S. Navy. Welcoming the Navy's efforts to further collaboration is a testament to our enduring connection and shared commitment to progress." As plans for Navy recruitment and involvement continue to unfold, both parties expressed their dedication to working closely to ensure the success of these initiatives.

###



