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I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 38th Guam Legislature

January 9, 2025

The Honorable Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao
Chairman, Committee on Public Safety and Emergency Management
Mina' Trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Sent via: office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov

Subject: Request for Immediate Oversight Hearing – Guam Homeland Security (GHS) / Office of Civil Defense (OCD)

Håfa Adai Chairman Gumataotao,

I am writing to request the immediate scheduling of an oversight hearing for the Guam Homeland Security and Office of Civil Defense. It is crucial that we address the OPA's findings and allegations of excessive and inappropriate use of public funds.

Previously, an oversight hearing set for *November 13th, 2024* was canceled but never rescheduled for a hearing before the end of the term. The allegations of co-mingling federal funds with other federal grants, are deeply troubling and require urgent action. Furthermore, while Guam Homeland Security is traditionally federally funded, it has come to light that the general fund has been used to subsidize Guam Homeland Security and the Office of Civil Defense. This warrants legislative review to ensure compliance and proper resource management.

I respectfully request that we hold an immediate oversight hearing and propose that the agenda prioritize the following topics:

- **OPA Report No. 24-12**
- Funding and Budget
- FEMA Grant Restrictions and Noncompliance
- Financial Impact on the General Fund
- Reimbursements from FEMA Grants
- Expenditures

Transparency and accountability in the management of public funds are non-negotiable. This is especially critical for agencies tasked with safeguarding our community and ensuring the readiness of our island. The mismanagement of government resources undermines public trust and warrants corrective actions to address these concerns effectively and remedy the situation.

Your prompt attention to this matter is essential. I look forward to collaborating with you to ensure transparency and accountability within these agencies.

Kindest regards,

TELO T. TAITAGUE
Senator

cc: All Senators, 38th Guam Legislature
Media