OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

November 5, 2026

Andrew Quitugua
Acting Director
Department of Corrections
PO BOX 3236
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

Dear Acting Director Quitugua:

Hafa Adai! The Bureau of Budget and Management Research transmitted the Consolidated Revenue/Expenditure Report (CRER) for the period ending September 30, 2026 to the Speaker of the Guam Legislature on October 22, 2026. It closes the books on Fiscal Year 2026, and it raises questions about the Department of Corrections (DOC) that this Committee must resolve on the record.

The report shows your operations account appropriated at $34,234,475, expended at $35,490,267, and encumbered at a further $121,246 — a negative balance of $1,377,038. Your Corrections Officer Recruitment Cycle shows $1,645,540 appropriated against $1,874,693 expended, a further $229,153 over. Across all Department lines, the Legislature appropriated $36,757,567 and the Department closed the year approximately $1,576,288 in deficit.

In the same fiscal year, the same report shows the Corrections Modernization Act appropriation under P.L. 38-60, Chapter V, Section 1(o)(6) — $5,000,000 — with expenditures of zero and the full $5,000,000 listed as funds available on September 30, 2026.

Additionally, Five million dollars appropriated to DOC went unobligated for twelve months while your operating account went into the red.

The Committee respectfully requests a written response to the following by November 20, 2026:

1. The total FY 2026 deficiency for the Department, by account, and the specific FY 2027 appropriation line against which each is being used.

2. A full accounting of the $5,000,000 Corrections Modernization Act appropriation: why no funds were obligated during FY 2026, what the current status of that appropriation is, and the Department's obligation plan with dates certain. Additionally, provide a full account of the $5,000,000 appropriation authorized by P.L. 37-125 for a new DOC facility and related P.L. 37-144 which allowed up to $1 million to pay for urgent facility maintenance and repairs.

3. Whether the Department requested a transfer, reprogramming, or supplemental authorization at any point in FY 2026 to the Office of the Governor of Guam to address the operating shortfall; if so, to whom, on what date, and with what result.

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4. For the Corrections Officer Recruitment Cycle: the number of recruits who entered, the number who graduated, the number sworn and on post as of today, and the per-recruit cost against the amount appropriated. The report shows an additional $147,988 charged to this line in September alone, after it was already over-expended on August 31, 2026 — please account for that month separately.

5. For the Corrections Revolving Fund: FY 2026 collections closed at $808,938 against $1,338,072 in FY 2025, a 39.5% decline and $127,989 below the adopted level. Please explain the decline and identify which inmate services were reduced as a result.

6. For the Safe Streets Fund: FY 2026 collections closed at $22,591 against an adopted level of $49,988, with no collections recorded in September 2026. Please confirm whether this program is operating and describe its current activity.

7. Current authorized, funded, and filled corrections officer positions, and the vacancy rate as of September 30, 2026 and as of the date of your response.

I recognize the report is submitted in draft form and subject to internal audit. If any figure cited above is incorrect, please say so plainly in your response and provide the corrected number. As Committee Chairman, I defended these appropriations on the floor on behalf of the Department of Corrections.

Despite this Committee's best efforts to work closely with DOC, Adelup, GEDA, Land Management, GHURA, and GEDA in turning the 2021 DOC Facility Master Plan into measurable actions, we are nowhere closer today to building a new prison than we were five years ago. I believe this Legislature funded public safety honestly in FY 2026, and the aggregate numbers support that. But an appropriation this body passes is a decision, and what happens to it afterward is management. Where the money went, and why five million dollars of it did not move in FY 2026, belongs on the record. Thanks for your cooperation and responses in advance.

Sincerely,

SHAWN GUMATAOTAO
Chairman, Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard

cc: The Honorable Frank F. Blas, Jr., Speaker, Guam Legislature
Lester L. Carlson, Jr.-Director, Bureau of Budget and Management Research
Edward M. Birn-Director, Department of Administration