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Le Lali

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Proverbs 27:18 "Whoever tends the fig tree will eat its fruit..." In other words, take care of the natural world and you take care of yourself. Faasaoina le Togatogo, Save the Mangroves!

An easy, everyday action people can take to protect mangroves is to place litter/rubbish in covered trash-cans and dumpsters so it doesn't get washed down streams into mangrove wetlands. Also, keep on the lookout for people filling in mangroves with dirt or rubbish and report the crime to the Department of Commerce. See story inside.

[Photo: NPAS]



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## Reduction in working hours to include governor, Lt. gov, Executive branch directors

ASG SEMI AUTONOMOUS AGENCIES' EMPLOYEES TOO, BUT NOT LAWMAKERS

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

**G**ov. Lolo Mat-  
alasi Moliga,  
Lt. Gov.  
Lemanu Peleti  
Mauga and  
Executive branch directors are all included in the governor's directive that reduces working hours from 8 to 7 hours a day. And the directive also includes ASG semi autonomous agencies, which are overseen by their respective boards of directors.

During an emergency cabinet meeting on Wednesday morning, Lolo made the official announcement about the reduction of working hours, effective Monday, Apr. 10. Not included in the reduction of hours are doctors, nurses, teachers and other in-school personnel.

The governor also noted in the meeting that he and Lemanu are included in the reduction, which will continue to the end of the third quarter of FY 2017 (which ends June 30). At that time, the situation will be reassessed. The governor is how-

ever optimistic it can move to a 75-hour biweekly pay period for the fourth quarter — which starts July 1.

Since the word spread Wednesday about the reduction of hours and up to yesterday morning, Samoa News received so many comments, including questions as to whether the governor's directors and semi autonomous agencies — specifically the American Samoa Power Authority, LBJ Medical Center and the American Samoa Tele Communications Authority — are included in the reduction of hours.

Samoa News asked a senior staff member at the Governor's Office, yesterday, if "directors are exempted", and the answer was, "Directors are not exempt."

Asked about the amount the government is expecting to save — per pay period or per month — the senior staff member said, "Savings per pay period, if Fono and Judiciary join in, will amount to \$239,688."

"This [savings] does not include the Authorities, but

it does include the enterprise funds," the senior staff member said. (The Enterprise Fund includes the authorities as well as budgets of executive branch offices such as the Airport Division, Industrial Park, ASG Print Shop, and Sports Complex.)

The senior staff member also emphasized that that the executive branch "cannot mandate other branches of government (Fono and Judicial) wages and hours."

Based on information Samoa News received yesterday from senior Fono staffers, all Fono personnel, "excluding lawmakers", will be included in the reduction of hours as called by the governor.

At yesterday's Senate session, when the issue was raised, Senate President Gaoteote Tofau Palaie explained that he and House Speaker Savali Talavou Ale had met with the governor, who provided information on the move to reduce working hours in the executive branch.

(Continued on page 2)



Left is Ms. Ruby Tapua'i (ASCC Science Lab Technician and Marine Science graduate from U.H. Hilo) and right is Ms. Claudia Thompson in front of the NOAA R/V Okeanos Explorer Remotely Operated Vehicle that is used to explore our ocean depths.

See story inside.

[Photo: K. Anderson-Tagarino]

## An Easter Concert, A Message of Hope

(Based on PRESS RELEASE) — With the reduction of working hours for the government, Poe Mageo, music director for the Samoan Gospel Homecoming Singers Ministry, has found a way to reach out to the community. "These are very trying times. And instead of abandoning hope, we need to put our trust in God. He is still in control. No problem is too big or too small for Him to solve. When all else failed—God is our only hope," Mageo said.

The 2nd Annual Easter Concert by the homecoming singers is this coming Sunday at 4 p.m. The concert will be at the Gov. H. Rex Lee Auditorium, in Utulei. Admission is free.

Governor Lolo and First Lady Cynthia Moliga and Lt. Governor Lemanu Peleti Mauga are among the special invitees. Many bay area churches are planning to attend as part of their Palm Sunday celebration.

(Continued on page 2)





## ► An Easter Concert, ...

*Continued from page 1*

The homecoming singers are inviting the community to come out and join them. As in past concerts, the audience is invited to sing along selected hymns about the passion of Christ, the message of the cross, and the celebration of the resurrection, the cornerstone of the Christian faith.

Legendary Samoan gospel artists such as Mose Katina, The Paaga Family, The Harvest Time Singers, the Strings of Psalms, The Ponausua Family, Toe To'oto'o, and Souvenir Bohanak, to name a few, will belt out 'Easter gems' such as "Because He Lives (Gaither)," "I Believe in a Hill Called Mt. Calvary (Gaither)," "I le Satauro (Trad)," and "The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power (Crouch)."

Pastor Viliamu Paaga will lead the praise and worship. Ana Hargett will recite an inspirational reading, and

Pastor Patolo Mageo will offer the altar call and prayer.

Students from ASCC's Christian Club will also perform. Faculty member Elisapeta Faalafi-Jones, who is the spiritual advisor for the students, said, "I am so happy that Faalafi and her students could join us this year. The club's vision is to make sure that college students are reminded of Christian moral values and the importance of community service and charity."

Before the finale, the choir will perform "Because He Lives," with the resounding chorus— "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, because He lives all fear is gone, because I know He holds the future, and life is worth a-living just because he lives."

Mageo said, 'that is our message — that no matter what life brings — we don't have to fret because He lives!'



84-year-old Toe To'oto'o of Pago Pago, a legendary Samoan gospel artist in her prime, will perform 'He Lives' (Ackley), a hymn composed in 1933 and it's still popular today. [Courtesy photo]

## ► Reduction in working hours...

*Continued from page 1*

However, he said the governor made clear that the executive had no authority over the operation of the Fono, a separate branch of government.

Gaoteote said he and Savali had their discussion and will make a decision on Fono employees, who all come under the direction of the Fono leaders. However, he said the issue — referring to salaries — for senators and faipule is beyond their authority, as the law sets lawmakers' salaries.

Some senators suggested for them to be included in the reduction of hours as part of the Fono's help in assisting the government. In the end, senators approved a verbal motion, for Gaoteote to discuss the issue with the House Speaker.

Gaoteote made clear that the approved verbal motion does not involve anything relating to cutting hours for lawmakers.

While the semi autonomous agencies are included in the reduction of hours, the senior staff member at the Governor's

Office pointed out that "they also have to manage their revenue stream. For example, if projected revenues are down 15% they have to manage expenses down [by] 15%, which may or may not include reduction in hours."

ASTCA board chairman, Roy J.D Hall Jr., confirmed yesterday to Samoa News "ASTCA will be reducing hours for all employees and contract workers next week."

When former Gov. Togiola Tulafono implemented a reduction of working hours in February 2011 for the executive branch, it also included the governor, lieutenant governor, and all cabinet directors.

At the time, Togiola ordered the reduction of working hours — based on salary levels. For example, four hours were reduced for those earning less than \$10,400 up to \$20,800 per pay period, while those earning above \$62,400 would have 12 hours deducted.

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Tafuna Elementary School students joined other youngsters from all over the territory yesterday during the annual National History Day competition held at Kanana Fou. [Photo: Blue Chen-Fruean]

# Second of the four DPS- Juvenile Detention Center officers charged

15 COUNTS, INCLUDING 12 FELONIES

by Samoa News staff

The second of the four Public Safety officers assigned to the Juvenile Detention Center, appeared in District Court yesterday for a preliminary examination hearing, where details of the charges, including several felony counts, were made public for the first time.

Following the hearing, District Court Judge Fiti A. Sunia bound over to High Court the government's case against officer Olafau Wilson, who remains in custody with \$75,000 bail imposed. He will be arraigned in High Court today, along with another officer, Alofagia Letuli, whose preliminary examination hearing was held Wednesday in District Court. (See yesterday's edition for details.)

Sunia had ordered court staff not to release the charging documents for Wilson and Letuli, as well as two other officers, Junior Utuga, Oke-sene Alo because they contain names of juveniles.

In open court yesterday, it was revealed Wilson is facing 15 counts, including 12 felonies — two counts of unlawful possession of illegal substance, (crystal meth; two counts of unlawful distribution of crystal meth; one felony stealing; three counts of aiding escape of a prisoner; three counts of per-

mitting the escape of a prisoner and tampering with a witness.

He was also charged with two counts of misdemeanor endangering the welfare of a child and one count of misdemeanor stealing. However, the court dismissed for lack of evidence the tampering with a witness count.

During the preliminary examination hearing, Public Defender Douglas Fiaui represented Wilson and prosecuting the case was assistant attorney general Jedediah Bigelow, who called one government witness, police Det. Filemoni Amituana'i, the lead investigator into misconduct at the JDC.

At the start of the hearing, Fiaui quickly moved for Sunia to recuse himself since he was the judge who signed the arrest warrant for all four officers. The motion was denied, saying the court has already set regulations on guidelines to carry out administration of the Judicial Branch.

Based on Amituana'i's testimony, three juvenile detainees were involved in the charges against Wilson. And the detainees were only identified in a police report as Victim #2, Victim #3 and Victim #6.

Amituana'i recalled a statement from Victim #2, who said that on one night Wilson took Victim #2, Victim #3, and Victim #6 from JDC and they

all went to a nearby restaurant, to wait for families of the three juveniles, in order to get money.

Victim #2 also told Amituana'i that there was an incident in which Victim #2 was ordered by Wilson to break into the file cabinet inside an office designated to the Education Department for education purposes for the detainees. A laptop was taken from the file cabinet and Wilson took it home with him.

Amituana'i testified that ASDOE confirmed to him that two laptops are missing from their office at JDC and both laptops cost around \$2,000.

After questioning Amituana'i for several minutes, Fiaui argued that the charges against Wilson are allegations based on interviews and statements but no physical evidence. He also argued that the juvenile detainees were interviewed without their parents present.

However, Amituana'i countered that parents were not present for the mere fact that it was not an investigation against the juveniles.

In the end, Sunia ruled that the government has sufficient evidence to support 14 of the 15 counts against the defendant. (See today's Lali section of Samoa News for Samoan story.)

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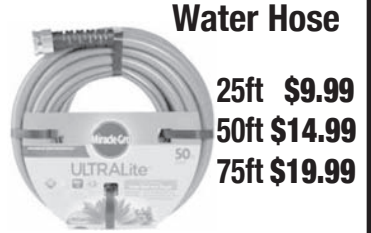


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# Letter to the Editor

"SIMEONICA'S FAMILY CONTINUES TO BE DISAPPOINTED"

Dear Editor,

In all my years of services to our people and country, I have come to expect a high degree of good judgment and integrity from the respectful body of decision makers as we rely on their wisdom to solve problems and maintain peace to the parties involved. I don't intend to dwell on what has been said but merely to express my deepest disappointment with the way those with authority handled (1) the incident that took place at the Department of Human and Social Services staff meeting on November 9th between the Director and the staff and (2) the confirmation of Taeaofua Dr. Meki Solomona.

Taeaofua, I want you to know, I have so much respect and love for you. I have known you to be a humble and respectful person. I admired and was proud when you addressed the public whenever you were behind that microphone.

Unfortunately, it took just a few seconds to err and destroy all the goodness that will be difficult to forget.

O lena ua e iloaina nei le aiga e tupuga ma ai Simeonica, ma e le fanauina e le aiga lenei ni maile. Tulou, tulou lava le mamalu ma le paia ole atunuu. I am sad and very disappointed.

Taeaofua's behavior and language were unbecoming and unacceptable. Feelings were hurt and still are. The unfortunate incident that happened, did not just affect a few individuals. My family was also affected.

My questions to Taeaofua: Did you need to go there? Was it necessary to go that far and rub it in further? How far did you want to go on with this issue?

This is fine, as this family has the courage to accept this and has strong bones to carry the heavy load you placed on us. Thank you for the blessings from above, as nothing can be hidden from HIM.

In reference to the letter to the editor printed on Feb. 14 017, I am concerned that those in authority or fathers of our country are not utilizing their "Uta and Tofa" in their decision-making.

Despite the incident that occurred, Governor Lolo reappointed Taeaofua as Director to DHSS again. The silence of the Governor Lolo is another concern. Could it be he didn't want to be part of the problem? While silence is golden, to me personally, his action is loud and clear. It seems to me that no one wants to rattle the cage because of the consequences it would bring.

I expected the Legislative body to delay their action in lieu of the federal investigation ongoing now. However, in their haste to finalize their decision, while this dark cloud is hovering over our country, was not a favorable and wise decision.

And, due to the need of a tool to prove their point, they pulled in this innocent 13-letter word — DISRESPECTFUL — to take the blame, while deep down under, their conscious is haunting them.

This is a tactic or pattern people use to hide their mistakes, when they don't have the courage to tackle problems with a straight face.

We are respectful people and I want to clearly say this — every child of Samoan ancestry are nurtured and raised by their 'goodly' parents to respect, and that goes to respect all and not only the powerful. Remember also that respect begins at home and has to be earned. The message you (the Fono & governor) sent out to the country is loud and clear, that the powerful are untouchable and forever prevail, while the powerless are humiliated and crushed.

Food For Thought

There is a public outcry from the people regarding the electing of the senate seats, and more so now because of the incident of November 9, which became popular street talk, especially by the youth of this country. They are seriously planning to bring this to a forum for discussion in the near future.

During this recent election, the youth again are screaming loud to vote in the seat of the senate to make them accountable to the people. As of this writing one of the districts of Manu'a has taken the selection of their senator to court.

I believe it's that time to let the people decide who they want to occupy the seat of their district. Voting the senate will bring peace of mind. Times have changed and change comes with the times. Should we remain as is, and the powerful continue to rule with an iron fist?

Democracy is a government by the people with supreme power vested and exercised by them in a system of representation. Let's end the selection process and let the people have their choice in choosing their senator in the democratic process.

I like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and extend our appreciation to Dr. Failautusi Avegalio for his outstanding words of wisdom and courage. He took a stand and shared his honest opinion, which lightened up the burden on our family. Fa'afetai le amanaia, fa'afetai le alofa.

God bless American Samoa

Soifua,

Salote Lutu-Schuster

# Letter to the Editor

"UNTOUCHABLES"

Dear Editor,

Everything could have been in complete chaos for American Samoa and the territories had the right-wing Republican's new healthcare bill known as the American Healthcare Act (AHCA) passed in Congress (on March 31, 2017) and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) repealed.

We must thank God for his 'remaining Grace', also our churches and people for their prayers.

I believe that the Affordable Care Act (ACA) a.k.a. Obamacare, is now the law of the land, and has now joined the family of Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security as the "Untouchables". To touch the "untouchables" meant political suicide to any politician and they know it.

As we know, these Democratic Party (governmental) social programs have earned their place in history as significant cornerstones of American prosperity.

This is mere proof that the assimilation of Socialism ideas in America's economy and not Capitalism alone, can make a great nation; and it is only with a successful mix of the two economic ideologies, can make it happened; and again, proven only with the American Experience.

This is why the late Republican president Ronald Reagan, a former democrat, was a strong believer and supporter of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the creator of Social Security in 1933 under his New Deal. (Ronald Reagan really did believe in

a mix-economy).

Title XIX of the Social Security Act led to the creation of Medicare and Medicaid in 1965 during president Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society.

Then, the greatest break through in healthcare legislation in American history happened in March 2010 with the historical Congressional passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) a.k.a. Obamacare.

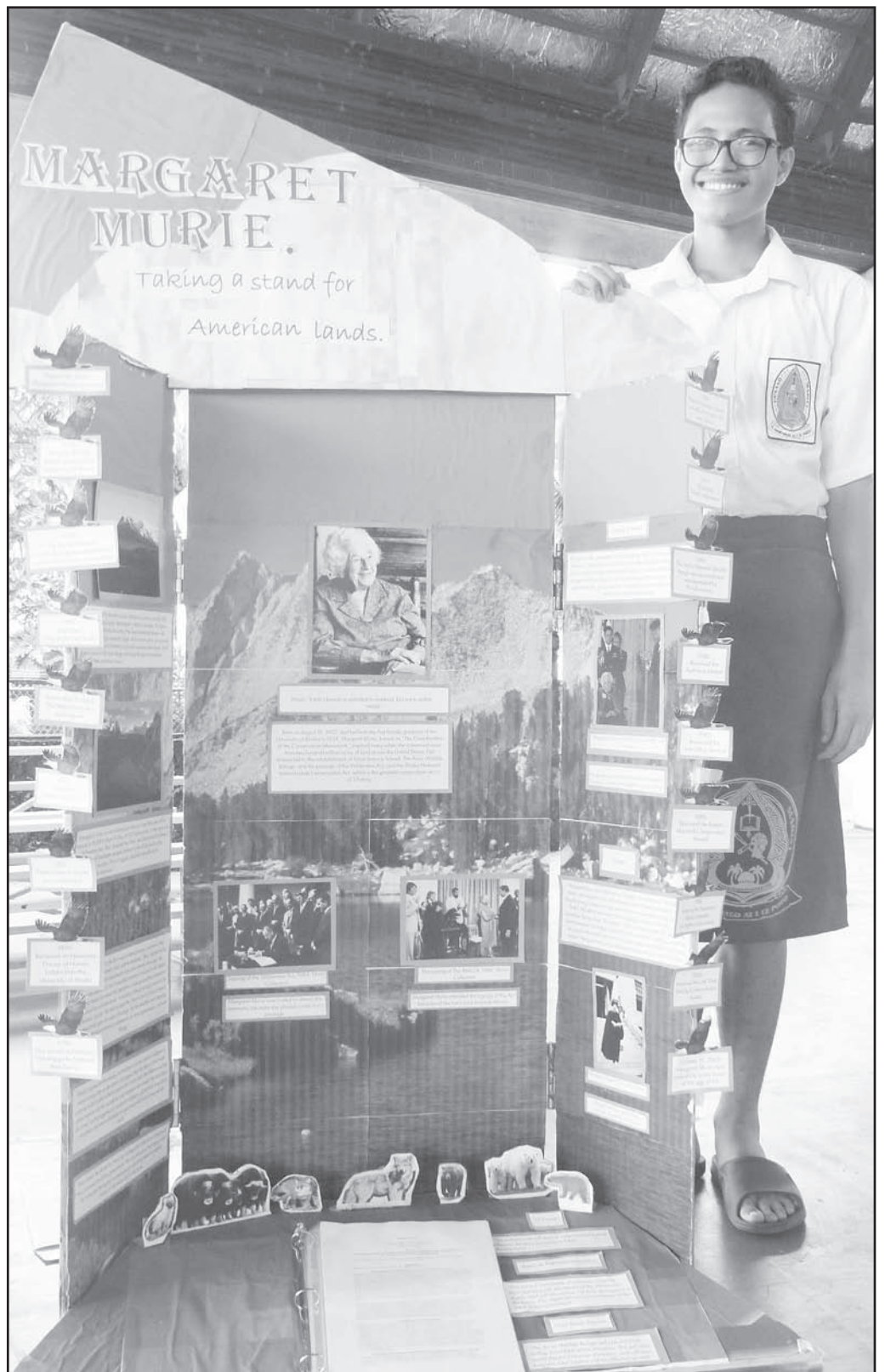
Historically when it comes to healthcare, the right-wing extremist Republicans have failed and had nothing to offer. (Exception Note: president George W. Bush approved Medicare Part D, prescription medication for the elderly).

So let us not forget to thank and appreciate the work of the Reagan moderate Republicans, who stood up with the Democrats, against president Trump and the right-wing Republican's American Healthcare Act (AHCA) bill that failed in the House without a vote.

It is important, in my opinion, for all local people in key governmental and private sector positions; also all Fono members and our representative in Congress, to understand that our Medicaid expansion fund that comes under the Affordable Care Act a.k.a. Obamacare, is the life-blood of our healthcare system in the territory.

We are obliged to preserve and fight for the Affordable Care Act whenever there is a political threat.

Tuiasina Dr.Salamo Laumoli



O se vaaiga i le galuega fa'atino a Chanel Fatu mai le a'oga maualuga a Fa'asao Malisi, i lana galuega fa'atino e fa'ailoa ai le tamaita'i o Margaret Murie. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

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dba Samoa News is published Monday through Friday, except for some local and federal holidays.

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# Treasury describes first few days of container scanner a success

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

Deputy Treasurer of Revenue, Keith Gebauer describes the first few days since the launch of the M60 container scanner as a success, with the new Customs operation scanning just over 100 containers at the Port of Pago Pago.

The new container scanner operation went into effect on Monday, with the \$200 scanning fee charged per container 20-feet and over. The scanner equipment is part of a new law that went into effect Dec. 15, 2016. Prior to Monday's "going live" day for the scanner, port users and the business community met with Gebauer and Port Administration deputy director, Chris King, last Friday morning to hear directly from them, their concerns, issues and feedback of the new scanning process.

A follow-up meeting was held Wednesday morning this week, where Gebauer noted that on the first day, Monday, 52 containers were scanned followed by the next day with 57 scanned containers, despite bad weather conditions on the two days.

Responding to Samoa News inquiries yesterday, Gebauer said 57 containers were again scanned on Wednesday. "We are averaging about 55 containers — plus vehicles — per day after the first three days," he said. "While the weather wasn't cooperating, it had little effect on the scanning [Wednesday]."

He explained that the M60 is designed to operate in all types of weather and they currently operate in many ports/borders throughout the world. While he didn't have information on the number of containers that left the port after the M60 shut down operations, they are looking into this, "but I can say that during its operating hours, no container left the yard without being scanned."

Gebauer said, "As the majority of the containers have been processed and released, we anticipate lower numbers for the rest of this week until the next vessel arrives. He told those who attended the Wednesday port users meeting that scan operation hours are from 6:30a.m. - 3:30p.m."

He said the Customs Division, which is overseen by Treasury Department, thanked the Port Authority and its staff for their support and partnership in this launch. They also thanked all the port users and those in the business community "for their patience and understanding" and they "deployed

the M60 as part of our border security enhancement."

Gebauer is grateful for the feedback from the port users, because it's an important component to helping shape how they develop the scanning process moving forward. "We have already learned how to improve or tweak our processes from their feedback and the learning from our scanning team."

He thanked the entire Customs division for working together. "While this has been scanning section's M60 launch, every section of Customs has had a hand in supporting this launch. Thank you."

At the Wednesday meeting, King recapped for port users

the observations and other issues that surfaced during the first day of operation such as revamping the "safety zone" for scanning operation.

Samoa News observed on Monday a truck trailer with a 40-foot container trying to maneuver on the dock as it tried to enter the scanning equipment, while two other truck trailers with 20-foot containers were behind it.

At Wednesday's meeting, one of the vendors again raised the issue of scanning operations being halted when a cruise ship comes into port. This was also discussed at last Friday's meeting.

(Continued on page 8)



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On behalf of Manulele Tausala SPED staff, parents, administrator and our students with special needs, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude for your kind support as we implemented our Disability Awareness program last week. Your support and donation was one of the many reasons why we were able to prosper this event for our students. Words are not enough to express our appreciation for your kind gesture but we can only pray that the Lord will bless each and every one of you abundantly. **THANK YOU, THANK YOU and GOD BLESS.**



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# Tualauta faipule Vui seeks to amend Constitution to add two more seats for her district

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

With Tualauta being the most populous county in American Samoa, Tualauta Rep. Vui Florence Saulo is seeking to amend the Constitution by adding two more seats to the local House of Representatives for Tualauta, which currently has two seats.

Vui's move has received support from her colleagues, including House Speaker Savali Talavou Ale, who along with nine other House members signed on as co-sponsors of the House Joint Resolution, introduced last Friday.

"I'm so very thankful for the support from my colleagues who co-sponsor this important measure," Vui told Samoa News yesterday, adding that two other lawmakers, had offered to be co-sponsors, but couldn't get their signatures on the measure in time to be presented to the House floor in first reading.

Vui has been working on the measure since last year, but there was a delay in getting it drafted for introduction in the House. When she returned to the House in January, following last November's election, Vui said this was one of the first issues she addressed — getting the measure drafted by the Fono's legal team.

In arguing for two more seats, Vui points out that Tualauta is "home to almost two-thirds of the territory's population" and a shift in population must also reflect the number of representatives allocated to Tualauta District in the Legislature.

Tualauta "is currently under-represented in the present composition of the Legislature having only two members in the House, similar to other districts with populations far less" than Tualauta, Vui said.

Other House members cosponsoring the measure are: Reps. Vesi Talalelei Fautanu Jr., Matagi David S. Mauga, Manumaua Wayne Wilson, Kitara Vaiau, Puleleite Tufele Li'a, Timusa Tini Lam Yuen, Fagaoatua Dorian T. Salave'a, Gafatasi Afalava and Lavea Fatulegae'e P. Mauga.

The second Tualauta faipule, Rep. Samuel Ioka Meleisea is off island and wasn't able to be a main sponsor of the measure.

Besides Tualauta, other House districts with two faipule are Manu'a District No. 1 (Ta'u, Faleasao and Fitiuta) and Ituau District (Nu'uuli, Fagasa, Matu'u and Faganeanea). Samoa News notes that Maoputasi county (from Fatumafuti to Aua), is divided into five Representative Districts

and that means there are five faipule for Maoputasi county.

For example, Representative District No. 7, Maoputasi No. 1 (composed of the villages of Fatumafuti, Fagaalu and Utulei) has one faipule.

## POPULATION INFORMATION

According to the 2015 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) report, compiled by Commerce Department, the territory's estimated population in 2015 was 57,436 with Tualauta county the largest estimated at 19,519, followed by Maoputasi at 11,052. "Hence, those two counties made up more than half of American Samoa's population in 2015," according to the report, released in January this year.

Additionally, the five counties in Manu'a (Ta'u, Faleasao, Fitiuta, Ofu and Olosega) together accounted for only 1,300 people, and, as one entity, it is the smallest in American Samoa. Other small counties were Leasina with 1,541 and Saole with 1,811.

Last week, Manu'a's three senators introduced legislation seeking to return two senatorial seats to the Manu'a islands that were taken away 57 years ago. Prior to this, there were five seats in the Senate representing

Manu'a's five counties. (See yesterday's edition of Samoa News for details.)

Looking at Election Office's latest data, it shows that in the 2016 general election, Tualauta had the highest number of registered voters at 3,693 with 2,376

votes cast. For the 2014 election, data shows total registered voters were 3,337 for Tualauta, but only 1,695 cast ballots.

Samoa News will report in later edition on specific data from the last year's general election.



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## Mangroves: The unappreciated heroes of land and sea

(PRESS RELEASE)

— National Park of American Samoa — April 5, 2017 — Drain the swamp! It is a time-worn cry. Swamps are wastelands, mosquito zones and trash filled dumps, right? WRONG!

Mangrove swamps (wetlands) are a very important part of our islands and crucial to healthy villages. Mangroves play a critical role in protecting coastlines from erosion and storm surges, cleaning coastal waters by filtering out some contaminants and providing habitat and food for many species of fish, crabs, lobsters, and birds.

In American Samoa there are 9 mangrove areas in: Aua, Vatia, Masefau, Aoa, Alofau, Aunu'u, Pago Pago and of course the two larger and well known mangrove areas in Leone and Nu'uuli.

Mangroves are beautiful trees that live at the mouths of streams along the coast. They have a special ability to tolerate salt, which is why they grow along the shoreline, often with their roots in the saltwater. Growing where land and sea meet, the roots of mangroves stabilize shorelines where soil and sand would otherwise wash away. Young fish living in healthy mangrove swamps eat up to 500 mosquito larvae a day.

Without healthy mangroves many ocean creatures that we rely on for food would no longer have a safe place to raise their young, and eventually some ocean front roads and buildings could fall into the sea.

The mangrove wetlands in Masefau are famous for protecting that village during the 2009 tsunami, and because it is respected and cared for by the village, it is likely the healthiest of all our mangrove swamps. Malo lava Masefau!

Unfortunately, mangroves

are misunderstood and are often used as trash dumps or filled in for new development.

Many mistakes were made in the past because the value of wetlands was not fully understood. The majority of the mangrove wetlands in American Samoa have already been lost to pollution and development. We must act to save what few mangroves we have left.

The American Samoa Government now has laws to protect mangrove wetlands, yet some people ignore these laws and damage mangroves with bad habits from days gone past like careless acts of littering and illegal construction.

Mangroves are a valuable part of our island. The estimated value of the benefits that mangroves bring to American Samoa in the form of clean water, food and protection from erosion is close to \$2 million a year.

It is up to each and every one of us to help protect our islands and show how proud we are of our mangroves. An easy, everyday action people can take to protect mangroves is to place litter/rubbish in covered trashcans and dumpsters so it doesn't get washed down streams into mangrove wetlands.

Don't Litter! Also, keep on the lookout for people filling in mangroves with dirt or rubbish and report the crime to the Department of Commerce.

Having healthy mangrove wetlands around American Samoa contributes to a healthy environment and provides our people with many resources, like clean water and food, for generations to come.

Proverbs 27:18 "Whoever tends the fig tree will eat its fruit..." In other words, take care of the natural world and you take care of yourself. Fa'asaoina le Togatogo, Save the Mangroves!



American Samoa Government  
DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE

## PUBLIC NOTICE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Program Year (PY) 2017  
Annual Action Plan Draft

The American Samoa Government (ASG) invites public comments on the PY2017 Annual Action Plan (AAP) Draft as mandated in the provisions of 24 CFR &91.200 and 91.220 (b). Public comments are invited for a 30-day period commencing on Wednesday, April 5, 2017 to Friday, May 5, 2017. The draft is available at the Department of Commerce, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the A.P. Lutali Executive Office Building.

A public meeting to accept verbal and written comments on the PY2017 AAP Draft will be held at the Department of Commerce Conference Room on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. Translation into and out of Native Language (Samoan) that is widely spoken will be provided at the meeting. The Community Planning and Development (CPD) Programs of American Samoa complies with 24 CFR & 91.220 (1) and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services, or special modifications to participate in the public meeting or to comment on the AAP Draft should contact the HUD CPD Coordinator, Petti Matila at the following address.

Written comments on the Public review draft may be sent to:

Petti T. Matila, HUD CPD Coordinator  
Office of the Governor  
A.P. Lutali Executive Office Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
Office: (684) 633-5155 ext. 226  
Fax: (684) 633-4195  
E-mail: petti.matila@doc.as

Comments must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 5, 2017. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Petti T. Matila at 633-5155 ext. 226.





Ms. Claudia Thompson speaking at the Okeanos Telepresence Event at the Tauese P.F. Sunia Ocean Center on February 24, 2017.

[Photo: K. Anderson-Tagarino]

# ASCC Marine Science student selected for NOAA Okeanos Explorer Internship

By Kelley Anderson Tagarino, ASCC ACNR & Hawai'i Sea Grant

One deserving ASCC Marine Science student, Claudia Thompson, will participate in a prestigious internship with the NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research. Claudia flew out of Pago on Friday, March 31st, on her way to Manchester, New Hampshire, where she will be mentored by bathymetric processing specialist Meme Lobecker on analyzing and processing much of the exciting bathymetric (sea floor) mapping data collected by the NOAA Research Vessel (R/V) Okeanos Explorer, during its trip around American Samoa waters in early March.

NOAA RV Okeanos Explorer, "America's Ship for Ocean Exploration," is the only federally funded U.S. ship assigned to systematically explore our largely unknown ocean for the purpose of discovery and the advancement of knowledge.

Telepresence, using real-time broadband satellite communications, connects the ship and its discoveries live with audiences ashore. Visit the NOAA Marine Operations Center Okeanos Explorer page for operations and crew information.

Since the ship was commissioned on August 13, 2008, the

Okeanos Explorer has traveled the globe, exploring the Indonesian 'Coral Triangle Region;' benthic environments in the Galápagos; the geology, marine life, and hydrothermal systems of the Mid-Cayman Rise within the Caribbean Sea; and deep-sea habitats and marine life in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Mapping activities along the west and mid-Atlantic coasts have furthered our knowledge of these previously unexplored areas, setting the stage for future in-depth exploration activities.

Claudia will return after a month of mentored training in specialized bathymetric data processing, a skill highly valued in many sectors of ocean exploration, including research and development, fisheries management, military, and the oil/gas and mineral industry.

The second part of Claudia's internship will consist of her being aboard the NOAA R/V Okeanos Explorer for a month of shipboard training during the summer, when its staff will map the Pacific Remote Islands Area.

Upon her return, Claudia plans to share her newly acquired knowledge through outreach talks in order to encourage local youth to consider a career in the marine sciences — after all we are surrounded by the big blue!

Those interested in learning more about the ASCC Marine Science Program can contact Kelley Anderson Tagarino at 699-3353 (office) or 258-2967 (cell) or at KelleyAT@Hawaii.edu on email, or via post mail at P.O. Box 2609 for more information.

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*For More Information Contact:  
Vickie Haleck 258-8298 or Poe Mageo 770-9119*







Students from Lupelele Elementary School, with teacher Josie Tufele, awaiting the results of the National History Day competition held yesterday at the Kanana Fou gym. [Photo: Blue Chen-Fruenan]

## Continued...

Continued from page 5

King responded that Port is asking Customs not to carry out scanning operations, because of the very limited space on the main dock. For example, when Apr. 22 comes around “the entire port will probably shutdown because of the two cruise ships.” He added that there is a cruise ship also arriving on Apr. 16. At the Wednesday meeting, Gebauer thanked port users for their feedback, which is helpful to Customs working together with vendors going forward. “Our goal is to scan 100 percent of all incoming containers,” he said. The deputy revenue treasurer explained that in order to achieve the goal of scanning 100% of all incoming containers, two things have to happen, and that includes having “the scanning operation 24-hours a day.” However, he said this is not “really an option... in terms of the logistics of it and we don’t have the manpower.”

Before the launching of scanner operation, Customs went through training as well as testing of the M60 equipment. He said that there is a difference between testing and carrying out a “live” operation, with containers lining up to be scanned.

“So it’s still (a) learning experience along the way, for such a new system,” he said. “[We] are learning the right pace to effectively and efficiently utilize the tools that are there.

Regarding random scanning of containers as suggested at last Friday’s meeting, Gebauer said it’s “something we can talk about for the best way forward.”

“I think it was good launch for the introduction of a new technology and a new process into our existing processing procedures for releasing containers,” he said, adding that as more ships come, Customs expects an increase in the number of containers to be scanned.

Questions again arose about the scanning fee vs. the inspection fee, where Gebauer reiterated that both are to be paid — the \$200 scan fee is part of the new law, while the \$60 inspection fee remains unchanged.

And it appears that many vendors took heed of the advice at last Friday’s meeting and took their containers off the port this past weekend before the scanner operations went live, with Gebauer noting, “We did have a significant amount of containers that [went] out on Saturday and Sunday.”

Samoa News will continue to report on vendor concerns about the container scan issue in future editions.



# Now Lent Season



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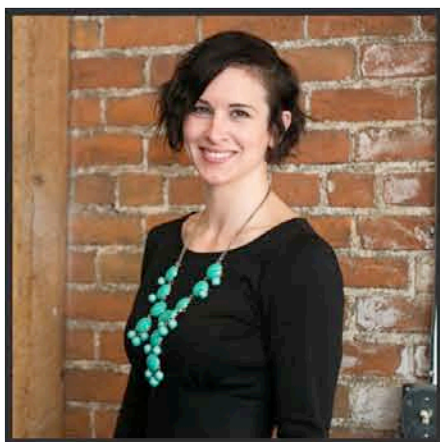
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Rose Joneson Vargas has merged with Idaho law firm Wieland Perdue PLLC to become Mooney Wieland Smith & Rose PLLC—or MWS Rose for short. Still led by longtime local attorney Barry I. Rose in American Samoa, MWS Rose brings a new level of experience and energy to businesses in the Territory and beyond. MWS Rose’s team of attorneys continues the legacy of Rose and his now-retired colleagues, David P. Vargas and Jennifer L. Joneson, with the same quality of service clients have come to expect. MWS Rose’s American Samoa office includes Rose, Nick Smith, and Daniel E. Mooney, with Jessica E. Pollack joining in May. The firm’s Idaho office is led by Jaren and Steven Wieland.

684.699.2100

[contact@mwsrose.com](mailto:contact@mwsrose.com)

**Jaren Wieland**



**Barry I. Rose**



**Steven Wieland**



**Nick Smith**



**Jessica E. Pollack**



**Daniel E. Mooney**





# Trump kicks off Florida meetings with Chinese president



President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping shake hands during a dinner at Mar-a-Lago, Thursday, April 6, 2017, in Palm Beach, Fla. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

Vivian Salama, Associated Press  
Julie Pace, Associated Press

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping opened their high-stakes summit at Trump's Florida beach resort Thursday, with the urgent threat of North Korea's nuclear ambitions and tensions over trade on the agenda.

Xi's visit was overshadowed, though, by a U.S. missile barrage on an air base in Syria in response to this week's chemical weapons attack against civilians, which the U.S.

blamed on President Bashar Assad. The U.S. announced the missile attack shortly after Xi and his wife left the Mar-a-Lago estate Thursday night.

Trump appeared lighthearted earlier Thursday as he greeted Xi at Mar-A-Lago, gesturing and pointing to journalists as they tussled to get a shot of the two leaders together for the first time.

Ahead of the dinner, Trump said he and Xi already had had a long discussion and had "developed a friendship," and then joked, "I have gotten nothing,

absolutely nothing."

The White House said the location was selected to give the two days of discussions a more relaxed feel. A number of Trump's top advisers were in attendance, including his daughter, Ivanka Trump, and son-in-law, Jared Kushner.

Outside the dining room where the two delegations gathered for a lavish dinner, Mar-a-Lago club members packed the

patio for dinner.

Trump and first lady Melania Trump greeted Xi and his wife at Mar-a-Lago before making their way to dinner.

On Air Force One on the way to Florida Trump pointed to the crisis in North Korea as a top priority in the meetings with Xi. He said he thinks China will "want to be stepping up" in trying to deter North Korea's nuclear ambitions.

While Trump would not say what he wants China to do specifically, he suggested there was a link between "terrible" trade agreements the U.S. has made with China and Pyongyang's provocations. He says the two issues "really do mix."

The president has said that if China doesn't exert more pressure on North Korea, the U.S. will act alone.

Both as a candidate and president, Trump has taken an aggressive posture toward China, labeling Beijing a "tremendous problem" and arguing that lopsided trade deals with China shortchange American businesses and workers. Last week, the president predicted in a tweet that his meeting with Xi would be "very difficult."

The White House has downplayed expectations for a breakthrough on issues like trade and tariffs, insisting that the 24-hour summit is mostly an introductory meeting for the two leaders. And within Trump's administration, there are still divisions over how to approach China.

According to U.S. and foreign officials, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and economic adviser Gary Cohn are leading the charge for boosting ties and exploring the potential for greater economic cooperation. But economic adviser Peter Navarro, author of the book "Death by China: Confronting the Dragon — a Global Call to Action," prefers trying to isolate China, in keeping

with Trump's "America First" mantra.

Patrick Cronin, a China expert with the Center for a New American Security, said the Trump administration does not have "a reconciled trade and economic policy yet, and the differing views on China in the White House underscore that."

Ahead of the summit, Trump signed a pair of executive orders focused on reducing the U.S. trade deficit. The moves appeared to be a shot at China, which accounted for the vast bulk — \$347 billion — of last year's \$502 billion trade deficit. Chinese exports to the U.S. totaled some \$388.1 billion last year.

Anthony Ruggiero, an East Asia expert at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, said China may be more willing to accommodate Trump on trade and economic issues than on regional security issues, including North Korea. Xi, a shrewd political operator, is unlikely to want to rock the boat ahead of a Communist Party conclave later this year that will install new leadership.

Xi is also expected to seek assurances that Trump will not interfere in the territorial dispute over the South China Sea or question the "One China" policy by reaching out to Taiwan's leader again, as he did during the transition. The move infuriated Beijing, leading Trump to eventually reiterate his commitment to the decades-old policy.

Previous White Houses have held China accountable for its human rights record, something this administration has made very little mention of, whether in China or elsewhere. It also remains to be seen whether the Obama administration's deal with Beijing to curb Chinese cybertheft for economic gain and its hacking of U.S. companies will be addressed.

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# Nunes steps away from Russia probe, citing ethics complaints



The House Intelligence Committee's ranking member Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif. speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, April 8, 2017, regarding the announcement that Committee Chairman Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif. will temporarily step side from the panel's investigation of Russian meddling in the election because of the complaints. (AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republican chairman is stepping aside from leading a congressional investigation of Russian interference in last year's U.S. presidential election, citing ethics complaints that he mishandled classified information.

The decision by Rep. Devin Nunes of California comes amid partisan turmoil on the House intelligence committee. Democrats have alleged that Nunes, who was on President Donald Trump's transition team, is too close to the White House and cannot lead an impartial inquiry. In an extraordinary step, the usually-quiet House Ethics Committee said that it is investigating whether Nunes improperly disclosed classified information. President Donald Trump said Nunes is "a very honorable guy."

Nunes blamed "left-wing activist groups" for filing accusations against him with the Office of Congressional Ethics.

"The charges are entirely false and politically motivated and are being leveled just as the American people are beginning to learn the truth about the improper unmasking of the identities of U.S. citizens and other abuses of power," Nunes said in a statement. Nunes' move could be seen as a win for Democrats whose cries for an independent panel to investigate Russia's possible ties with the Trump campaign have grown. They have pointed in particular to two Nunes trips to the White House — one announced, one not — as evidence that his loyalty to Trump outweighs his commitment to leading a bipartisan investigation.

By all accounts, the intelligence committee's growing partisanship has become a distraction from its underlying investigations.

The top Democrat on the committee, Adam Schiff of California, said he appreciated Nunes' decision to step aside from the Russia investigation.

"There was a cloud hanging over us after the White House incident," Schiff told The Associated Press on Thursday. While Schiff said the panel's investigation is back on track, the Republicans had not signed off on rescheduling a public hearing with former Obama administration officials. Schiff said it was important that the public hear testimony from former acting Attorney General Sally Yates about why Trump's first national security adviser was fired. Nunes canceled the

hearing.

As the majority party in the House, Republicans will keep the committee chairmanship. GOP Rep. Mike Conaway of Texas, with help from Rep. Trey Gowdy of South Carolina and Rep. Tom Rooney of Florida, will temporarily take charge of the investigation, said Speaker Paul Ryan.

Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One on Thursday that he doesn't know Conaway, but he heard he was well-respected. "High quality," Trump said.

Schiff said Conaway does not have the same history with the White House that Nunes does.

Two watchdog groups, Democracy 21 and Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, or CREW, had asked the House Ethics Committee to investigate whether Nunes disclosed classified information he learned from intelligence reports.

In a statement, CREW spokesman Jordan Libowitz said the group believes that Nunes' potential violation of House ethics rules "is so grave that it needs to be investigated right away."

Nunes last month disclosed that Trump associates' communications had been swept up by U.S. spy agencies and, he suggested, mishandled by Obama administration officials.

The announcement was striking, as it is unusual for a member of the committee to publicly discuss the existence of what would be classified intelligence reports.

Nunes later acknowledged that the material had been shared by a secret source on the White House grounds, raising fresh questions about his coordination with the White House. Trump seized on the information as evidence backing up his unfounded claim that President Barack Obama wiretapped the phones at his New York skyscraper.

Schiff later saw the same material, but refused to publicly discuss what he learned. He said Thursday he understood the material was now to be shared with other intelligence committee members.

Republican Speaker Ryan said he supported Nunes' decision to step aside.

"It is clear that this process would be a distraction for the House intelligence committee's investigation into Russian interference in our election," Ryan said.

A Republican aide said Nunes met with Ryan on Wednesday night to discuss stepping aside

from the Russia probe. That's when Ryan learned of the House ethics probe, according to the aide, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations.

Nunes said in his state-

ment, "I will continue to fulfill all my other responsibilities as committee chairman, and I am requesting to speak to the Ethics Committee at the earliest possible opportunity in order to expedite the dismissal of these

false claims."

The Ethics Committee investigation of Nunes' actions will be led by Republican Chairwoman Susan Brooks of Indiana and Democrat Ted Deutch of Florida.



## CATHEDRAL PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY Confession & Reconciliation Service, Friday April 7th **SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR HOLY WEEK**

APRIL 7TH – APRIL 16TH, 2017

- Friday, April 7th:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after 6:00am Mass until 5:30pm Confessions & Reconciliation Service for the entire parish. (3rd Rite) & individual confessions for those who are in need for individual confession. There will be **NO** Stations of the Cross
- Saturday, April 8th:** 6:30am Morning Mass as usual
- Sunday, April 9th:** 8:30am **PALM SUNDAY** (One combined Mass) Blessing of palms in front of Saint Joseph Community malae... followed by procession to the Cathedral.
- Monday, April 10th:** 6:00am Mass (Samoan as usual)
- Tuesday, April 11th:** 6:00am Mass (Samoan as usual) 5:00pm **CHRISM MASS** (Blessing of Oils & Renewal of Priestly Vows)
- Wednesday, April 12th:** 6:00am Mass (Samoan) 6:00pm Novena Mass (Hope House Chapel)
- Thursday, April 13th:** **HOLY THURSDAY** (No Morning Mass) 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Last Supper followed by the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 12:00 mid-night.
- Friday, April 14th:** **GOOD FRIDAY** 5:00am ...Stations of the Cross prepared by the Parish Youth. 3:00pm Passion of our Lord – Veneration of the Cross & Communion Service in the Cathedral.
- Saturday, April 15th:** **HOLY SATURDAY – NO MORNING MASS** 8:00pm **EASTER VIGIL SERVICE**
- Sunday, April 16th:** **EASTER SUNDAY** 5:30am Filipino Salubong Easter Sunrise Service 7:30am Mass of Resurrection (Samoan) 9:30am Mass of Resurrection (English)

There will be **NO** 11:00am Mass & **NO** 5:30pm Mass at Hope House Chapel as usual.

**MAY YOU ALL HAVE A BLESSED HOLY WEEK!!**



# US missiles blast Syria; Trump demands 'end the slaughter'



President Donald Trump speaks at Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Fla., Thursday, April 6, 2017, after the U.S. fired a barrage of cruise missiles into Syria Thursday night in retaliation for this week's gruesome chemical weapons attack against civilians. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — The United States blasted a Syrian air base with a barrage of cruise missiles Thursday night in fiery retaliation for this week's gruesome chemical weapons attack against civilians. President Donald Trump cast the U.S. assault as vital to deter future use of poison gas and called on other nations to join in seeking "to end the slaughter and bloodshed in Syria."

It was the first direct American assault on the Syrian government and Trump's most dramatic military order since becoming president just over two months ago. The strikes also risk thrusting the U.S. deeper into an intractable conflict that his predecessor spent years trying to avoid.

Announcing the assault from his Florida resort, Trump said there was no doubt Syrian President Bashar Assad was responsible for the chemical attack, which he said employed banned

gases and killed dozens. "Assad choked out the lives of helpless men, women and children," Trump declared.

The U.S. strikes — 59 missiles launched from the USS Ross and USS Porter — hit the government-controlled Shayrat air base in central Syria, where U.S. officials say the Syrian military planes that dropped the chemicals had taken off. The U.S. missiles hit at 8:45 p.m. in Washington, 3:45 Friday morning in Syria. The missiles targeted the base's airstrips, hangars, control tower and ammunition areas, officials said.

The attack killed some Syrians and wounded others, Talal Barazi, the governor of Syria's Homs province, told The Associated Press. He didn't give precise numbers.

Trump ordered the strikes without approval from Congress or the backing of the United Nations. U.S. officials said he had the right to use force to

defend national interests and to protect civilians from atrocities.

Syrian state TV reported a U.S. missile attack on a number of military targets and called the attack an "aggression."

The U.S. assault marked a striking reversal for Trump, who warned as a candidate against the U.S. being pulled into the Syrian civil war that began six years ago. But the president appeared moved by the photos of children killed in the chemical attack, calling it a "disgrace to humanity" that crossed "a lot of lines."

U.S. officials placed some

of the blame on Russia, one of Syria's most important benefactors. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, in Florida with Trump, said Moscow had failed in living up to a 2013 agreement that was intended to strip Syria of its chemical weapons stockpiles.

"Either Russia has been complicit or Russia has been simply incompetent in its ability to deliver on its end of the agreement," Tillerson said.

The U.S. Tomahawk missiles, fired from warships in the Mediterranean Sea, targeted an air base in retaliation for the attack that America believes Syrian government aircraft launched with the nerve agent sarin mixed with chlorine gas. The president did not announce the attacks in advance, though he and other national security officials ratcheted up their warnings to the Syrian government throughout the day Thursday.

The strike came as Trump was hosting Chinese President Xi Jinping in meetings focused in part on another pressing U.S. security dilemma: North Korea's nuclear program. Trump's actions in Syria could signal to China that the new president isn't afraid of unilateral military steps, even if key nations like China are standing in the way.

"This clearly indicates the president is willing to take decisive action when called for," Tillerson said.

Trump has advocated greater counterterrorism cooperation with Russia, Assad's most powerful military backer. Just last week, the Trump administration signaled the U.S. was no longer interested in trying to push Assad from power over his direction of a conflict that has killed hundreds of thousands of people and led to the worst refugee crisis since World War II.

U.S. officials portrayed the strikes as an appropriate, measured response and said they did not signal a broader shift in the Trump administration's approach to the Syrian conflict.

"The intent was to deter the regime from doing this again," said Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, the Pentagon spokesman. "It will be the regime's choice if

there's any more, and it will be based upon their conduct going forward."

Still, the assault risks plunging America into the middle of Syria's conflict, complicating the safety of the hundreds of U.S. forces fighting a separate campaign against the Islamic State group in the north of the country. If Assad's military persists in further gas attacks, the Trump administration might logically pursue increased retaliation.

Russia and Iran, Assad's allies, pose other problems. Russian military personnel and aircraft are embedded with Syria's, and Iranian troops and paramilitary forces are also on the ground helping Assad fight the array of opposition groups hoping to topple him.

Before the strikes, U.S. military officials said they informed their Russian counterparts of the impending attack. The goal was to avoid any accident involving Russian forces.

Nevertheless, Russia's Deputy U.N. ambassador Vladimir Safronkov warned that any negative consequences from the strikes would be on the "shoulders of those who initiated such a doubtful and tragic enterprise."

The U.S. also notified its partner countries in the region prior to launching the strikes.

Trump's decision to attack Syria came three-and-a-half years after President Barack Obama threatened Assad with military action after an earlier chemical weapons attack killed hundreds outside Damascus. Obama had declared the use of such weapons a "red line." At the time, several American ships in the Mediterranean were poised to launch missiles, only for Obama to abruptly pull back after key U.S. ally Britain and the U.S. Congress balked at his plan. He opted instead for the Russian-backed plan that was supposed to remove and eliminate Syria's chemical weapons stockpiles.

The world learned of the chemical attack earlier in the week in footage that showed people dying in the streets and bodies of children stacked in piles.



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## REQUEST FOR QUOTES (RFQ)

RFQ NO: ASPA17.031.WTR

Issuance Date: April 6, 2017

Closing Date & Time: April 20, 2017

No later than 10:00 a.m. local time

The American Samoa Power Authority issues a Request for Quotes (RFQ) to invite qualified firms to submit quotes for the:

### *"Supply of Electro-Mechanical Equipment for the Tramway Tank Project"*

#### Submission

An original and one (1) PDF must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: "RFQ #ASPA17.031. WTR Supply of Electro-Mechanical Equipment for the Tramway Tank Project." Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 10:00 a.m. (local time), Thursday, April 20, 2017:

Materials Management Office  
American Samoa Power Authority  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
Attn: Ioana S. Uli, Procurement Manager

Any quotation received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. Late submissions will not be opened or considered and will be determined as being non-responsive.

#### Document

The RFQ package outlining the quotation requirements is available at The Materials Management Office at ASPA's Tafuna Compound and may also be obtained from our Website: <http://www.aspower.com>.

#### Right of Rejection

The American Samoa Power Authority reserves the right to reject any and/or all quotations and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted quotations that are not in the best interests of the American Samoa Power Authority or the public.

Approved for Issuance: **Utu Abe Malae**, Executive Director





In this image provided by the U.S. Navy, the guided-missile destroyer USS Porter (DDG 78) launches a tomahawk land attack missile in the Mediterranean Sea, Friday, April 7, 2017. The United States blasted a Syrian air base with a barrage of cruise missiles in fiery retaliation for this week's gruesome chemical weapons attack against civilians.

(Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Ford Williams/U.S. Navy via AP)

# Syria decries 'aggression' as US launches cruise missiles

BEIRUT (AP) — Syria decried a U.S. missile attack early Friday morning on a government-controlled air base where U.S. officials say the Syrian military launched a deadly chemical attack earlier this week, calling it an "aggression" that led to "losses." Rebels welcomed the U.S. attack.

About 60 U.S. Tomahawk missiles hit the Shayrat air base, southeast of Homs, a small installation with two runways, where aircraft often take off to bomb targets in northern and central Syria. The U.S. missiles hit at 3:45 a.m. Friday morning and targeted the base's airstrips, hangars, control tower and ammunition areas, U.S. officials said.

They were fired from two warships in the Mediterranean Sea, in retaliation for Tuesday's deadly chemical attack that officials said used chlorine mixed with a nerve agent, possibly sarin.

A military official quoted on Syrian TV said an air base in central Syria was hit early Friday, causing material damage. Another statement, also attributed to an unnamed official, referred to "losses." The officials did not elaborate.

Talal Barazi, the governor of Homs province, where the targeted air base is located, told The Associated Press by phone that most of the strikes appeared to target the province in central Syria. He also said the strikes were meant to "support the terrorists on the ground." He told Al Arabiya TV that a fire raged for two hours in the base, until it was put out.

A Syrian opposition group,

the Syrian Coalition, welcomed the U.S. attack, saying it puts an end to an age of "impunity" and should be just the beginning.

Major Jamil al-Saleh, a U.S.-backed rebel commander whose Hama district in the country's center was struck by a suspected chemical weapons attack, said he hoped the U.S. attack on a government air base would be a "turning point" in the six-year war.

The bombing represents President Donald Trump's most dramatic military order since taking office. The Obama administration threatened attacking Assad's forces for previous chemical weapons attacks, but never followed through. Trump called on "all civilized nations" to join the U.S. in seeking an end to the carnage in Syria.

President Bashar Assad's government had been under mounting international pressure after the chemical attack in northern Syria, with even key ally Russia saying its support is not unconditional and the U.S. launching a barrage of cruise missiles at a government-controlled air base in Syria.

Turkey, meanwhile, said samples from victims of Tuesday's attack, which killed more than 80 people in the town of Khan Sheikhoun, indicate they were exposed to sarin, a highly toxic nerve agent.

Syria rejected the accusations, and Moscow had warned against apportioning blame until an investigation has been carried out.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said in an interview with The Associated Press on

Thursday that "unconditional support is not possible in this current world."

But he added that "it is not correct to say that Moscow can convince Mr. Assad to do whatever is wanted in Moscow. This is totally wrong."

Russia has provided military support for the Syrian government since September 2015, turning the balance of power in Assad's favor. Moscow has used its veto power at the Security Council on several occasions since the civil war began six years ago to prevent sanctions against Damascus.

Syria maintains it didn't use chemical weapons, blaming opposition fighters for stockpiling the chemicals. Russia's Defense Ministry said the toxic agents were released when a Syrian airstrike hit a rebel chemical weapons arsenal and munitions factory on the eastern outskirts of Khan Sheikhoun.

"I stress, once again, that the Syrian Arab Army did not and will not use such weapons even against the terrorists who are targeting our people," Syria's Foreign Minister Walid Moallem told reporters in Damascus.

Trump had said the attack crossed "many, many lines," and put the blame squarely on Assad's forces. Speaking Thursday on Air Force One, Trump said the attack "shouldn't have happened, and it shouldn't be allowed to happen."

Earlier, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan had said he hopes Trump will take military action, Turkey's state-run Anadolu Agency quoted him as saying.

Erdogan said Turkey would

be prepared to do "whatever falls on us" to support possible military action, the news agency reported.

U.S. officials had said they hoped for a vote late Thursday night on a U.N. Security Council resolution that would condemn the chemical attack, but with council members still negotiating the text into the evening, the British Mission's political coordinator Stephen Hickey tweeted the vote wouldn't take place until later.

At the U.N., the United States, which currently holds the presidency of the Security Council, drafted a resolution along with Britain and France that condemns the use of chemical weapons, particularly in the attack on Khan Sheikhoun, "in the strongest terms."

Russia objected to key provisions in the resolution and negotiations have been underway to try to bridge the differences.

After the attack, hospitals around Khan Sheikhoun were overwhelmed, and paramedics sent victims to medical facilities across rebel-held areas in northern Syria, as well as to Turkey. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group put the death toll at 86.

The attack happened in Syria's Idlib province about 100 kilometers (60 miles) from the Turkish border, and the Turkish government — a close ally of Syria's rebels — set up a decontamination center at a border crossing in Hatay province, where the victims were treated initially.

Turkish officials said nearly 60 victims of the attack were

brought to Turkey for treatment and three of them died.

Victims showed signs of nerve gas exposure, including suffocation, foaming at the mouth, convulsions, constricted pupils and involuntary defecation, the World Health Organization and Doctors Without Borders said. Paramedics used fire hoses to wash the chemicals from the bodies of victims.

Visuals from the scene were reminiscent of a 2013 nerve gas attack on the suburbs of Damascus that left hundreds dead.

In Turkey, Anadolu and the private DHA news agencies on Thursday quoted Justice Minister Bekir Bozdag as saying "it was determined after the autopsy that a chemical weapon was used."

The Turkish Health Ministry said later that "according to the results of the first analysis, there were findings suggesting that the patients were exposed to chemical substance (sarin)."

WHO experts took part in the autopsies in the Turkish city of Adana late Wednesday, Turkish media reported.

The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons said it has "initiated contact" with Syrian authorities and its Technical Secretariat has been collecting and analyzing information about the allegations. "This is an ongoing investigation," it said.

The area of Khan Sheikhoun is difficult to access, and as more time passes since the attack, it will be increasingly difficult to determine exactly what happened.

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# Facebook launches resource to help spot misleading news

NEW YORK (AP) — Facebook is launching a resource to help you spot false news and misleading information that spreads on its service.

The resource, similar to previous efforts around privacy and security, is basically a notification that pops up for a few days. Clicking on it takes you to tips and other information on how to spot false news and what to do about it.

Tips to spot false news include looking closely at website addresses to see if they are trying to spoof real news sites, and checking websites' "about" sections for more information. Some sites might look like real news at first glance, but their "about" sections inform the visitor that they are in fact satire.

Adam Mosseri, vice president of News Feed at Facebook, said he hopes people will become "more discerning consumers" of news.

The new feature is part of a broader plan by Facebook



FILE - In this June 11, 2014, file photo, a man walks past a Facebook sign in an office on the Facebook campus in Menlo Park, Calif. Facebook announced Thursday, April 6, 2017, it is launching a tool to help users spot false news articles on the site. The tool, similar to others around privacy and security, will be available to users in 14 countries, including the U.S. Users will see it for a few days when they open Facebook. (AP Photo/Jeff Chiu, File)

to clamp down false news presidential election. False news, of course, was stories, which gained out-sized attention in the months around long before the election. But supermarket tab-

loids peddling stories about aliens and celebrity miracles are less insidious than, say, "Pizzagate," a false internet rumor that led a gunman to fire an assault weapon inside a Washington pizzeria in December.

Facebook has been "working very hard to figure out how to get their arms wrapped around this," said Lucy Dalglish, journalism dean at the University of Maryland.

"Facebook was always very interested technology but not the social and civic implications of technology. It's like they have become citizens."

She praised the company for seeking help from outside experts, including academics, researchers and nonprofit journalism organizations.

The company, for instance, is working with outside fact-checking and media organizations to identify false news as such. And once they are identified, Facebook is trying to dry up the "economic incentives" of false news sites by making it difficult for them to buy ads on Facebook.

Mosseri said most of the false news content on Facebook is from spammers trying to seek a profit and not, for example, political propaganda. This is apparent as the sites often flip-flop around opposing political candidates or ideologies, for example, or have multiple pages that support different candidates.

Facebook's other efforts include the creation, with

other companies, groups and tech leaders, of a "news integrity" nonprofit to promote news literacy and increase the public's trust in journalism. A nascent Facebook Journalism Project, meanwhile, is a lofty effort to work with news organizations to develop products, provide tools for journalists and generally promote trust in news.

The new feature will be available in 14 countries, including the U.S., Germany, France, Italy, the U.K., Philippines, Taiwan and Brazil.

Also on Thursday, Facebook said that its messaging app, Messenger, will soon start showing users suggestions from a virtual assistant to users in the U.S. The artificial intelligence-powered assistant, called M, will suggest things it deems might be helpful to users based on the conversations they are having.

This can include sending stickers, sharing your location with a friend to meet up, hailing a ride or sending money to friends.

The more someone uses M, the "smarter" it gets — and if the suggestions are routinely ignored, it will stop providing them. While having a virtual assistant monitor your private messages can sound creepy, Facebook stresses that there is no advertising component to the move.

Facebook unveiled M in 2015, but until now it's only been testing out the suggestions with a small percentage of Messenger users.

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# Dems in Trump states pressured from both sides on court pick



**FILE-** In this Feb. 14, 2017, file photo Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D., speaks on Capitol Hill in Washington. It's a rare and momentous decision, one by one, seated at desks centuries old, senators will stand and cast their votes for a Supreme Court nominee. It's a difficult political call in the modern era, especially for the 10 Democrats facing tough re-election next year in states that President Donald Trump won. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik, File)

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's a rare and momentous decision — one by one, seated at desks centuries old, senators will stand and cast their votes for a Supreme Court nominee.

It's a difficult political call in the modern era, especially for the 10 Democrats facing tough re-election next year in states that President Donald Trump won.

"Resist" is the rallying cry for the Democratic Party's liberal base, and that applies to all Trump nominees, even Neil Gorsuch, a mild-mannered jurist who won unanimous Senate backing to the appellate court in 2006. Democratic voters have flooded lawmakers' offices with calls, protested outside state offices and tweeted vulgarities if senators even hint at being conciliatory with Trump and the GOP.

"I come from a state that no matter how I vote, 50 percent of the people are mad," says Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill, who will oppose Gorsuch when the Senate votes on his confirmation Friday. "So I'm kind of used to this. The only difference is that the ones who are happy are really happy."

Already in the minority, Democrats face tough political odds in next year's midterms, defending 25 seats for caucus members to the GOP's eight. The looming question for the 10 Democrats is whether a Supreme Court vote will still resonate with voters in 19

months or whether Trump's standing, the economy, jobs or health care will be greater concerns.

Trump won McCaskill's state by almost 20 percentage points and conservative groups are running ads against her. On Tuesday, a handful of people stood in front of the Missouri capitol and held up pro-Gorsuch signs.

"I wish they would realize that the Democrats really did lose the election," said Joyce Campbell of Versailles, Missouri.

But liberals are also fired up.

The January evening Gorsuch was nominated, McCaskill tweeted that there should be a hearing and vote on "ANY nominee" — a reference to last year's Republican blockade of former President Barack Obama's nominee for the same seat, Merrick Garland. She got more than 700 replies, some using curse words and threatening a primary.

Montana Sen. Jon Tester also will oppose Gorsuch, even though his state similarly supported Trump by 20 points. Tester said he's concerned about how Gorsuch would rule on privacy issues and women's health, and whether he'd support working people over corporations.

"I think that Montanans have always expected me to have a reason for why I voted, and I have plenty of them on Judge Gorsuch," Tester said.

Marlene Johnson, 65, of Helena, said she hopes Tester's opposition will hurt him politically. She is closely following the debate and called Gorsuch a decent person who is qualified to sit on the Supreme Court. She says Tester is "letting Montana down."

Tester has never won with more than 50 percent of the vote. But Republicans are lacking a strong challenger, with their best chance, former Montana Rep. Ryan Zinke, now serving as Trump's interior secretary.

Indiana Sen. Joe Donnelly, North Dakota Sen. Heidi Heitkamp and West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin had a different calculus — they're all supporting Gorsuch. Trump won Indiana by 19 points, North Dakota by 36 points and West Virginia by 42 points.

Still, some Democrats are angry. About 20 protesters marched to Donnelly's downtown Indianapolis office Tuesday, chanting: "No, no, Joe."

North Dakota Democrat Dan Spiekermeier is more

understanding of Heitkamp. The farmer said he's upset that Republicans did not allow a vote on Garland, but said "some people among the Democrats need to be centrists, so I think she made the right call."

In swing states where Trump had narrower victories, the decision may have been easier. Pennsylvania Sen. Bob Casey, Florida Sen. Bill Nelson, Wisconsin Sen. Tammy Baldwin and Michigan Sen. Debbie Stabenow are all opposing Gorsuch. Trump won their states by a point or less.

It's unclear if their eventual opponents will use the issue against them in 2018 — or if voters will even remember the Supreme Court fight. Florida Gov. Rick Scott, viewed as a likely challenger to Nelson, has so far avoided any direct criticism, though he supports Gorsuch.

In Wisconsin, though, Republican Gov. Scott Walker, who is also up for re-election next year, tweeted to Baldwin in February that "pandering to liberal special interests in Wash-

ington is more important to you than listening to WI residents."

On Thursday, the Wisconsin Republican Party asked supporters to come to field offices to organize opposition to Baldwin.

In Ohio, where Trump won by 8 points, Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown says he didn't consider the political consequences when he made his decision to oppose Gorsuch the night he was nominated. Most Democrats waited until after his March hearings.

Brown has been the target of a steady stream of attack ads over Gorsuch. And Republican Josh Mandel, making a repeat try at unseating Brown, told supporters in a fundraising email that Brown's decision was "uninformed, out of touch, knee-jerk politicking."

Brown says he believes Gorsuch will favor corporations over workers and he gets "a lot of pushback on both sides on everything."

As for whether voters will still support him, he says: "I guess we'll see, won't we? I think so."



**Cornell Beckley, 27, of Westwood, appears in Hamilton County Municipal Court in Cincinnati on Friday, March 31, 2017. Beckley was arrested at a Colerain Township home Thursday afternoon and is charged with murder in the Cameo Night Club shooting, which left 16 wounded and one man, O'Bryan Spikes, dead. His bond was set at \$1.7 million — \$100,000 for each victim.**

(Carrie Cochran/The Cincinnati Enquirer via AP)

## Man charged with gun murders at club in 'feud over nothing'

CINCINNATI (AP) — A man has been indicted on two murder charges and dozens of other counts in a nightclub gunbattle that developed from a "feud over nothing," a prosecutor said Thursday.

Hamilton County prosecutor Joe Deters said the indictment charges Cornell Beckley with murder in the March 26 shootings of O'Bryan Spikes and Deondre Davis. Fifteen other people were injured. Beckley also was indicted on charges of involuntary manslaughter, inducing panic, weapons offenses and felonious assault.

Davis also was charged in Spikes' slaying, but those charges were dismissed after Davis died on Tuesday. Deters said Davis would have faced a similar indictment if he had survived. Davis' family denies he was involved.

Beckley's attorney, Clyde Bennett II, said Beckley denies the allegations against him.

"You have no video, and you have no ballistics indicating that Mr. Beckley fired a shot at anyone," Bennett said.

Bennett said he gave no credence to "purported" eyewitness accounts from people at a club where patrons were partying and drinking liquor.

"I also have witnesses who will say they saw individuals firing shots, and Mr. Beckley was not one of

them," Bennett said.

The dispute, which Deters said was apparently between two groups from two neighborhoods in Cincinnati, escalated into violence while about 200 people were in the Cameo club east of downtown. The club has since closed.

A group from one neighborhood apparently had left a friend's funeral, Deters said. The group was upset that people from the other neighborhood were there, and some people started "aiming their fingers at each other like they've got a fake gun in their hand," he said.

That's when, Deters said, witnesses report Beckley got up on a riser and "started shooting his gun."

Beckley is accused of firing four rounds at club patrons, and Davis had been charged with firing numerous times after Beckley began shooting, Deters said.

"People died because of a feud over nothing," the prosecutor said.

There was no evidence that Spikes fired a gun or was targeted in the shooting, Deters said.

Authorities found a third gun and were investigating to determine who fired it. The prosecutor said there might have been other shooters who used guns that don't leave shell casings.



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# Fa'alauiloa Kovana fa'aititia itula faigaluega tagata faigaluega malo

tusia Ausage Fausia

O le aso Gafua o le vaiaso fou, Aperila 10 e pei ona fa'alauiloa aloaia mai e le afioga i le ali'i kovana ia Lolo Matalasi Moliga, o le aloaia ai loa le fa'aititia o itula faigaluega mo se vaega o tagata faigaluega a le malo.

O lea fa'asilasilaga mai le ta'ita'i o le atunu'u, e le gata sa ia fa'alauiloa i se fonotaga fa'apitua ma lana Kapeneta i le taeao o le aso Lua na te'a nei, ae sa ia toe fa'alauiloa atili mai fo'i i se pepa o fa'amatalaga sa tu'uina mai i le au fa'asalalau a le atunu'u.

"O le taeao o le aso Gafua o le vaiaso fou o le amata fa'aititia ai loa itula ta'itasi mai le aso e tasi i itula faigaluega a ni isi o tagata faigaluega a le malo, ma o lea suiga e le aofia ai foma'i, tausima'i, faiaoga atoa ai ma ni isi o loo galulue i le vaega o aoga", o se vaega lea o le saunoaga a le ali'i kovana.

E ui i suiga i itula faigaluega e pei ona fa'alauiloa mai e le malo, o le a le avea lea ma auala e suia ai taimi faigaluega a le malo e pei ona masani ai, ae o le a taoto atu lava i le Fa'atonusili mo le fa'atonuina o le tulaga o galuega fa'atino a lana afaigaluega, ina ia mautinoa e fa'aauau pea le tautua mo le atunu'u lautele.

E pei ona saunoa le ali'i kovana, sa leai se agaga ia te ia e fa'atino lea tulaga, ae talu ai o tulaga fa'aletonu e pei ona tula'i mai i le itu tau tupe a le malo, ua mafua ai loa ona manatu le malo e la'a i lea tulaga ina ia mautinoa e fa'aauau pea le tautua a le malo mo ona tagata i tausaga o loo totoe o le nofoaiga, atoa ai ma le fa'aauau pea lea ona i ai avanoa faigaluega mo tagata faigaluega, nai lo le taumafai e aveese mai togoti mai totonu o aiga.

(Faaauau itulau 18)



Olafou Wilson (itu taumatau) ma se ali'i leoleo i le aso na fa'atoa tula'i ai i luma o le fa'amasinoga fa'aitumalo. [ata AF]

# Tofu mataupu a Wilson i luma Fa'amasinoga Mauualuga

tusia Ausage Fausia

Ua tofu atu nei le mataupu a le ali'i Leoleo o le Falepuipui o Tamaiti Laiti i Tafuna (Juvenile Detention Center - JDC) ia Olafou Wilson i luma o le Fa'amasinoga Mauualuga, ina ua mae'a lana ulua'i iloilogaga sa fa'agasolo i le Fa'amasinoga Fa'aitumalo i le taeao ananafi, ma fa'ailoa ai e le afioga i le ali'i Fa'amasino ia Fiti Sunia le i ai o mau fa'amaonia e lagolago ai tu'uiga fa'asaga ia te ia, lea e pei ona fa'ailoa e le malo i luma o le fa'amasinoga.

O le ali'i loia ia Douglas Fiaui o lo o tula'i mo Wilson i lenei mataupu, ae o le ali'i loia ia Jedediah Bigelow o lo o tula'i mo le itu a le malo, ma le ali'i leoleo su'esu'e ia Det. Filemoni Amituana'i sa avea ma molimau a le malo, o ia fo'i le leoleo sa autu i ai le su'esu'eina o lenei mataupu, lea e pei ona tu'uiga ai Leoleo e to'afa mai le JDC, i lo latou faia lea o gaoiga fa'asolitulafono e aofia ai le fa'ataga o pagota e sosola i tua, atoa ai ma le fa'aaogaina o fualaau fa'asaina.

Ao lei amataina le iloilogaga a Wilson i le taeao ananafi, na mua'i fa'aleo e lana loia se talosaga i le fa'amasinoga, e poloaina ai le afioga i le ali'i fa'amasino ia Sunia ina ia tula'i ese o ia mai lona auai i le iloiloa o le mataupu a Wilson, ona o ni isi o mafua'aga sa ia tolalauina.

O se tasi o mafua'aga autu na taua e Fiaui i lana fa'afinauga, talu ai o Sunia lea sa faamaonia le ripoti a leoleo ma ia sainia ai loa le poloaiga e pu'e fa'apagota mai ai Wilson, e talitonu ai o ia, e le tatau la ona toe avea Sunia ma Fa'amasino na te faia le fa'aiuga mo le ulua'i iloilogaga, pe lava ma totoe mau a le malo e lagolago ai sa soli se tulafono, ae tatau ona ese se isi fa'amasino na te nofoia le nofoa fa'amasino mo lea iloilogaga.

Na teena e Sunia le fa'afinauga a le itu tete'e ona o ni isi o mafua'aga sa ia taua, aemaise ai lava le tulaga lea, ua mae'a ona fa'ataoto e le fa'amasinoga le alafua e lima ta'ita'iina ai ana galuega, ma o le auala lava lea ua faia e le fa'amasinoga e le toe suia.

(Faaauau itulau 18)

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Le afioga i le ali'i kovana ia Lolo Matalasi Moliga i le taimi na saunoa ai i luma o le kapeneta i le fonotaga sa faia i le vaiaso na te'a nei.

[ata AF]

## ► fa'aitiitia itula faigaluega ...

Mai itulau 17

E lua mafua'aga na taua e le ali'i kovana ua mafua ai nei fa'aiuga, e le gata i le tapunia ai o le tautua a le kamupani i'a o le Samoa Tuna Processors (STP) ma fa'aitiitia ai tupe sa maua e le malo mai lafoga totogi a tagata faigaluega ta'ito'atasi, ae o le telegese o le sau i totonu o tupe fesoasoani mai le feterale, e mafua mai i suiga ua faia e le faigamalo fou a le malo o Amerika i le laumua i Uosigitone.

"O nei mataupu uma e le oo i ai so matou malosi, o le mafua'aga lea ua taumafai ai le malo e faia ni gaioiga ina ia tau fa'afetaui ai tulaga fa'afitauli e pei ona tula'i mai", o se vaega lea o le saunoaga a le ali'i kovana.

O le suiga e pei ona fuafua e le malo mo le fa'aitiitia o itula faigaluega i le 70 itula faigaluega i totonu o le piriota totogi a le malo, o le a fa'auau pea seia oo atu i le fa'aiuga o le Kuata 3 o le tausaga tupe lenei, ma maua ai loa le avanoa e toe iloilo ai e le malo. O lo o i ai le fuafuaga a le malo i le toe faia lea o se suiga i itula faigaluega a tagata faigaluega o le a fa'aitiitia taimi faigaluega, i le toe fa'aopoopo lea i le 75 itula faigaluega i le piriota totogi i le Kuata 4

o le tausaga tupe lenei 2017.

Na fa'ailoa e Lolo i lana kapeneta e fa'apea, "Na filifilia oe e ave ma ta'ita'i ona o oe le tagata pito sili ona agava'a mo le galuega, o le mea fo'i lea e tatau ai ona e taliaina lu'itau ua tula'i mai, ma ia fai lau galuega e ala i le puleaina o lau matagaluega ina ia mafai ona latou taliaina tulaga faigata e pei ona tula'i mai", o se vaega lea o le saunoaga a le ali'i kovana.

E pei ona silafia e le atunu'u, sa tula'i mai fo'i le tulaga lenei i le taimi o le nofoaiga a Togiola ma Faoa, lea na fa'aitiitia ai itula faigaluega a tagata faigaluega a le malo i le masina o Fepuari 2011, ina ua tula'i mai fo'i tulaga fa'aletonu i tupe maua a le malo.

O le salalau ai o ripoti e fa'atatau i lenei suiga, na molimauina ai le to'atele o tagata faigaluega a le malo ua latou fa'aalia lagona le fiafia ma le fa'asea i luga o uepa o fesoootaiga fa'aonaponei, i le mafai e le malo ona fa'aitiitia itula faigaluega i le ta'i 70 itula i totonu o le piriota totogi, ae o lo o fa'auau pea ona tipi le 2% mai totogi o tagata faigaluega.

## ► Tofu mataupu Olafou Wilson i ...

Mai itulau 17

E 15 moliaga o lo o tu'uaia ai e le malo ia Wilson, ae i le mae'a ai o lana ulua'i iloilogia i le taeao ananafi, na fa'amalieina ai le fa'amasinoga i le lava o mau faamaonia sa tu'uina atu e le malo e lagolago ai tu'uaiga fa'asaga ia te ia i moliaga e 14, se'i vagana ai le moliaga mamafa lona 15 o lona taumafai lea e fa'aleaga se molimau (tampering of witness) ua fa'aleaga e le fa'amasinoga, ina ua le mafai e le malo ona tu'uina atu ni mau e lagolagoina ai lea tu'uaiga.

O moliaga la e 14 o loo tu'uaia ai Wilson ua tofu atu nei i luma o le fa'amasinoga maualuga, e aofia ai moliaga mama e 3 fa'apea ai ma moliaga mamafa e 11.

O moliaga mama e 3 e aofia ai moliaga e 2 o le faia o gaioiga e ono lamatia ai le saogalemu o fanau, ma le moliaga mama e tasi o le gaioi, ae o le moliaga mamafa e 11 e aofia ai moliaga e 2 o le umia fa'asolitulafono o vaega le pauta oona o le aisa, 2 moliaga o le fa'asoa atu fa'asolitulafono o vaega o le pauta fa'asaina o le aisa i isi tagata, tasi le moliaga o le gaioi, 3 moliaga o le fesoasoani i pagota e sosola i tua mai le toese, ma moliaga e 3 o lona fa'atagaina lea o pagota e sosola i tua mai le toese o loo taofia ai latou.

E pei ona manino i le molimau a le ali'i leoleo su'esu'e ia Det. Amituana'i i le taeao ananafi, e to'atolu ali'i pagota talavou o loo taua i fa'amaumauga a le fa'amasinoga sa a'afia i gaioiga a le ali'i leoleo ia Wilson, ma o i latou ia o loo taua i totonu o le ripoti o le 'victim #2', 'victim #3' ma le 'victim #6'.

Na taua e Det. Amituana'i le la talanoaga ma le victim #2, lea na ia fa'amatala atu ia te ia le po na latou malaga atu ai ma Wilson, o victim #3 ma victim #6 i le vaega e paka ai ta'avale i se tasi o fale'aiga i Tafuna, ma le fa'amoemoe e feiloa'i ai ma tagata o latou aiga, mo le fia mauaina mai o se tupe mo i latou.

Na taua atili e victim #2 i leoleo se tasi o po ao tiute Wilson, na fa'atonu ai e le ua molia o ia e alu e talepe le kapeneta a le Ofisa o Aoga i totonu o le JDC

ae aveese mai le laptop sa i ai ma latou taaalo ai i le laptop i le po atoa, ae ina ua manava le ua molia, sa ia tago ma tu'u le laptop i lana ato ma alu ma ia i lona aiga.

Na taua e Det. Amituana'i le faamaonia atu e le Ofisa o Aoga ia te ia, e 2 a latou masini laptop na leiloloa mai i le JDC, lea e tusa ma le \$2,000 le tau o le laptop e tasi, ma ua mae'a fo'i ona faila la latou ripoti i le ofisa o leoleo e tusa ai o lea mataupu.

Na taua e victim #2 ma victim #6 lo la vaaia o Wilson o ia ulaina le pauta oona o le aisa e fa'aaoga i ai le paipa. Na taua e victim #2 ma victim #3 le tu'u atu e Wilson o le paipa o loo i ai vaega o le pauta oona o le aisa ma latou ulaula fa'atasi ai.

Na fesili Fiaui i le molimau pe na maua e leoleo ni mau fa'amaonia mai ia Wilson e lagolago ai tu'uaiga fa'asaga ia te ia, na tali le molimau e leai, sa toe fesiligia fo'i e Fiaui le molimau pe sa i ai lava se taimi na aumai ai se ripoti e fa'atatau i ni pagota ua sosola i tua mai le JDC, na tali le molimau e leai.

Na finau Fiaui e fa'apea, o tu'uaiga o loo faia fa'asaga ia Wilson, ua na o ni tu'uaiga o loo fa'avae i luga o fa'amatalaga ma upu, e aunoa ma ni mau fa'amaonia e lagolagoina ai. Sa ia finau foi i le fa'amasinoga le auala na fa'atino ai e Det. Amituana'i lana su'esu'ega fa'asaga i lenei mataupu, i lona fesiligia lea o tamaiti talavou na a'afia e aunoa ma le i ai o latou matua, peita'i na tali Det. Amituana'i e fa'apea, na mafua ona leai ni matua o tamaiti i le taimi na fesiligia ai i latou, ona e le o se suesuega e faia ai ni moliaga fa'asaga ia tei latou, ae o i latou o loo a'afia i le mataupu e pei ona su'esu'eina.

I le fa'aiuga o le iloilogia, na taua ai e Sunia le fa'amalieina o le fa'amasinoga i mau faamaonia sa folasia e le malo, e lagolago ai sa i ai le vaega o le tulafono ua solli, ma ua tofu atu nei le mataupu a Wilson i luma o le fa'amasinoga maualuga e fa'agasolo ai ana iloilogia, ma o loo taofia pea o ia i le toese se'i vagana ua totogi le \$75,000 ona fa'atoa mafai lea ona tatala i tua.

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# Talia Fa'amasinoga talosaga afioga Nua fa'asaga i le isi nofoa Manu'a i le Senate

tusia Ausage Fausia

Ua taliaina nei e le Vaega Iloilo o le Fa'amasinoga Maua-luga a Amerika Samoa le talosaga na fa'aulu e le afioga i le ali'i senatoa mai Manu'a ia Nuanuaolefeagaiga S. Nua, mo se avanoa e solofua ai e le fa'amasinoga le tagi sa fa'aulu e ni isi o matai mai Ta'u, Manu'a fa'asaga ia te ia, ona o tu'uaiga fai mai e le tusa ai ma ala o le Fa'avae le auala ua mafua ai ona ia toe nofoia le isi nofoa o Manu'a i le maota maua-luga a le Senate.

I se fa'aiuga e 14 itulau sa tu'uina mai e le Fa'amasinoga i le vaiaso na te'a nei, e le gata ua solofua ai le tagi sa faia fa'asaga ia Nu'a, ae ua fa'amausali atili ai le fa'aauau pea lea ona nofoia e Nua o le isi nofoa a le itumalo i totonu o le Senate.

E pei ona taua i le fa'aiuga a le fa'amasinoga, o lenei mataupu na tofu atu i le fa'amasinoga, ina ua faila e Lefiti Atiulagi Pese, Maui Aloali'i ma Tauese V.K Sunia sa latou tagi i le aso 30 Tesema 2016, fa'asaga i le mataupu e pei ona toe nofoia ai e Nua le isi nofoaga o le itumalo mo le isi 4 tausaga.

Na taua i le tagi a matai mai Ta'u, Manu'a e fa'apea, i le 4 tausaga ua tuana'i atu, sa fai ai Nua ma sui o Ta'u na te nofoia le nofoa, lea la ua mae'a lana nofoaiga e 4 tausaga, ma ua tataua ona see atu le nofoa e nofoia e Vaitautolu Liugalua, o ia lea ua tasi moemoe i ai ali'i ma faipule na te tauaveina le isi nofoa a le itumalo.

Na taua atili i le tagi e fa'apea, o le tusi fa'amaonia e pei ona taua e Nua e faamaonia ai o ia lea ua faamaonia mo le nofoia o le nofoa mo le isi 4 tausaga, e lei sainia e le Fa'alupega a Manu'a e pei ona mana'omia ai e le Fa'avae, ae na sainia e le Kovana o Manu'a.

Na finau matai nei i le latou tagi e fa'apea, o le auala lea na filifilia ai Nua na te toe fa'aauauina le nofoa a le itumalo, sa le tusa ai ma ala o le Fa'avae Toe Teuteu a Amerika Samoa, peita'i o le fonotaga lea na filifilia ai Vaitautolu Liugalua, sa o gatasi ma ta'iala o le Fa'avae.

Na iloilo toto'a e le fa'amasinoga le talosaga a le itu tagi ina ia fa'aleaga le suafa o Nua mai lona nofoia o le nofoa a le itumalo, atoa ai ma le talosaga a Nua, i le leai lea o se malosi o le fa'amasinoga na te iloilo ai lenei mataupu, ona o loo manino i le Fa'avae, e taoto atu lava i maota e lua a le Fono Faitulafono le malosi e iloilo ai



Le afioga i le ali'i senatoa mai Manu'a ia Nuanuaolefeagaiga S. Nua. [ata AF]

fa'aiuga mo sui e agava'a ona nofoia nofoa a itumalo ta'itasi.

I le mae'a ai ona iloilo toto'a e le fa'amasinoga o mau faamaonia uma e uiga i lenei mataupu, e aofia ai taimi ta'itasi sa usuia ai fonotaga i Manu'a i le tausaga na te'a nei e iloilo ai se tasi e nofoia le nofoa o loo nofoia nei e Nua, atoa ai ma fa'aiuga sa autasi i ai ali'i ma faipule o Ta'u, na fa'amalieina ai le fa'amasinoga i le tulaga lea, e leai se tulaga na a'afia ai i latou o loo tagi i lenei mataupu ona o le toe filifilia o Nua na te nofoia le isi nofoa o le itumalo mo le isi 4 tausaga o loo lumana'i nei.

E talitonu fo'i le fa'amasinoga, o le mataupu e pei ona iloilo ai, e le o fa'atatau i se tagata palota, ona o le tofi senatoa e filifilia mai lea i auala fa'aleaganu'u e pei ona taua i le Fa'avae Toe Teuteu a Amerika Samoa.

O le isi tulaga e pei ona manino i le fa'aiuga a le fa'amasinoga, o i latou sa tagi i lenei mataupu, e le fa'apea o se isi o i latou sa tatau ona nofoia le nofoa lea ua nofoia nei e Nua, ae ua mafua ona latou tagi i le fa'amasinoga, ona e talitonu i latou e le sa'o le auala lea ua toe

filifilia ai Nua na te nofoia le isi nofoa o le itumalo.

O loo manino fo'i i le Fa'avae le tulaga lea, e tatau i le Faletolu ia Fitiuta, Ta'u ma Faleasao ona latou filifilia nofoa e 2 ina ia tusa ma le fa'avae.

E le gata fo'i i lea e pei ona taua e le fa'amasinoga, e le o aofia le igoa o Vaitautolu i le lisi o i latou sa fa'auluina le tagi, ae o loo taua Vaitautolu o se tasi e i ai lona silafia i lenei mataupu, ma ua faigata ai ona silasila toto'a le fa'amasinoga i le tulaga tonu o Vaitautolu i lenei tagi.

Ona o ia mafua'aga uma, na talia ai loa e le fa'amasinoga le talosaga a Nua ina ia solofua le tagi sa faila fa'asaga ia te ia.

O le afioga i le ali'i fa'amasino ia Elvis P. Patea sa iloilo ai lenei mataupu, fa'atasi ai ma le lagolagosua a afioga i ali'i fa'amasino lagolago ia Satele Lili'o Ali'itai ma Muasau T. Tofili.

O le ali'i loa ia Marcellus T. Uiagalelei sa tula'i mo matai Ta'u sa fa'auluina le tagi i le fa'amasinoga, ae o le tama'ita'i loa ia Gwen Tauiliili-Langkilde sa tula'i mo Nua.

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## NOTICE FOR SEPARATION AGREEMENT

TO Members of the TEO Family and to all whom these present may come!  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that IANETA OLSON TEO & SAPINI TEO of VAILOATAI has offered for recording in this office an instrument in writing which seeks to separate a certain structure which is or to be erected, on land PAGO allegedly belonging to TEO FAMILY of the village of VAILOATAI. Said land PAGO, is situated in or near the village of VAILOATAI in the County of TUALATAI, Island of TUTUILA, American Samoa.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any interested person may object to the recording of such instrument by filing in the Territorial Registrar's Office in Fagatogo, a written objection to the recording of said instrument. Any objections thereto must be filed with in 30 days from the date of posting of this notice.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that if no such objections are filed within the said 30 day period, the instrument will be recorded and shall be valid and binding on all persons. The said instrument may be examined at any time at the Territorial Registrar's Office.

POSTED: APRIL 4, 2017 thru MAY 4, 2017

SIGNED: Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

## FA'AALIGA O LE FEAGAIGA MO SE TU'U'ESEINA

I tagata o le aiga sa TEO, ma i latou uma e silasila ma lauiloaina lenei faaaliga!  
O le faaaliga lenei ona o IANETA OLSON TEO & SAPINI TEO o le nu'u o VAILOATAI ua ia fa'aulufaleina mai i lenei ofisa se feagaiga tusitusi e fa'ailoa ai se mana'oga fia tu'u'esaina o se fale ua/po o le a, fa'atuina i luga o le fanua o PAGO, e fa'asino i le aiga sa TEO, o le nu'u o VAILOATAI. O lenei fanua e totonu pe latalata ane i le nu'u o VAILOATAI, itumalo o TUALATAI, ile motu o TUTUILA, Amerika Samoa.

O le faaaliga fo'i e fa'apea, so o se tasi e iai sona aia i lenei mataupu e mafai ona fa'atu'i'iese ile fa'amauina o lenei feagaiga pe a auina mai i le ofisa ole Resitara o le Teritori of Amerika Samoa i Fagatogo, sana fa'atu'ese tusitusi. O fa'atu'iesega uma lava e ao ona fa'aulufaleina mai i totonu o aso e 30 faitauina mai i le aso na fa'aaalia ai lenei faaaliga.

Afai ole a leai se fa'atu'iesega e fa'aulufaleina i totonu o aso 30 e pei ona ta'ua i luga, o le a fa'amauina loa lenei feagaiga e taualoaina ma a'afia ai tagata uma. 04/07&04/21/17

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# “Tu & Lele Malie Lau Ti’a” i Tala’aga Fa’asolopito



O se tala fa’asamoa fa’atino e le fanau e tusa ai le atali’i o Malietoa na taofia ai lona toe tau-mafa tagata. Na fa’atino lea tala e Aomaluoiga Masunu, John Lulu ma Taumafai Masunu mai le Manumalo Academy.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

“O le aofa’iga o fanau na tofu sao e fa’atino ma fa’amatala a galuega mo le Tala Fa’asolopito o le Lalolagi ua latou filifilia e silia ma le 260 peita’i a tu’ufa’atasia ma le 400 i le Fa’aaliga o Galuega Fa’atino o le Tala Fa’asolopito mo aoga tulaga muamua na faia i le aso Lulu, ua latalata lava i le 700 i latou na fa’atino galuega mo le maimoaga a le vasega o fa’amasino i lenei tausaga i le fa’aaliga mo fanau aoga uma i le teritori o Amerika Samoa,” o se tali lea a le tofa Taula Nialama Taifane, fa’atonu o le American Samoa Humanities Council, ina ua fesiligia i se aofaiga o le fanau a’oga o lo’o ua fai o latou sao i lenei tausaga mo lea fa’aaliga, ma o ia fo’i lea e nafa ma le faatautaiga o lea fa’aaliga atoa, fa’atasi ai ma le

latou pa’aga o le Matagaluega o A’oga a le malo.

O le to’atele lenei, o nisi ua mae’a filifilia mai e latou a’oga ina ua mae’a le tauvaga a le a’oga ta’itasi, o lona uiga a ta i tua lea fo’i aofaiga o le fanau sa fa’atino galuega tau le tala fa’asolopito i lenei tausaga e silia mamao ma le 2,000 o le fanau a’oga uma i le atunu’u. O lea itu, ua avatu ai se fa’amalo mai le tofa Taula ma le latou Komiti Fa’afaoe lea e ta’ita’ia e le a’oga le Maluolefale Faiivae A. Godinet ma le laulauafono, ma le aufaigaluega i le ofisa.

I lenei tausaga ua fa’atulaga ai le manulauti “Tu & Lele Malie Lau Ti’a i Tala’aga Fa’asolopito!” Pe a fa’aperetaniaina - “Taking a Stand in History!”

I galuega sa fa’aalia a le fanau, ua iloga ai le

felanulanua’i o galuega fa’atino na fatuatiaina ai nisi iloga i le lalolagi mai le tele o atunu’u, e afua mai Filipaina, Samoa,

Amerika Samoa, Iunaitetete o Amerika ma isi malo o le lalolagi. I latou sa talitonu ma galulue malosi ina ia tu ma lele a latou mau na fa’atu ina ia le fefe le tagata e fai le mea sa’o!

Na i ai nisi o galuega fa’atino sa iloga ona latou una’ia le taofia o le fa’apologa o tagata ma sa tu ma lele ai le ti’a a “Nat Turner” sa fa’atino lea e Arieta Ioane mai le Samoana High. O le isi galuega fa’atino sa iloga ai le taofia o le so’ona fa’aipoipo o tagata lanu i tama’ita’i papalagi, lea na fa’ailo e le galuega a Farrah Young mai Tafuna High.

Na i ai le galuega fa’atino e fa’atatau ia Martin Luther King Jr. lea sa tu malosi foi e taofia le fa’ailoga lanu i Amerika ma na tapena e le tama’ita’i o Gabriella Curruthers mai le Pacific Horizons.

O le galuega na fa’atino e le tama’ita’i o Serenalia Iona mai Leone High e fa’atatau i le Tusitala na ia tau’avea le manulauti o le malosi o le upu poo tusitusiga, ua mafua ai taua ina ia saili le saolotoga o tagata lautele. Le tusitala o Thomas Paine.

O le isi galuega sa matagofie fo’i lona aumaia o le Leo o Meaola, i latou e le lagona ni o latou leo i totonu o lenei soifuaga e ola feso’ota’i ai ma tagata soifua ma la’au. “Voice of the Voiceless”, na tapena e le ali’i o Koneferenisi Purcel mai le a’oga a le Manumalo Academy.

E le’i misia lava le tala fa’asolopito o lo’o tusia mo le ali’i peresetene sa tele lona sao i le fa’asaolotoina o tagala lanu mai le nofo pologa, Abraham Lincoln sa saunia lelei e Galuefa Rarotonga mai Fagaitua

High. Na tu ma lele fo’i le ti’a a “Douglas MacArthur” o se ta’ita’i Amerika na ia fa’asa’olotoina le to’atele o tagata i Filipaina. Na saunia e le ali’i o Vincent Maverick Jagon mai Fa’asao Marist High.

O nisi na o galuega sa maimoaina i le vaega a le “Exhibit” pe ua tusia lelei ma lomua ae fa’apipi’i lelei i laupapa fa’a’ilo.

E ono vaega sa vaevaeina i ai lenei fa’aaliga e amata mai i le “Galuega Fa’atino” Taito’atasi & taito’alua ma le to’atele. Documentaries po’o Ata Fa’asolo pu’e lelei, galuega ta’ito’atasi pe to’atele fo’i. O le vaega o Uepesite po’o Websites, ma latou Sailiga Tusitusia po’o Research Papers.

O le tolaulauina o i latou ua tulaga togisilia i vaega ta’itasi nei, fa’apea ai ma sui ua togi sili i le vaega o A’oga Mauaululuga pe afai e fa’atusalia togi uma na maua i poloketi ta’itasi, o e a fa’atautaia lea i le aso i le itula e 1:00 i le aoauli i le Fale Ta’alo lava o Kanana Fou.

Peta’i, i le taima nei, ua mautu mai le fa’ai’uga o le sui ua mauaina le tulaga togisilia i le aotelega o fanau uma sa tauva i galuega fa’atino o le Tala Fa’asolopito 2017 i A’oga Tulaga Muamua lea sa faia le tauvaga i le aso Lulu. O lo ua fa’ailoa mai le o le ali’i talavou o Tavilla Collin Punishment. Tulaga lua i le aotelega lava o le tama’ita’i o Harmony Siamua Leo mai Iakina Academy fo’i. Tulaga tolu le poloketi a le sui mai St Theresa. Peita’i, o le a toe fa’alauiloa aloa’ia ai tulaga mua mai vaega ta’itasi i aoga tulaga muamua ma a’oga mauaululuga fo’i.

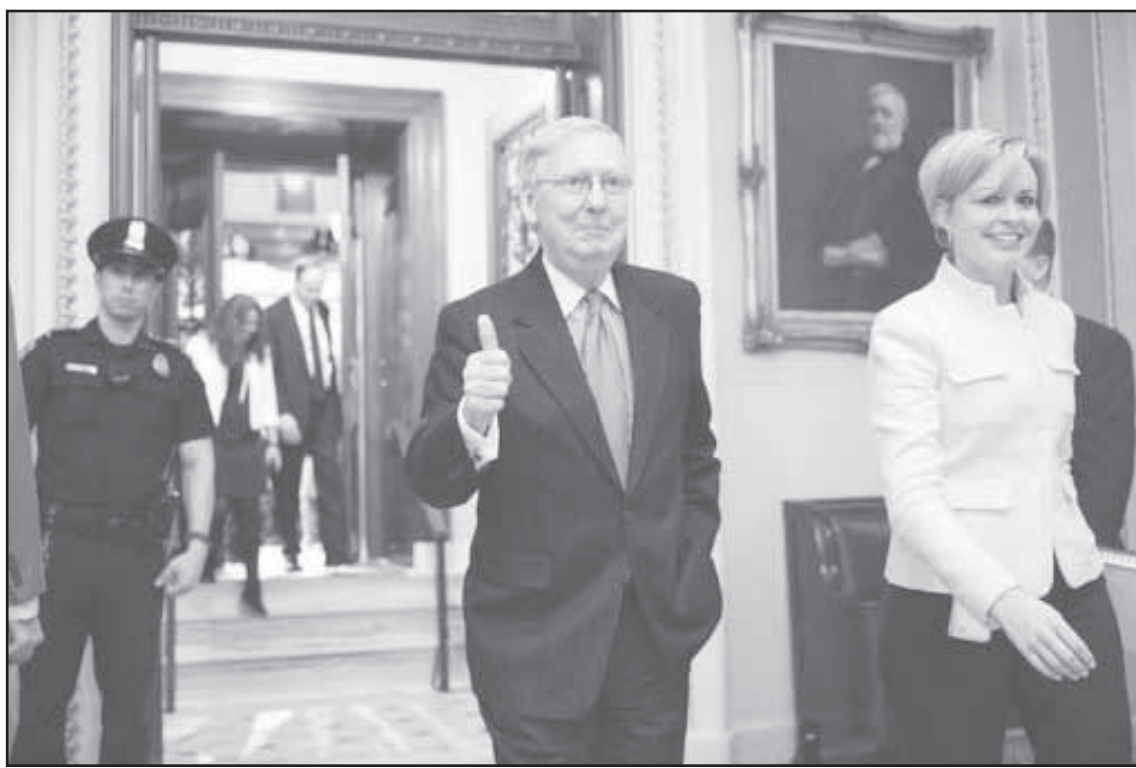


O se fa’atinoga lea sa tapena e le alii o Vincent Maverick Jagon mai Fa’asao Malisi High, i le ali’i Amerika ia Douglas MacArthur i lana fesoasoani i le malo o Filipaina.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



# The Latest: Senate vote on Gorsuch expected midday Friday



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Ky. signals a thumbs-up as he leaves the Senate chamber on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, April 6, 2017, after he led the GOP majority to change Senate rules and lower the vote threshold for Supreme Court nominees from 60 votes to a simple majority in order to advance Neil Gorsuch to a confirmation vote. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Latest on the Senate debate on Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch (all times local):

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell says the Senate will resume debate on Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch on Friday morning, with a vote expected about midday.

McConnell's comments late Thursday came after Republicans tore up the Senate's voting rules to allow President Donald Trump's nominee to ascend to the high court over furious Democratic objections.

Democrats denounced the GOP's use of what both sides dubbed the "nuclear option" to put Gorsuch on the court. They called it an epic power

grab that would further corrode politics in Congress, the courts and the nation. Many Republicans bemoaned the rule change but blamed Democrats for pushing them to it.

Gorsuch is expected to win confirmation Friday and be sworn in soon after to hear the final cases of the term.

Republicans have torn up the Senate's rules to allow President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee to ascend to the high court over Democratic objections.

The confrontation could reshape the Supreme Court for generations.

Outraged Democrats are denouncing the GOP's use of the so-called nuclear option to put Judge Neil Gorsuch on the

high court, calling it an epic power grab that will further corrode politics in Congress, the courts and the nation.

Many Republicans are bemoaning the change, too, but they are blaming Democrats for pushing them into it.

The move likely ensures more ideological justices chosen without consultation with the minority party.

A final vote on Gorsuch is expected Friday, and he could be sworn in to take his seat in time to hear the term's final cases.

The Senate has cleared the way for a Friday confirma-

tion vote on President Donald Trump's nominee for the Supreme Court.

On Thursday, the Senate voted 55-45 to successfully block Judge Neil Gorsuch, denying Republicans the 60 votes they needed to move forward.

Republicans then voted to eliminate the 60-vote threshold, allowing them to proceed to the Friday vote with a simple majority.

The change is dubbed "the nuclear option" because it will make it easier for the majority to confirm its Supreme Court nominees in the future. Then-

majority Democrats made a similar move in 2013 for lower court judges and executive branch nominees.

Under the new rules, the Senate voted 55-45 to move ahead on the nomination. After the standard 30 hours of debate, Gorsuch is expected to be confirmed.

The Senate has voted to "go nuclear" and eliminate the filibuster for President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee and future court picks.

The move could change the Senate and court for generations. It came Thursday on a procedural motion.

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	TEACHER	SCHOOL	GRADE LEVEL/ DEPARTMENT
1	Edcear Apulu	Manulele Elementary School	L-1 Dual
2	Dora Lefotu	Tafuna Elementary School	L-8 Science
3	Filiga Tafaoa-Alatina	Faleasao Elementary School	K5
4	Abby Drenth	A.P Lutali Elementary School	L-7
5	Miracle Sala	Le'atele Elementary School	L-8
6	Jayleen Chun	Leone High School	English
7	Fesilafa'i Matagi	Nu'uuli Vocational Technical High School	Math
8	Lisa Asifoa	Siliaga Elementary School	ECE
9	Sopo Lolomatauama	Matafao Elementary School	L-3
10	Osana McKenzie	Lupelele Elementary School	L-1

American Samoa Department of Education recognizes your dedication and commitment to student success through your perfect attendance.

## ASDOE March 2017 Perfect Attendance List

### March 2017 Perfect Attendance

NAME	SCHOOL	GRADE LEVEL	Tuaau Sootaga	Matafao Elementary	L-8	Taalafaaluaiaiga Leinati	Pava'ia'i Elementary	ECE
Alo Iosefa	Coleman Elementary	ECE	Tulafono Andrea L.	Matafao Elementary	ECE	Taliga Mele	Pava'ia'i Elementary	ECE
Atanoa Afega	Coleman Elementary	ECE	Tuilagi Tepora	Matafao Elementary	SPED-RS	To'ia Lana	Pava'ia'i Elementary	ECE
Fagota Alofaaga	Coleman Elementary	ECE	Vaaali'i Avau	Matafao Elementary	L-1	Moors Matauaina	Pava'ia'i Elementary	ECE
Hisatake Otila	Coleman Elementary	L-7	Faapouli Puatani	Manulele Elementary	K5	Mataafa Sina Alapati	Sili'aga Elementary	L-7
Husseini-Eli Audrey Anne	Coleman Elementary	L-3	Tuasivi Fiasoso	Manulele Elementary	K5	Tauese Asofiafia	Sili'aga Elementary	L-1
Misaalefua Steven	Coleman Elementary	L-8	Vaimasanu'u Sesilia	Manulele Elementary	K5	Vaimili Tafailagi	Sili'aga Elementary	L-4
Seiuli June	Coleman Elementary	L-8	Taliu Masina	Manulele Elementary	K5	Tauese Cecilia	Sili'aga Elementary	SPED
Tipi Agnes	Coleman Elementary	K5	Pulalasi Makerita	Manulele Elementary	L-1	Burgess Quenton	Sili'aga Elementary	ECE
Tofaeono Sara	Coleman Elementary	SPED	Filimino-Fuimaono Agalelei	Manulele Elementary	L-1	West Fualole	Afonotele Elementary	L-2
Toma Caroline	Coleman Elementary	ECE	Mageo Ashley	Manulele Elementary	L-1	Samuelu Gary	Afonotele Elementary	L-3
Tafaoa-Alatina Filiga	Faleasao Elementary	K5	Suamataia Iolanda	Manulele Elementary	L-2	SootagaAofia	Afonotele Elementary	L-4
Eneliko Irae	Faleasao Elementary	L-5	Samuelu Virginia	Manulele Elementary	L-2	Moliga Moya	Tafuna Elementary	K5
Vasega Savalivali	Faleasao Elementary	L-1	Aki Tufi	Manulele Elementary	L-2	Masina Seulata	Tafuna Elementary	L-1
Alatina Vaialii	Faleasao Elementary	L-7	Leota Salani	Manulele Elementary	L-3	Sefo Valelia	Tafuna Elementary	L-1
Mata'u Ramona	Le'atele Elementary	L-8	Calingasan Rachel	Manulele Elementary	L-3	Ino Toaiva	Tafuna Elementary	L-1
Brown Carly	Le'atele Elementary	ECE	Mao Elena	Manulele Elementary	L-3	Fau'o Glory	Tafuna Elementary	L-1
Lotulelei Fa'aleagalealaimaota	Lupelele Elementary	K5	Lauilefue Filemoni	Manulele Elementary	L-3	Taliloa-Taylor Liz	Tafuna Elementary	L-2
Ulufale Nofu	Lupelele Elementary	K5	Simeavao Ario	Manulele Elementary	L-4	Fitiao Tailua	Tafuna Elementary	L-2
McKenzie Osana	Lupelele Elementary	L-1	Sionesini Keneti	Manulele Elementary	L-4	Uale Faiai Daisy	Tafuna Elementary	L-2
Manase Harriette	Lupelele Elementary	L-2	Lavata'i Cameo	Manulele Elementary	L-5	Moliga Shirley	Tafuna Elementary	L-3
Matu'u Poto	Lupelele Elementary	L-2	Tuiasosopo Lucille	Manulele Elementary	L-5	Sami Fegutua'i	Tafuna Elementary	L-3
Miles Tina	Lupelele Elementary	L-3	Padaca Jr. Edison	Manulele Elementary	L-6	Sialega Marieta	Tafuna Elementary	L-4
Ta'ai Vanila	Lupelele Elementary	L-4	Stowers Nellie	Manulele Elementary	L-7	Faumuina Athena	Tafuna Elementary	L-4
Fuimaono Alexandria	Lupelele Elementary	L-5	Leupolu Liutautai	Manulele Elementary	L-8	Saua Vasati	Tafuna Elementary	L-4
Tanielu Manatua	Lupelele Elementary	L-5	Migo Faatamili'i	Manulele Elementary	L-8	Semou Emmerine	Tafuna Elementary	L-5
Tauanu'u Malu	Lupelele Elementary	L-5	Jensen Rodney	Manulele Elementary	L-8	Savali Athena	Tafuna Elementary	L-5
Lea'e Misipati	Lupelele Elementary	L-6	Sala Pitovaoaiga	Manulele Elementary	L-8	Matai Toe	Tafuna Elementary	L-6
Fepulea'i Alieta	Lupelele Elementary	L-7	Sene Miracle	Manulele Elementary	L-8	Fruean Makalita	Tafuna Elementary	L-6
Lam Yuen Makerita	Lupelele Elementary	L-8	Faalemiga Malualagi	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Harrington Vi	Tafuna Elementary	L-6
Tanielu Fanapovi	Lupelele Elementary	L-8	Lagai Keneti	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Toli Maluelue	Tafuna Elementary	L-7
Tufele Josephine	Lupelele Elementary	L-8	Hunt Taaloloseuga	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Timoteo Falanika	Tafuna Elementary	L-7
Mauigoa Sianiga	Lupelele Elementary	SPED-RS	McFall Wesley	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Shimasaki Virginia	Tafuna Elementary	L-7
Von Dinklage Helen	Lupelele Elementary	SPED	Epati Amy	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Alofaituli Konelio	Tafuna Elementary	L-8
Tuigamala Tonya	Lupelele Elementary	SPED	Fetui Suikonesula	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Taufete'e Avaloa	Tafuna Elementary	L-8
Gasu Olga	Lupelele Elementary	ECE	Utuoone Michelle	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Lefotu Dora	Tafuna Elementary	L-8
Tago Fa'asolo	Lupelele Elementary	ECE	Gutu Toese	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Siona Faasamoa	Tafuna Elementary	L2 (SPED
Fasavalu Aveimalo	Lupelele Elementary	ECE	Meleisea Vincent	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Epenesa Sigalu	Tafuna Elementary	L6 (SPED)
Logologo Elena	Lupelele Elementary	ECE	Mamea-Siaosi Ane	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Autele Uatea	Tafuna Elementary	L7 (SPED)
Apelu Mu	Matafao Elementary	SPED	Faatau Sulugia	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Faiva Metanoia	Masefau Elementary	L-5
Fuimaono Anthony	Matafao Elementary	SPED	Saleutogi Ana	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Drenth Abby	A.P. Lutali Elementary	L-7
Galea'i Christiana	Matafao Elementary	L-7 (WT)	Tolo Salavalasi	Manulele Elementary	SPED	Smith Eline	Leone High School	Social Studies
Lolomatauama Sopo	Matafao Elementary	L-3	Siavi'i Elenor	Pava'ia'i Elementary	L-2	Perez Geraldine	Leone High School	FCS
Martin Kate	Matafao Elementary	L-5 (WT)	Vine Akenese	Pava'ia'i Elementary	L-1	Chun nJayleen	Leone High School	English
Mauigoa Feagia'i	Matafao Elementary	L-2	Fareti Marlene	Pava'ia'i Elementary	L-1	Panicker Radhakrishnan	Leone High School	English
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Posala Anne	Matafao Elementary	L-7	Eves Clarinette	Pava'ia'i Elementary	L-6	Thomas Manael	Leone High School	Math
Puailoa Tauvale	Matafao Elementary	K5	Tuigamala Nancy	Pava'ia'i Elementary	L-6	Matautia Mose	Leone High School	JROTC
Sifa Tupou	Matafao Elementary	L-3	Gulapa Jovita	Pava'ia'i Elementary	L-8	Masoli Neesha	Leone High School	Social Studies
Lauama Tiresa S.	Matafao Elementary	SPED	Tupua Siupu	Pava'ia'i Elementary	SPED	Salave'a Michael Oakland	Leone High School	P.E Health
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Sualoa Fa'auifono	Matafao Elementary	L-6	Ailima Elepise	Pava'ia'i Elementary	L-4	Fatu Sale	Leone High School	SPED
Suluai Jewel Merwyden	Matafao Elementary	L-5	Banse Talatufi	Pava'ia'i Elementary	L-4	Ga'opo'a Vini	Leone High School	Applied Tech
Taala Joy	Matafao Elementary	L-1	Villarica Lilibeth	Pava'ia'i Elementary	L-4	Lacaulan Benjielyn	Leone High School	English
Thompson Seanette	Matafao Elementary	L-6	Clemens Renee	Pava'ia'i Elementary	SPED	Mendoza Pearl	Leone High School	Science
Tua Faavae	Matafao Elementary	ECE	Arora Cecilia	Pava'ia'i Elementary	L-5			





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# Syria strikes latest of 21st century US military forays



In this image provided by the U.S. Navy, sailors assigned to the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Ross (DDG 71) man the rails as the ship arrives at Naval Station Rota, Spain, on March 3, 2017. The United States fired a barrage of cruise missiles into Syria Thursday night in retaliation for this week's gruesome chemical weapons attack against civilians, the first direct American assault on the Syrian government and Donald Trump's most dramatic military order since becoming president. The Tomahawk missiles were fired from warships USS Porter and USS Ross in the Mediterranean Sea.

(Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Ford Williams/U.S. Navy via AP)

**WASHINGTON (AP)** - The Trump administration opened a new military front Thursday when it ordered dozens of cruise missiles against a Syrian air base, adding to a growing list of recent U.S. military forays. A look at where the United States has fought in the 21st century:

**AFGHANISTAN**

After al-Qaida attacked the U.S. on Sept. 11, 2001, the U.S. led an invasion of Afghanistan that ousted the Taliban. Though the U.S. and NATO formally ended their combat mission in Afghanistan at the end of 2014, the war now in its 16th year drags on.

Some 8,400 American troops are deployed in Afghanistan, where they train the country's military and perform counterterrorism operations.

**IRAQ**

Under President George W. Bush, the U.S. invaded Iraq in 2003 and toppled Saddam Hussein. Bush's successor, President Barack Obama, pulled U.S. troops out of Iraq in 2011 after failing to reach an agreement with Baghdad to leave a residual U.S. force behind.

But the U.S. sent troops back three years later after the Islamic State group, a successor to al-Qaida in Iraq, seized Iraqi territory and sought to declare an Islamic caliphate.

**DRONE WARS**

Under Obama, the U.S. dramatically increased the use of unmanned aerial vehicles, also known as drones, to launch counterterrorism strikes without the need for a large U.S. military presence on the ground. The CIA and Defense Department have launched strikes in Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia and Libya, some of them covert.

Intense criticism from civil liberties advocates led Obama to create legal parameters for drone use that he hoped future presidents would respect. At least 117 civilians were killed from 2009 to 2016 by drone strikes outside of traditional warzones, the U.S. intelligence community has said. Other estimates place the toll higher.

**LIBYA**

The U.S. and European allies launched an air campaign in Libya in 2011, aiming to prevent atrocities by strongman Moammar Gadhafi against Arab Spring-inspired opponents. The bombing campaign toppled Gadhafi, but Libya slid into chaos and infighting. The Islamic State group later gained a foothold.

The U.S. has continued to carry out airstrikes in Libya that Washington says has diminished the number of IS extremists operating there.

**ISLAMIC STATE GROUP IN IRAQ AND SYRIA**

After IS captured a wide swath of Iraq and Syria in 2014, Obama announced the U.S. could target the group "wherever they are."

The U.S. started sending small numbers of military advisers to help Iraq's weakened military fight IS. The number has crept up to around 7,500 U.S. troops. IS has lost much of its former territory.

In Syria, the U.S. has conducted airstrikes against IS since 2014. More recently, the U.S. has dispatched growing numbers of special operations forces to assist Kurdish and Arab forces fighting IS. Roughly 500 U.S. fighters are in Syria, plus additional, "temporary" forces that rotate through.

**SYRIA**

Even while fighting IS in Syria, the U.S. has avoided wading into Syria's civil war by directly confronting Syrian President Bashar Assad until now. On Thursday night, U.S. warships in the Mediterranean Sea launched some 60 Tomahawk missiles at an air base in response to a chemical weapons attack blamed on Assad's forces.

The strikes mark the first direct U.S. attack on Syria's government, which has waged a six-year civil war against opposition groups. It also puts the U.S. into a de facto proxy battle with Russia's military, which is on the ground in Syria and has propped up Assad.



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Closing Date & Time: April 20, 2017  
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Approved for Issuance: **Utu Abe Malae**, Executive Director



# Gorsuch heads for confirmation as Senate tears up own rules

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee, Neil Gorsuch, is headed for confirmation after Republicans tore up the Senate's voting rules to allow him to ascend to the high court over furious Democratic objections.

Democrats denounced the GOP's use of what both sides dubbed the "nuclear option" to put Gorsuch on the court, calling it an epic power grab that would further corrode politics in Congress, the courts and the United States. Many Republicans bemoaned reaching that point, too, but they blamed Democrats for pushing them to it.

"We will sadly point to today as a turning point in the history of the Senate and the Supreme Court," Democratic Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York declared on the Senate floor Thursday.

"This is going to be a chapter, a monumental event in the history of the Senate, not for the better but for the worse," warned Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, a senior Republican.

The final confirmation vote on Gorsuch is expected Friday, and he should be sworn in soon to hear the final cases of the term. He was nominated by Trump shortly after the January inauguration.

The Senate change, affecting how many votes a nominee needs for confirmation, will apply to all future Supreme Court candidates, likely ensuring more ideological justices chosen with no need for consultation with the minority party. Trump himself predicted to reporters aboard Air Force One that "there could be as many as four" Supreme Court vacancies for him to fill during his administration.

"In fact, under a certain scenario, there could even be more than that," Trump said. There is no way to know how many there will be, if any, but several justices are quite elderly.

Even as they united in indignation, lawmakers of both parties, pulled by fierce political forces from left and right, were unwilling to stop the confirmation rules change.

The maneuvering played out in a tense Senate chamber with most members in their seats, a rare and theatrical occurrence.

First Democrats tried to mount a filibuster in an effort to block Gorsuch by denying him the 60 votes needed to advance to a final vote. That was successful only briefly, as Gorsuch fell five votes short. Then Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., raised a point of order, suggesting that Supreme

Court nominees should not be subjected to a 60-vote threshold but instead a simple majority in the 100-member Senate.

McConnell was overruled, but he appealed the ruling. And on that he prevailed on a 52-48 party-line vote. The 60-vote filibuster requirement on Supreme Court nominees was effectively gone, and with it the last vestige of bipartisanship on presidential nominees in an increasingly polarized Senate.

The developments were accompanied by unusually bitter accusations and counter-accusations. And yet in many ways the showdown had been pre-ordained, the final chapter in years of partisan warfare over

judicial nominees.

In 2005, with the Senate under GOP control, Republicans prepared to utilize the "nuclear option" to remove the filibuster for lower-court nominees. A bipartisan deal at the time headed off that change. But then in 2013, with Democrats in charge and Republicans blocking President Barack Obama's nominees, the Democrats did take the step, removing the filibuster for all presidential appointments except the Supreme Court.

McConnell accused Democrats of forcing his hand by trying to filibuster a highly qualified nominee in Gorsuch, 49, a 10-year veteran of the 10th



FILE - In this March 21, 2017, file photo, Supreme Court Justice nominee Judge Neil Gorsuch explains mutton busting, an event held at rodeos similar to bull riding or bronc riding, in which children ride or race sheep, as he testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington during his confirmation hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee. A Senate showdown is at hand over President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee, and it could change the Senate and the court for years to come. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh, File)

U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver with a consistently conservative record.

But Democrats were unable to pull back from the brink, partly because they remain livid over McConnell's decision last year to block Obama's Supreme

Court nominee, Judge Merrick Garland, who was denied even a hearing after the death of Justice Antonin Scalia in February 2016. Instead McConnell kept Scalia's seat open, a calculation that is now paying off for Republicans and Trump.

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# Murder suspect posts \$35M bail, upsetting victim's family

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — A Chinese real estate scion charged with orchestrating the murder of her children's father was released from a San Francisco Bay Area jail after posting \$35 million bail, a highly unusual financial transaction that startled and angered the victim's family and friends.

Tiffany Li will remain out of custody after family, friends and her mother's business associates raised \$4 million cash and pledged Bay Area properties worth a combined \$62 million to post her bail. Courts require double the bail amount when property is pledged instead of cash.

"Nothing about this seems right," said Angela Dunn, a close friend of the victim who shared her home with him in the six months before his death. Dunn said the victim's mother is taking Li's release especially hard.

Court records show 15 properties being pledged. Li's attorney Carr said the properties are owned by family and business associates of Li's mother, who spends most of her time in China where she profited from real estate investments.

Li, 31, is charged with directing her boyfriend and another man to kill Keith Green, 27, and dispose of his body, which was found in May with a bullet wound to the neck 80 miles (129 kilometers) north of the suburban San Francisco mansion he and Li once shared with their two young daughters.

Prosecutors say Li feared she would lose custody of her daughters. Li and the two men were arrested shortly after Green's body was found and the trio is scheduled to stand trial in September. Li has pleaded not guilty.

A bodyguard ushered Li out of jail and into a waiting Cadillac Escalade Thursday afternoon, three hours after a judge ordered her released. The two men charged in the case remain in jail and haven't asked for bail to be set because they don't have the financial backing Li has, Li's attorney Geoff Carr said.

"They have great resources and we are just regular folks," Dunn said.

The bail system in the United States has been under legal and legislative attack in recent years. A number of class action lawsuits have been filed across the country challenging the constitutionality of requiring

defendants to post cash bail to go free before trial. Critics of the system argue that cash bail schemes like the one found in California state court unfairly disadvantage poor suspects who can't afford to post bail while allowing wealthy defendants like Li to go free pending trial.

Authorities in neighboring San Francisco County say they are examining cash bail requirements there after inmates filed a lawsuit.

Two California legislators have introduced bills seeking to dramatically overhaul the state's bail requirements, eliminating cash demands in most cases and taking into account a suspect's income in cases still requiring money bail.

The California lawmakers and supporters of their bills argue that the current system keeps many innocent people behind bars, disproportionately affects minority defendants and encourages some suspects to plead guilty simply to get out of jail.

Li is charged with directing her boyfriend Kaveh Bayat and Olivier Adella to kill Green and dispose of his body last year. Li and Green had an acrimonious split in October 2015 after Green discovered Li's relationship with Bayat, Dunn said.

Li kicked Green out of the multimillion dollar home they shared with their children in Hillsborough, a suburb of mansions and large houses 20 miles (32 kilometers) south of San Francisco.

Carr said all defendants except those accused of death penalty-eligible crimes are entitled to "reasonable bail."

The \$35 million bail is the highest ever in San Mateo County's history, a county official said.

San Mateo District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe said he's concerned Li is a flight risk and is disappointed the judge didn't set the bail even higher. His office asked for \$100 million.

"If convicted she faces the rest of her life in prison," Wagstaffe said. "That's plenty enough incentive to flee back to her native China."

Li will be required to turn over her passports, wear an electronic monitor and remain under house arrest.

Carr says the people who posted Li's bail believe she is innocent and will not flee. If she does go on the lam, the court can confiscate the property and cash.



Tiffany Li, who is accused of killing the father of her two children, enters a car after she was released from San Mateo County Jail after posting \$35 million bail Thursday, April 6, 2017, in Redwood City, Calif. (AP Photo/Tony Avelar)



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President Donald Trump walks from the podium after speaking at Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Fla., Thursday, April 6, 2017, after the U.S. fired a barrage of cruise missiles into Syria Thursday night in retaliation for this week's gruesome chemical weapons attack against civilians. At right is his daughter Ivanka Trump. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

# What role should Congress plan when president orders attack?

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. missile strikes Thursday on a Syrian air base were conducted without formal congressional approval. Some questions and answers about how and why presidents can conduct military action without permission from the 535 representatives of the American people.

**DID CONGRESS KNOW?**  
 Trump did let Congress know of his plans to launch 59 Tomahawk cruise missiles Thursday evening, targeting the air base from which Syrian President Bashar Assad launched a chemical weapons attack earlier this week against his own people, killing more than 80 men, women and children. A White House official said more than two dozen members of Congress, both Democrats and Republicans, were briefed Thursday by White House and Cabinet officials.

House Speaker Paul Ryan, the No. 3 U.S. official, said he was among those informed.

## IS INFORMING THEM ENOUGH? DON'T THEY GET A SAY?

The War Powers Resolution, enacted in 1973, long after American troops began fighting in Vietnam, required the president to consult with Congress before sending U.S. armed forces into combat unless there already had been a declaration of war. The troops could not stay more than 90 days unless lawmakers backed the decision. The law also sought to give the president "leeway to respond to attacks or other emergencies," according to the Council on Foreign Relations.

And it is that leeway that presidents George W. Bush, Barack Obama and now Trump have used to their advantage. Following the Sept. 11 attacks in 2001, Congress gave Bush authority to attack any countries or groups involved in the attacks, which was generally accepted to mean al-Qaida. Obama used that same authority to fight the Islamic State militant group, which emerged in 2014 as an outgrowth of al-Qaida. Trump has used that same authority to continue military action in Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria.

The Obama administration maintained in 2011 that U.S. involvement in the months-long air campaign against Libya didn't require congressional permission because American forces were largely playing a supporting role as part of an international coalition.

In February 2015, Obama asked Congress to formally authorize war against the Islamic State, saying the militant group could threaten the U.S.

homeland if left unchecked. His resolution would have limited authorization to three years, with no geographic restrictions for U.S. forces. It would have banned "enduring offensive combat operations," an ambiguous term that attempted to define a middle ground between Democrats leery of another protracted Middle Eastern conflict involving ground troops, and Republicans, who largely believe the U.S. needs maximum flexibility to pursue IS.

Congress held a few hearings, but never acted on the proposal.

## WHAT DOES CONGRESS THINK NOW?


Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee, the Republican chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, said before Thursday's missile launch that he thought it would be prudent to consult with Congress, but didn't insist Congress had to approve Trump's actions.

Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, insisted that if the U.S. increased the use of military force in Syria, "we should follow the Constitution and seek the proper authorization from Congress." Kentucky lawmakers Thomas Massie and Rand Paul, both Republicans, agreed.

"President Trump should make his case in front of the American people and allow their elected representatives to debate the benefits and risks of further Middle East intervention to our national security interests," Lee said in a statement.

Other Republicans, like former Trump primary opponent Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, applauded the strikes without mentioning congressional approval.

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# Artwork Nazis stole in WWII returning to Jewish owner's heir

JERUSALEM (AP) — Against an empty white wall in a nondescript Jerusalem law office hangs an impressionist work of art that encapsulates 80 years of tragedy, conflict, mystery and redemption.

Max Liebermann's "Basket Weavers" is set to return to the American heirs of its original Jewish owner after it was confiscated by the Nazis, jockeyed by an unscrupulous German art trader, and ultimately purchased by an Israeli Holocaust survivor unaware of its murky past.

Following an emotional negotiation, the valuable canvas is now being sent to the United States in what the attorney who brokered the deal called a fitting conclusion to a saga that pitted two Holocaust survivors against one another — and exposed one of the lingering wounds of the German campaign to annihilate Europe's Jews and steal their belongings.

Meir Heller, the Jerusalem lawyer whose Israeli client insists on maintaining his anonymity, said both were relieved to have finally closed this historic circle.

"This was not a legal case that I wanted to win because it would not be a victory for either of the sides or for the interests of the Jewish people," he said. "I'm glad that we have come to an agreement with all the emotions and all the baggage involved."

Washington-based attorney Peter Toren said his 91-year-old father David was eager to receive the painting but called it "at best bittersweet" since he has gone blind and would not be able to enjoy its beauty.

"He's of mixed emotions because he still harbors, understandably, a lot of resentment and anger toward the Germans," he said. "A painting certainly can't make up for that."

The tale began in 1939, when the wealthy Jewish industrialist and art collector David Friedmann was forced to flee and the Nazis pillaged the vast collection he left behind. Many of the works ended up in the hands of Hildebrand Gurlitt, a notorious German art dealer who traded in what the Nazis called "degenerate art" — works deemed inferior because they were un-German, Jewish or Communist or, as is the case with impressionist and other modernist

works, did not employ traditionally realistic forms — but were pleased to sell to help fund their war machine.

Much of Gurlitt's collection remained unseen for decades and experts feared they had been lost or destroyed. But in a shocking discovery, a vast horde resurfaced in 2012 when German authorities raided a Munich apartment belonging to his son Cornelius while investigating him for tax evasion.

Paintings by artists including Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Henri Matisse were discovered. Cornelius Gurlitt said he had inherited much of the art from his father.

The reclusive Cornelius Gurlitt kept more than 1,200 works in his Munich apartment and 250 more in Salzburg, Austria. The discovery brought renewed attention to the many unresolved cases of looted art that was never returned to original Jewish owners or their descendants.

"When there is a plan for genocide then it is OK to steal and pillage. There was a complete disregard for any individual rights," said Yehudit Shendar, a retired deputy director of the Yad Vashem Holocaust museum in Jerusalem and an expert on the Gurlitt art cache. "The whole issue of the theft of art is directly related to that fact that its owners were destined for destruction."

She said the nearly 1,500 Gurlitt items, valued at 1.3 billion euros (\$1.39 billion), represented only a fraction of the looted art. Cornelius Gurlitt died in 2014 at age 81, designating Switzerland's Kunstmuseum Bern as his sole heir.

As in many restitution cases, though, the heirs' demands for the return of looted art led to conflicts with the current owners. Germany even created a special body, known as the Limbach Commission, to mediate ownership disputes.

Because of this complex process of determining ownership, and because so few direct descendants of victims remain to claim their property, only five pieces of the Gurlitt cache have thus far been returned to the descendants of their Jewish owners.

One of those was Liebermann's "Two Riders on the Beach," which went to Fried-



In this photo taken on Wednesday, April 5, 2017, Meir Heller, the Jerusalem lawyer whose client insists on maintaining his anonymity holds the Max Liebermann's "Basket Weavers" painting in a law office in Jerusalem, Wednesday, April 5, 2017. Max Liebermann's "Basket Weavers" painting is returning to the American heirs of its original Jewish owner, after it was confiscated by the Nazis, jockeyed by an unscrupulous German art trader and ultimately purchased by an Israeli Holocaust survivor unaware of its murky past. (AP Photo/Ariel Schalit)

mann's great nephew — David Toren of New York City, who along with his brother were the only family members to survive the Holocaust. He later sold the painting for \$2.5 million.

The recovery led Toren to seek out another Liebermann painting he recalled featuring five Dutch looking boys weaving baskets out of straw. The sleuthing led him to believe that "Basket Weavers" had made its way to Israel and he made a public plea to have it

returned.

Word reached an Israeli man who had resisted the Nazis during World War II and had donated generously to fellow survivors since then. To his horror, the man learned that the painting he had purchased at a Berlin auction in 2000 for 130,000 euros (\$139,000) was the one Nazis looted from Friedman.

That's when the Israeli man approached Heller about returning the painting to its

rightful owners.

"This caused him great turmoil," Heller said. "It retroactively sullied the artwork. He couldn't even look at it anymore."

The case hit a surprising hitch last year when the Israeli contacted Peter Toren, and was deeply offended by insinuations that he had in fact known of the picture's origins. Heller said his client refused to return the painting until he received an apology.



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## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP No: ASPA17.020A.ESD-WTR

Issuance Date: April 6, 2017

Closing Date & Time: April 25, 2017

No later than 2:00 p.m. local time

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#### Submission

An original and one PDF copy of the Proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: "RFP NO. ASPA17.020A.ESD-WTR Drilling and CM Services for Angle Water Well Drilling" Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), Tuesday, April 25, 2017:

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Attn: Ioana Uli, Procurement Manager

Any proposal received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. Late submissions will not be opened or considered and will be determined as being non-responsive.

#### Document

The RFP package outlining the proposal requirements is available at The Materials Management Office at ASPA s Tafuna Compound and may also be obtained from our Website: <http://www.aspower.com>.

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