

Afamasaga sentenced to serve 6 mos. in jail, 5 year probation out... **2**

Hawaiian Airline yet another delayed flight **3**

Tasi le pepe na soifua mai i le Kerisimasi 2017 **Lali -17**



On Christmas morning Senator Galea'i and his children with their families gifted 20 stacks of miscellaneous food items as gifts to low-income families with children around his Fagatogo neighborhood.

"It is befitting that we continue this mission to help out our neighboring families with a single provider, or even our cannery workers' homestead this season. It is our 6th year tradition ... and I hope my children and their families continue to reach out and help others especially in this time in the years to come. It is the spirit of giving and sharing that makes a season greater," Galea'i said.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



# samoa news

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA      WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2017      DAILY CIRCULATION 7,000      \$1.00



## Mukesh 'Bob' Chand found not guilty on all charges

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

The 53-year old local businessman accused by the government of sexually assaulting a 17-year old girl at his home has been found not guilty by a jury of one count each of sodomy and first degree sexual abuse.

The jury of five women and one-man (the 7th juror was an alternate, who was discharged before jury deliberation) handed down its verdict last Friday afternoon after hearing compelling and strong closing arguments from attorneys of both the government and the defense.

Mukesh 'Bob' Chand was initially charged with three counts, including deviate sexual assault, which was dismissed, and his trial was only for one count each of sodomy and first-degree sexual abuse.

Assistant Attorney General Woodrow Pengelly offered no comment when asked outside the High Court building for comments regarding the outcome of the one-week trial. He along with Assistant Attorney General, Robert Morris represented the government.

Representing the defendant were attorneys Richard Desaulles and Joshua Rovelli with the RDA Law Firm- American Samoa.

"It's a really tough case," said Desaulles outside of the High Court building when asked for comments. Desaulles gave the "highest acco-

lades" to Pengelly and Morris for prosecuting this case, saying that "it's not for any thing that they (ASG attorneys) did wrong, it was a very challenging case."

"These are very challenging cases to prove for a prosecutor. There wasn't enough evidence," said Desaulles. "So we're just happy our client will finally move along with his life."

Asked if he was surprised with the outcome of the trial, Desaulles said "no". Asked if he was expecting this outcome, he said, "Yes, because I felt that the really high bar in proving a crime like this beyond a reasonable doubt, when there's really only two people and God, who truly know what happen or didn't happen. It's extremely hard for the government to prove a case like this."

Closing arguments began just before 10a.m last Friday and lasted for some three hours. Acting Associate Judge Elvis P. Patea, who was assisted on the bench by Associate Judges Satele and Muasau, then gave lengthy instructions for the jury — especially that their decision must be "unanimous" in reaching a verdict on both counts.

It was around 1:35p.m. that the jury went into the jury room to select a foreperson and start their deliberation. But it didn't last an hour before the Court received word that the jury had reached a verdict, but the jury remained in the jury room a little while longer because Patea and other

(Continued on page 4)



The Fa'alupega of the Sua District Igafo Maria Va'a Brown put together a great get together for their District's mayors and wives last Friday for their last luncheon together before the Christmas break and a New Year's schedule of work. Their luncheon was paid for by Igafo Maria who also gifted a bottle of champagne to enjoy with the families on Christmas Eve.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

**"TALOFA AND MERRY CHRISTMAS! FROM AMATA**  
Washington, D.C. – Friday, December 22, 2017 — Congresswoman Aumua Amata released a statement for the Christmas and New Year's holiday season:

**"Talofa and merry Christmas!**  
I'm completing my third year in Washington, D.C. as a Member of Congress, and this year has been particularly busy and eventful in some ways. I serve on three Committees, and in total, all the Committees of the House passed 544 bills this year, and of those, 477 were passed by the whole House – both higher than average activity.

I look forward to talking more about all that's been done when I update the Fono next month, and throughout the year in town halls. For now, like most of us, I plan to spend the holidays with my family!

I wish you every happiness this holiday season. Enjoy the food and the free time, along with family and friends. May God bless you, and God bless the United States and our beautiful islands of American Samoa. We look forward to a wonderful New Year ahead, and I will see many of you soon.

Soifua"

[Courtesy photo]







⊗ *Seen here is a couple carrying their Christmas gifts for their household from Senator Galea'i LK Tu'ufuli's 6th Christmas Give Away to low-income families around his Fagatogo homestead on Christmas morning.*

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



# RISE TO THE TOP!

Bluesky is an established telecommunications company in American Samoa, Samoa and Cook Islands. Our success comes through innovation and customer experience where our purpose is to apply technology and service excellence to advance and improve the lives of our customers. Be part of a company where employees have a chance to do exciting work and make a difference! Bluesky has an exciting opportunity for a marketing professional to manage and oversee Bluesky's marketing department.

## MARKETING MANAGER

**POSITION SUMMARY**  
Develop, implement and drive the company's marketing strategy to achieve company goals, market share, profitability, product development, marketing communications and product management; Responsible for the development and management of the marketing team. (Please refer to detailed Job Description on [www.bluesky.as](http://www.bluesky.as))

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS REQUIRE**

- Bachelors Degree in marketing, business administration and/or related field.
- Minimum of 5+ years of experience in a marketing position or related field
- Strong leadership, management and decision making skills; ability to lead and supervise staff directly and indirectly including the ability to achieve results and performance through others; excellent communications skills, self-motivated, self-starter, personable and well organized.
- Experience in telecommunications industry is an advantage
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills (both English and Samoan)
- Ability to communicate effectively with people at all levels inside and outside the company.
- Exposure to product promotion and advertising as well as strong statistical background.
- Competent financial skills
- Demonstrated skills, knowledge and experience in the design and execution of marketing, communications and public relations activities.
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Competitive salary based on qualifications and professional experience. Company benefits include discounts on products and services, IRA retirement, medical insurance, annual leave, and many more. Bluesky is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Interested and qualified candidates must submit a cover letter and resume or curriculum vitae to the Human Resources Department by email at [as.jobs@blueskypacificgroup.com](mailto:as.jobs@blueskypacificgroup.com) or in person at the main office located in the Laufou Center 2nd Floor, Nu'uuli, Am. Samoa. We will continue to accept resumes until the position has been filled.

# Afamasaga sentenced to serve 6 mos. in jail, 5 year-probation out of country

PLED GUILTY TO 2 COUNTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

A citizen of Samoa, who was considered an overstayer and accused of sexually assaulting a 15-year old girl over a span of nearly five months, has been sentenced by the High Court to serve six months in prison as part of several conditions of probation.

Ashley Afamasaga, 24, was initially charged with 8 felony counts, but under a plea agreement with the government, he pled guilty last month to 2 counts of sexual abuse in the first degree and the remaining charges were dismissed.

The defendant, who admitted during his plea hearing that he had sexual intercourse with the 15-year-old girl several times, appeared last Friday morning before Acting Associate Justice Elvis P. Patea for sentencing.

Samoa News observed the the defendant — dressed in a white shirt and tie, wearing an 'ie faitaga — is small in size, and someone who could be considered a teenager.

Before sentence was handed down, the defendant apologized to the court and pleaded for forgiveness saying that he is remorseful of his actions.

He said that every morning, since he was taken into custody, he woke up looking at the bars of his jail cell, and this is something that he is not used to. He said he wanted to return home to help his family.

He asked the court for forgiveness and that he was very remorseful. He completed his statement by wishing the court a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Afamasaga's attorney Public Defender Douglas Fiaui told the court that his client came to American Samoa in January this year to be "reunited with his biological mother" and make a life for himself.

Instead, the defendant "made a serious mistake" of becoming involved with a 15-year girl, said Fiaui, who noted that his client is truly remorseful and is very young, who can do better things to help his family, but can't do that due to his immigration status.

Fiaui argued for a probative sentence, saying that his client is a "suitable candidate" for probation, and part of such probation is that the defendant be required to depart the territory.

Assistant Attorney General Robert Morris noted that the defendant is of a "young age" and has no criminal record. He agreed with a probative sen-

tence to include that he has no contact with the victim and to depart the territory after serving any sentence handed down by the court.

Patea, who was assisted on the bench by Associate Judge Satele, noted that a statement by the victim's parents is included in the pre sentence report. For each count of first degree sexual abuse, the defendant was sentenced to 5 year imprisonment, to "run concurrent."

However, that is suspended and the defendant is placed on five years probation under several conditions, Among them, he is to serve 20 months in jail, but 14 months is stayed, as long as the defendant complies with all conditions of probation.

For the six months in jail — which includes pre trial confinement — the defendant is not released unless ordered by the court or for an emergency. After serving six months, the defendant is to depart the territory and remain outside of American Samoa during the probation period of five years.

As required by local law, the defendant is also subject to HIV testing and to register as a sex offender with the Attorney General's Office before he departs the territory. Patea also made clear to the defendant that he is to have "no contact" — direct or indirect — with the victim.

Patea said that the defendant, upon serving six months in jail, is released only to the Probation Office for his departure from the territory.

He also said the order regarding the defendant's sentence and probation is to be served upon the Immigration Office, so the defendant's name is put on the "Look out list" — for those who are on probation and not allowed in the territory during the probation period.

At last month's plea hearing, Afamasaga admitted that between Mar. 24 and Aug. 14 this year, he sexually assaulted a young girl who was under 16 years of age by engaging in sexual activities with her. The defendant admitted to the Court that he had sexual intercourse with the 15-year-old girl several times.

According to the government's case, the 15-year-old victim told police she and the defendant had sexual intercourse numerous times between Mar. 14 and Aug. 24 this year. When questioned by police, Afamasaga confessed to the sex acts but added, he thought the victim was over 18 years old.



# HAL — yet another delayed flight

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

Hawaiian Airlines had another delay in departure from Pago Pago to Honolulu. This time for the Monday night's flight this week, which arrived on time, but had not departed as of yesterday late afternoon.

Hawaiian spokesperson Ann Botticelli said yesterday morning that the return flight to Honolulu is "delayed, unfortunately" but no other information was given for the delay. The flight was then scheduled to depart Pago Pago yesterday around 1:15p.m.

However, yesterday afternoon Botticelli said the flight continues to be delayed. She explained that the issue is with an indicator light involving the air conditioning system.

On Monday, that light suggested a problem with one of the sides of the air condition system. "This is not something that we ignore," she said adding that yesterday, the light indicator was not coming on, so the flight was boarded.

However, "then the light came on again, and so we deplaned the passengers and will continue working on the aircraft," she said.

As of 4:10p.m. yesterday the plane was still on the ground and the flight not yet departed

## Property manager finds 4 people dead in basement apartment

TROY, N.Y. (AP) — Four people were found dead Tuesday and may have been killed in a basement apartment in New York's capital region, police said.

A property manager made the grisly discovery at a home in Troy, a city near Albany, police Capt. Daniel DeWolf said.

The deaths are "certainly suspicious," he said. "Until something changes our mind, we're looking at it as a homicide." "It's horrible. Terrible. Sad — sad especially at this time of year," DeWolf said. "We're going to do everything we can to look into this and get to the bottom of what happened here." A phone call to one of the home's apartments was answered by someone who declined to comment.

Officers swarmed the street and cordoned off the area around the home in the Lansingburgh neighborhood, which runs along the Hudson River in Troy, a city of about 50,000 people. Troy is home to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, though it's miles away from the crime scene. The city also is known for the Louis Comfort Tiffany stained-glass windows that grace multiple churches and buildings from Troy's industrial heyday in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

as Samoa News went to print.

"We will be accommodating all non-residents in hotels, and are providing a \$300 travel credit to all who stay with out flight," Botticelli said from Honolulu.

"In addition, passengers may make a one-time change without fees to any other Hawaiian flight within 14 days," she explained. "We also will offer full refunds to those who elect not to fly."

Hawaiian's flight last week Monday (Dec. 18) was delayed due to bad weather at the time, and the flight last week Wednesday (Dec. 20), which was the extra section for the holiday, was delayed due to a "mechanical issue affecting a fuel indicator." Both flights departed Pago Pago the afternoon of the following day.

Hawaiian's flight last Friday night arrived and departed on time without any problems.



Police secure the perimeter of a home in Troy, N.Y., Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2017, after four bodies were discovered in a basement apartment. Troy police say the deaths are being treated as suspicious. (Nicholas Buonanno/The Record via AP)



# TRADEWINDS HOTEL

AMERICAN SAMOA



## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR SPECIAL

**\$99 SPECIAL STANDARD ROOM RATE PER NIGHT**  
**FROM DECEMBER 22- 26, 2017 AND DEC 29, 2017 - JAN 2, 2018**  
(Check-in time 2pm/Check-Out time by 12pm)

**Includes: Complimentary Continental Buffet Breakfast**

Also Visit our "Equator Restaurant" for Lunch or Dinner on  
Christmas Eve & Christmas Day (Dec 24th & 25th) and  
New Year's Eve & New Year's Day (Dec 31st & Jan 1st)  
**FEATURING OUR** Chef Che's Oven Roasted Turkey, Glazed Ham, Garlic  
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**\$18 PER PERSON**  
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*So Come & Join Us This Holiday Season!*  
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## ► Mukesh...

*Continued from page 1*

judges were handling closed-door juvenile cases in another courtroom.

When the case resumed, Patea was handed the verdict form upon request, and the verdict was read out aloud — not guilty on both counts. Patea then asked if the government wanted to poll the jury in their verdict, and Pengelly replied no.

As the jury was dismissed and the case came to an end, Samoa News observed Chand hugging his defense attorneys, who also thanked the defendant's handful of supporters who were in the courtroom. The defense attorneys also went over to the government side to shake hands with Pengelly and Morris.

Desaulles said over the weekend that the “first moment Bob Chand walked into my office, he proclaimed that he was innocent of the charges, and I believed him.”

Among the government witnesses who took the stand was the alleged victim, who is a close friend of Chand's daughter. Desaulles said that he believes “the jury were left with serious questions about the alleged victim's credibility.”

“In all of my jury trial experience, I have never seen a more engaged jury. Each member was sitting up straight, paying close attention to all testimony, and most were also taking notes throughout trial,” he said.

(During his instructions to the jury, Patea noted that some jury members took notes but said that the jury should depend on their memory of each testi-

mony and evidence to reach a verdict. And throughout the trial, Patea reminded the jury to keep an open mind until the case is presented to them.)

“And it is clear that the jury kept an open mind throughout trial, giving equal attention to both the prosecution and the defense. Following all of the evidence presented at trial and Josh Rovelli's powerful closing argument, I doubt anyone in American Samoa would have voted to convict Bob Chand,” Desaulles told Samoa News.

He recalled the defense's statement during trial that “the type of crimes alleged in this case are disgusting and they damage a victim not just at the moment the crime occurs, but they leave lasting emotional wounds that can last a lifetime.”

“However, as we also told the jury, false allegations of sexual assault are also horrible — as they can ruin a person's life, family, and business,” he said. “If not for the team at RDA Law Firm working weekends and late nights to develop his best legal defense, I fear an innocent defendant such as Bob Chand might have been convicted.”

“And while my client's vindication at trial gave some relief to the Chand family, I am sincerely hopeful that the young lady at the center of this trial, along with her loving and supportive family, will find peace as they all move forward with their lives,” he added.

Samoa News will report later on the closing arguments from both sides.



### **Compiled by Samoa News Staff AMATA WELCOMES CONGRESSIONAL ACTION FUNDING CHIP INTO THE NEW YEAR**

Washington, D.C. — Friday, December, 22, 2017 — Congresswoman Aumua Amata welcomed Congressional action renewing funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which helps ensure access to medical care for many children throughout the country, including American Samoa. Congresswoman Amata also called for the program to be fully reauthorized and funded for the long term.

“I'm very pleased that Congress acted before Christmas to ensure that the necessary funds for the Children's Health Insurance Program will be available, and that the government is funded into the new year,” said Aumua Amata. “We can count on the funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program for the months ahead, and I strongly support its long-term reauthorization and funding for the future.”

The House of Representatives passed 477 bills in an active 2017, well above the annual average. As part of this week's votes to complete the year, Congress renewed essential funding for the CHIP program through March 2018 and otherwise financed the federal government.

“Ensuring that CHIP funding remains readily available was the responsible course of action,” continued Congresswoman Amata. “I look forward to seeing CHIP renewed in 2018 for years to come, and I appreciate the widespread bipartisan commitment in Congress to preserving this health insurance plan for children.”

(Source: Congresswoman Amata's Office — Washington, D.C.)

### **SAMOA HEAD OF STATE TUIMALEALIIFANO DELIVERS HIS FIRST CHRISTMAS ADDRESS**

His Highness the Head of State — Tuimalealiifano Vaaletoa Sualauvi II delivered his first Christmas Address, 22 December 2017, in Apia, Samoa, since taking the post 6 months earlier this year.

In his address, Tuimalealiifano acknowledged the former Head of State — “Afioga Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi for his leadership during his tenure as Head of State over the last ten years. Your priceless contribution to this country has been tremendous, and your achievements as Head of State will be remembered.”

He also thanked the “Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Parliament of Samoa for this great honor upon my humble person, which has enabled me to continue my service to Samoa as Head of State. I

began as a public servant over fifty years ago and I thank our Lord for His will in my life to be always a servant to Samoa and our people.”

Of Christmas, the HOS said, “For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.” He is the “Prince of peace,” Emanuel — God is with us.

“Christmas is the fulfillment of God's promise of peace and love to humanity. It is the realization of His divine will for our lives, for God so loved the World that He gave his only begotten son, so whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

“We have traversed in confidence and safety throughout this year. As we contemplate with joy the end of 2017, we are forever thankful to our Heavenly Father for his providence upon Samoa. Our numerous accomplishments were undoubtedly achieved not without difficulties, but we have persevered and emerged victoriously, because God was in control.”

Tuimalealiifano thanked “all the people of Samoa for another successful year of hard work.”

He concluded, “I wish all the families and people of Samoa a merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year. God bless Samoa.”

(Source: Samoa Press Secretariat)

### **AMENDMENT WOULD OPEN ACCESS TO 4-YEAR COLLEGE FOR**

*(Continued on page 11)*



Congresswoman Amata appreciates hearing from constituents on issues (such as CHIP funding) that are important to you. This was a town hall in October.

[courtesy photo]





In this Oct. 1 , 2017 photo, Ahmed, who is living with HIV, poses for a photograph in Cairo, Egypt. An alarming HIV epidemic is silently spreading in Egypt, with an annual growth of up to 40 percent and funds to deal with the crisis running out by next year, U.N. officials and activists say. Ahmed has been trying to gain asylum status in the United Statea because, he says, he lost hope in a future in Egypt. He has asked that he be identified only by his first name.

(AP Photo/Nariman El-Mofty)

# American Samoa joins United States settle-ment with Starkist

PAGO PAGO, AS – The Territory of American Samoa is officially a co-plaintiff in the United States’ lawsuit against StarKist Co. and Starkist Samoa Co. for alleged violations of environ-mental laws at Starkist’s tuna processing and canning facility in Atu’u, American Samoa.

On December 22, 2017, the United States lodged an amended complaint with the U.S. District Court in Pittsburgh, Pennsylv-ania, adding the Territory as a co-plaintiff.

The amended complaint includes the Territory’s claim for vio-lations of the American Samoa Environmental Quality Act and its implementing regulations, based on the same facts underlying the United States’ claim for relief, as well also alleging three new violations of the federal Clean Water Act by Starkist.

Along with the amended complaint, the United States simulta-neously lodged a proposed consent decree, signed by the United States, the Territory, and Starkist, which resolves the alleged violations.

Under the proposed consent decree, Starkist will pay a total civil penalty of \$6.5 million and provide emergency response equipment to the American Samoa Department of Public Safety, Fire Services Bureau. For the civil penalty, Starkist will pay \$3,900,000 to the United States and \$2,600,000 to the Territory. Starkist will also perform major facility upgrades and other envi-ronmental compliance measures.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will partner with the American Samoa EPA to oversee Starkist’s compliance efforts.

The proposed consent decree is subject to a 30-day comment period and final court approval. A copy of the proposed consent decree is available on the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) web site at [www.usdoj.gov/enrd/Consent\\_Decrees.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/enrd/Consent_Decrees.html). A summary of the settlement, translated into the Samoan language, will also be available on the DOJ web site.

# Turtle & Shark South Seas Gift Shop & Coffee Bar

*wishes each and every one of you  
and all of American Samoa  
a Special & Merry Christmas  
And an extra Special & Happy  
& Prosperous New Year!*

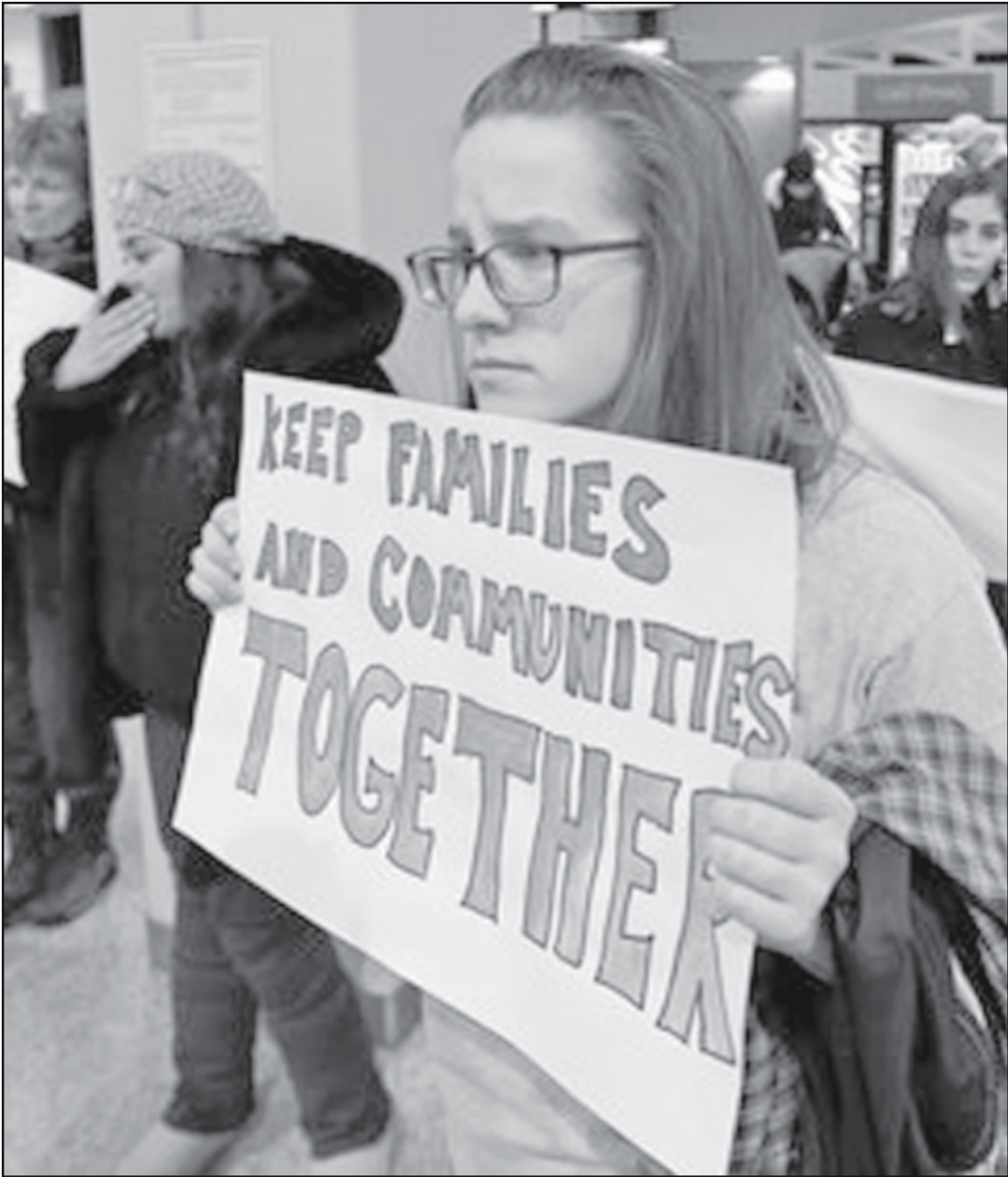
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*It's the most  
WONDERFUL  
time of the year"*







In this Monday, Dec. 25, 2017, photo, supporters hold signs as Maria Santiago Garcia, and her four children walk to the security gate at the Salt Lake City. Garcia, a Guatemalan woman facing deportation spent Christmas night at Salt Lake City's airport before flying back to her native country with her four young children after months of failed efforts to win her a reprieve to stay in the U.S. About 20 friends and supporters came to the airport to send the family off. (AP Photo/Rick Bowmer)

# Guatemalan woman being deported spends Christmas at airport

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A Guatemalan woman facing deportation spent Christmas night at the Salt Lake City airport before flying back to her native country with her four young children after months of failed efforts to stay in the U.S.

Maria Santiago Garcia took off early Tuesday after nearly two dozen friends and supporters saw her off. They carried signs that read “No person is illegal” and “Keep families and communities together.”

Records from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement indicate Santiago Garcia entered the country illegally in 2004, The Salt Lake Tribune reported .

She was first ordered to leave in 2006 but was given a delay. She has tried to win a stay of deportation but was denied on Dec. 20, forcing her to leave the country.

Some supporters cried as Santiago Garcia make her way through the airport with her children — 11, 9, 5 and 3, who are American citizens.

Speaking through a translator, she said she was sad to leave and worried about the lack of opportunities in Guatemala and how her children would adapt to life there.

“They’re afraid. They’ve seen the reports of gangs murdering other kids, and they’re just afraid of that because

they’ve seen it on TV,” she said.

Santiago Garcia’s 9-year-old daughter Sarai Reyes wondered out loud, “What if our new country where we’re going is really mean and bad? What if people are not nice?”

Amy Dominguez, spokeswoman for the activist group Unidade Inmigrante, said Santiago Garcia had run out of options after months of activists protesting and speaking with immigration officials and attorneys.

Dominguez said federal immigration agents told Santiago Garcia ahead of time that they would not be at the airport to ensure she left but would make sure she checked in for the flight.

Santiago Garcia was convicted in 2015 of using someone else’s Social Security number to work. A missed appointment with ICE officials might have flagged her for deportation, according to Dominguez.

Family friend and Unidad Inmigrante member Easton Smith said the terms of the voluntary departure bar Santiago Garcia from applying for a U.S. visa for a decade.

Still, Santiago Garcia said she wants to come back to America “with my head held high.”

“And I want to come back legally,” she said, “So I don’t have to go through this again.”

# Neighbors: teen accused in slayings mowed swastika in grass

RESTON, Va. (AP) — Neighbors say a Virginia teen charged in the fatal shooting his girlfriend’s parents say the youth mowed a swastika about 40 feet (12 meters) across into the grass of a community field.

Penny Potter tells The Washington Post that after the incident two months ago, residents of Reston talked to the youth’s parents instead of going to the police.

The 17-year-old has been

charged with two counts of murder in the deaths Friday of 48-year-old Scott Fricker and his wife, 43-year-old Buckley Kuhn-Fricker. The youth, who turned the gun on himself, is hospitalized in critical condition. Family and friends say the couple found a Twitter account they believed to be linked to the youth. Friends say the account retweeted posts praising Hitler and making derogatory comments about Jews.

# Fruitcake package temporarily halts Seattle ferry service

SEATTLE (AP) — Authorities say a wrapped present that turned out to be a fruitcake temporarily halted service at a Seattle ferry terminal while police investigated.

Washington State Patrol Trooper Kevin Fortino says troopers were notified Tuesday that a suspicious package was found beneath a Christmas tree in the pedestrian waiting area.


Fortino says the package

was deemed suspicious because it was unmarked and was the only gift under the tree.

Officials evacuated the terminal and kept all inbound ferries away for about a half-hour while the police bomb squad investigated.

Fortino says the gift was found to be a fruitcake.

He says it wasn’t clear why it was left at the terminal.



**CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN AMERICAN SAMOA**  
P.O. Box 1537, Kanana Fou, American Samoa 96799  
Phone: (684)699-9810; Fax: (684)699-1898  
Website: www.efkas.net; Email: cccasGS@efkas.net

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

**IFB No: 1221-2018**

**Issuance Date: December 21, 2017** **Closing Date: Friday, January 19, 2018**  
**No later than 2:00 PM local time**

Notice is hereby given that the Congregational Christian Church in American Samoa, by and through the General Secretariat, will receive sealed bid packets from qualified contractors for the **CCCAS 'UA TAUNUU' ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT.**

**Submission:**  
All bids submissions are to be sent to the following address:  
EFKAS Main Office Building  
Kanana Fou, Tafuna OR  
P.O. BOX 1537, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
Attn: Rev. Ioelu Onesemo

Sealed bids will be received by the General Secretary of CCCAS no later than 2:00 p.m. (local time), Friday, January 19, 2018 at which time and place the sealed bids will be open and read by the CCCAS Executive and the General Purpose Committee Board.

Any bid 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.

**Pre-bid Conference:**  
There will be NO pre-bid conference required for this project. However, we strongly advise all interested contractors to do their own assessment of the site, existing roof of the Church Building and come up with an estimate to renovate interior of the building, remove and replace the roof of the present building.

For more information about this project, please contact the following person (s):  
Rev. Ioelu Onesemo (General Secretary CCCAS, Acting) 699-9810  
Rev. Letalitonu Tagaloa (Chairman General Purposes Committee) 770-8515

*Note: Documents and blueprint of the NEW ROOF can be picked up at the CCCAS Main Office, Kanana Fou (9am-4pm) and additional information regarding the project.*

The Congregational Christian Church in American Samoa reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted bids that are not in the best interest of the CCCAS.

Approved for Issuance: **Rev. Elder Eveni Mamoe, Jr.,** CCCAS Moderator







# KEEP AMERICAN SAMOA BEAUTIFUL ACT

A.S.C.A. Title 25 Chapter 22

## O LE Ā LE FA’AOTAOTA?

O le fa’aotaota o le tu’uina, togi, pe fa’apaū foi o se otaota  
i se meatotino faitele, o se fanua fa’aleaiga po’o se  
meatotino tau le tagata lava ia,  
po’o so’o se ogasami/vai i le Teritori.



## O LE FA’AOTAOTA E MATUĀ FA’ASĀINA

**Mo nisi o fesili, fa’amolemole fa’afeso’ota’i le AS-EPA i le 633-2304**

O matagaluega e fitu o le Malo (AS-EPA, ASPA, DOH, DMWR, DPR, DPS, ma le OSA) ua fa’atagaina latou te mafai ona tu’uina atu moliaga o lenei tulafono fou. O ē solia lenei tulafono e fa’asalaina. O fa’asalaga, e lē itiiti ifo ma le \$50 pe silia fo’i ma le \$1,000.







The early Christmas morning Caroling Angels of the Nuuli Methodist Church outside a home singing praises to God for his son Jesus our Saviour! With thanks they do this with all their hearts — just to wish every family a merry Christmas 2017. They will do it again for the New Year.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]





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## UN operating budget cut by \$285M; US claims credit for it

The United Nations' budget is set to shrink by over \$285 million next year — a 5 percent cut that the U.S. government says it negotiated.

The U.N. General Assembly voted Sunday to approve the nearly \$5.4 billion regular operating budget for 2018-2019. The Secretary-General's office says the new budget include cuts to most departments and offices.

The regular budget pays for many U.N. activities, but not peacekeeping or some humanitarian appeals, for example.

The U.S. is the largest contributor, paying about 25 percent of the regular budget. President Donald Trump has pressed to cut U.S. contributions to the world body.

In a statement Sunday, U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley faulted the U.N. for "inefficiency and overspending" and said Washington won't let "the generosity of the American people be taken advantage of."



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# McAiga Box Meal

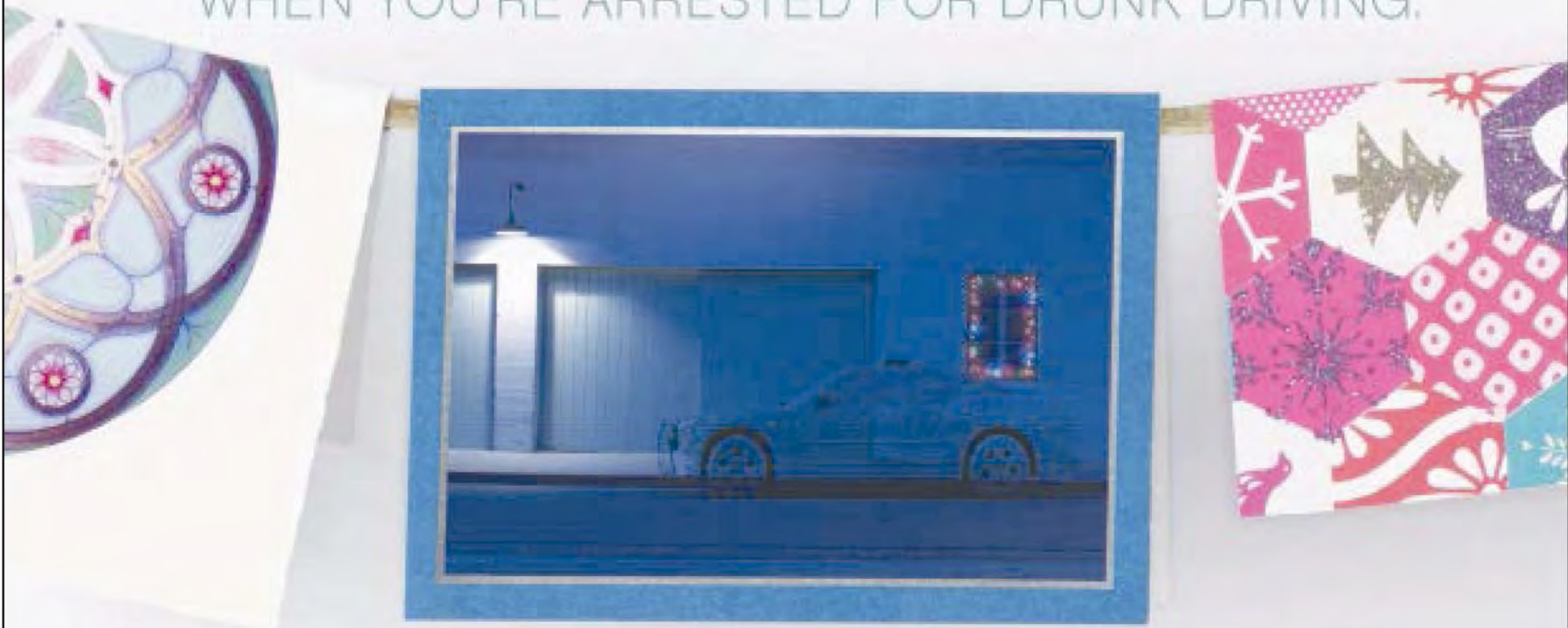


2 Big Macs • 2 Filet-O-Fish® • 10pc Chicken McNuggets®  
4 Medium Fries • 4 Medium Drinks

Price of single item posted on menu board. ©2017 McDonald's

4718\_19697\_T1.pdf - 0504/2017

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**Office of Highway Safety**  
Local Contact:  
Penikila Solomona • 633-1111





*In this Nov. 23, 2017, photo provided by the Oregon Coast Aquarium, a rescued olive ridley sea turtle rests at the aquarium in Newport, Ore. An Oregon couple rescued the endangered turtle from a Washington state beach over the Thanksgiving weekend.*

(Oregon Coast Aquarium via AP)



AMERICAN SAMOA POWER AUTHORITY

PO Box PPB, Pago Pago  
American Samoa 96799  
Phone No.: (684) 248-1234  
bids@aspower.com

REQUEST FOR QUOTES (RFQ)

RFQ No: ASPA18.013.ESD-WTR Closing Date & Time: Friday, January 5, 2018  
Issuance Date: December 18, 2017 No later than 2:00 p.m. local time

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

“Water Project Vehicle”

Submission

An original and one PDF of the Quote must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: “RFQ No. ASPA 18.013.ESD-WTR Water Project Vehicle”.

Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00pm. (local time), Friday, January 5, 2018:

Procurement Office  
American Samoa Power Authority  
P.O. Box PPB, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
Attn: Ioana Uli, Procurement Manager

Any quote 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 quote requirements is available at the New Procurement Office at AS-PA’s Tafuna Compound, New Operations Building 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 quotes and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted quotes that are not in the best interests of the American Samoa Power Authority or the public.

Approved for Issuance: Utu Abe Malae, Executive Director

Bank of Hawaii increases minimum wage levels for employees

TAX REFORM HELPS BANKOH BOOST WAGES TO HAWAII LIVING WAGE STANDARD

HONOLULU — Dec. 22, 2017 — Bank of Hawaii announced today that it is increasing its minimum wage level to \$15 per hour effective Jan. 1, 2018. The current level is \$12 per hour.

The increase allows Bankoh to have a minimum wage level that is in line with the state’s “living wage,” which is often cited as approximately \$30,000 annually for single individuals. The move also places the bank’s starting wage well in excess of the current state minimum wage rate of \$9.25. The move will positively impact 565 bank employees.

Additionally, Bankoh also announced that it is rewarding all employees below the senior vice president level with cash bonuses of \$1,000, payable next week. That move will benefit 2,074 employees or 95 percent of the workforce. Both the bonus and minimum wage levels will apply to Hawaii-based employees as well as

employees in Guam, Saipan, Palau and American Samoa.

“Our employees are, by far, our greatest asset. It’s our pleasure to reward our team with this holiday opportunity,” said bank Chairman, President and CEO Peter Ho. “We’ve recently been thinking about increasing our minimum wage level throughout the organization to the living wage level. The adjustments to the corporate tax rate provided further momentum to execute on the plan.”

Bank of Hawaii Corporation is an independent regional financial services company serving businesses, consumers and governments in Hawaii, American Samoa and the West Pacific. The company’s principal subsidiary, Bank of Hawaii, was founded in 1897. For more information about Bank of Hawaii Corporation, see the company’s website, [www.boh.com](http://www.boh.com).

Starfish making comeback after syndrome killed millions

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Starfish are making a comeback on the West Coast, four years after a mysterious syndrome killed millions of them.

From 2013 to 2014, Sea Star Wasting Syndrome hit sea stars from British Columbia to Mexico. The starfish would develop lesions and then disintegrate, their arms turning into blobs of goo.

The cause is unclear but researchers say it may be a virus.

But now, the species is rebounding. Sea stars are being spotted in Southern California tide pools and elsewhere, the Orange County Register reported Tuesday.

“They are coming back, big time,” Darryl Deleske, aquarist for the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in Los Angeles, told the newspaper.

“It’s a huge difference,” Deleske said. “A couple of years ago, you wouldn’t find any. I dove all the way as far as Canada, specifically looking for sea stars, and found not a single one.”

Similar die-offs of starfish on the West Coast were reported in the 1970s, ‘80s and ‘90s, but the latest outbreak was far larger and more widespread, according to a report by researchers at the University of

Santa Cruz.

Beginning with ochre stars off Washington state, the disease spread, killing off mottled stars, leather stars, sunflower stars, rainbows and six-armed stars.

It hit Southern California by December 2013.

“When it did (arrive), you just started to see them melt everywhere,” said Deleske. “You’d see an arm here, an arm there.”

The recovery has been promising.

Four adult sea stars, each about 7 to 8 inches long, were spotted this month at Crystall Cove State Park in Newport Beach.

“It’s a treasure we always hope to find,” said Kaitlin Magliano, education coordinator at the Crystal Cove Conservancy.

“We lost all of them,” she said. “It’s good to see we have some surviving and thriving. Maybe the next generation will be more resilient.”

But the stars aren’t out of danger yet.

The wasting syndrome never completely disappeared in Northern and Central California and it has reappeared in the Salish Sea region of Washington state, according to a November report by the University of Santa Cruz.





► Pacific brief...

Continued from page 4

MARIANAS, AM SAMOA STUDENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — During a committee drafting session on the Higher Education Act Tuesday, U.S. Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan proposed creating a federal program to help pay for the last two years of college for graduates of Northern Marianas College or American Samoa Community College.

Congressman Sablan made the case that the Northern Marianas and American Samoa are the only U.S. jurisdictions without a 4-year public college, where students may complete a baccalaureate degree. And he compared his proposal to the program for students from the District of Columbia, who receive federal assistance to pay in-state tuition at public colleges and universities anywhere in the United States.

Two Republicans voted with all Democrats on the House Education and the Workforce Committee, but the Sablan amendment was narrowly defeated, 19-20.

“Education continues to be my number one priority in Congress,” Sablan said. “And the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act now underway provides me the opportunity to help make college more affordable for students from the Marianas.”

“I want to thank my Republican friends, Duncan Hunter of California and Dr. Phil Roe of Tennessee for voting with me on my amendment. Even though we were not successful in committee, we can still bring this up again in the Rules Committee and when the bill comes to the floor for a vote.”

The Higher Education Act was last reauthorized in 2008, before Sablan was elected to Congress.

The congressman had been working in the run-up to Tuesday’s session to have his 4-year college proposal incorporated into the Republican base bill. But, even though his proposal would have also helped American Samoan students, represented in Congress by Republican Amata Aumua Coleman Radewagen, the Republican-led committee was unwilling to add a new program and new costs.

So, the Marianas congressman offered his plan as an amendment. “Nonresident students spend an average of \$14,480 more per year in out-of-state tuition and fees than their resident peers at public four-year colleges, according to College Board,” Sablan explained.

“Students in the Marianas and American Samoa wanting to attend a four-year school after getting their community college degree not only face the cost of nonresident tuition, but also the significant expense of travel. The Marianas are over 3,700 miles from the nearest state, Hawaii — a \$1,100 one-way trip by plane.”

Democratic member Donald Norcross of New Jersey compared the situation for island students to the “food deserts” that people in some urban areas face. “A four-year college desert,” he called it. “The fact that there is little, if any opportunity to pursue within a reasonable cost a quality education, four-year program... I think [Ranking Member Sablan’s] is a cost-effective, good idea.”

Also supporting the Sablan amendment were the Committee Ranking Member Bobby Scott of Virginia and Rep. Mark Takano, D-California.

“For far too long our country has neglected and marginalized the needs of its Pacific islands and territories on an array of policy issues,” Takano told the committee. “And, as the Education Task Force chair for the Congressional Asian-Pacific American Caucus, I know that education is no exception. Today, 43 percent of all native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders only have a high school diploma or less.”

Congressman Sablan was successful at amending the federal funding formula for elementary and secondary education in the islands in December 2015. That formula distributes money every year to schools with students from low-income families. This year the Marianas Public School System received approximately \$4.5 million over and above its usual grant as a result of Sablan’s amendment.

Sablan was also an original cosponsor of the 2009 legislation that made more Marianas students eligible for Pell grants to attend college, and increased the dollar amount of the annual Pell grant. As a result, most U.S. students are now able to attend Northern Marianas College for free.

Getting help for Marianas students who want to go beyond NMC has long been a goal of the Marianas congressman. In both the 111th and 112th Congresses he introduced legislation similar to the amendment he offered today to the Higher Education Act.

(Source: Office of the CNMI Congressional Delegate)

SAMOA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES FOR 2018

The Government of Samoa in conjunction with her development partners Australia and New Zealand have finalized the list of successful NUS Foundation awardees who will be pursuing scholarship awards at tertiary educational institutions in Australia, New Zealand and the region.

For 2018, 67 new NUS Foundation students will be sponsored with the annual Government reception for the NUS Foundation awardees held on Friday, 21 December 2017 at the Le Papaigalagala Campus at 10.00am. The reception will be hosted by the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister.

Scholarship awards are aligned closely with key human resource priorities identified

by the Government in collaboration with the development partners.

Awards are merit based with the allocation to ensure a fair representation of the fields of Arts, Science, Commerce and General agreed to by the three Governments.

The Foundation Students compete within their own faculties. Awardees who do not meet citizenship eligibility criteria of the Governments of Australia and New Zealand can be considered for study in institutions in the region and sponsored by the Government of Samoa. The exception is if a student is placed in the top 15 overall ranking where he/ she can then be considered for a partial award in New Zealand or Australia depending on the dual citizenship status held.

There are 61 awards funded by Australia & New Zealand; and 6 awards funded by Samoa.

Open Category & Distance Education

The Open Category scholarship awards are made available for those already employed in the public and private sector, NGO and civil society. Forty (40) awards have been provided for the Open Category 2018 intake.

The Open Category awards enable successful applicants to undertake higher education study at tertiary educational institutions in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific region with the intention to build capacity, attain skills and knowledge that can contribute to Samoa’s economic and social development. The Open category scholarships also provide an additional fifteen (15) distance education scholarships sponsored jointly by the Government of Australia and Samoa.

(Source: Samoa Press Secretariat)

Fired food worker charged in Lambeau Field car rampage

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — A fired food service worker is charged with ramming other vehicles at Lambeau Field in Green Bay last week.

Forty-year-old Chay Vang was charged Tuesday with two felony counts of first-degree recklessly endangering safety and five misdemeanor counts of damage to property. USA Today Network-Wisconsin reports Vang’s cash bond was set at \$10,000.

According to the complaint, Vang was working for Delaware North at Lambeau Field when he got into a fight with a 25-year-old co-worker during a Green Bay Packers game on Dec. 3.

The complaint says Delaware North investigated and fired Vang.

IN THE COMMUNITY (Photos: Leua)







*FILE - In this Sept. 29, 2011, file photo, some of the 30 horses from the Saylor Creek Herd, released by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, storm out of their trailers 15 miles south of Glenns Ferry, Idaho. A federal appeals court has dismissed an effort to allow the sterilization of a herd of wild horses in Idaho. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals earlier in Dec. 2017, granted a request by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to stop the effort.*

(Ashley Smith/The Times-News via AP, File)

# Appeal seeking Idaho horse herd sterilization is dismissed

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — A federal appeals court has dismissed an effort to allow the sterilization of a herd of wild horses in Idaho.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals earlier this month granted a request by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to stop the effort.

Documents filed by BLM seeking the dismissal of its own appeal didn't include a reason.

"This case threatened to set a dangerous precedent for the sterilization of wild horses throughout the West," said Nick Lawton, an attorney representing American Wild Horse Campaign and other groups.

The BLM in 2015 released a plan to sterilize horses in the Saylor Creek Herd Management Area and replenish the herd with wild horses captured elsewhere to maintain a herd of 50 to 200 horses.

The American Wild Horse Campaign, The Cloud Foundation and Return to Freedom sued in 2016, fearing the case could set a precedent. A U.S. District Court in Idaho ruled in September that the herd had to be able to produce healthy foals, and the BLM appealed last month.

Federal officials didn't immediately return calls from The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Lawton said federal agencies sometimes file appeals to extend the time they have to decide whether to mount a challenge. At any rate, he said, "it's all over."

The federal court in the September ruling said the BLM plan violated a requirement that the herd be able to produce healthy foals. The federal judge also ruled that the BLM didn't consider "the significant

impacts its decision may have on the free-roaming nature of the herd nor explain why its decision is appropriate despite those impacts."

The BLM says the range can support 50 horses. The herd twice since 2006 has been rounded up and held in the agency's Boise Wild Horse Corrals after wildfires destroyed rangeland forage.

The agency has said the most recent capture involved 195 horses following a wildfire in August 2010. The BLM in September 2011 released 30 of those horses — 13 females and 17 males — back onto the range. The agency said a count this spring found the herd had nearly tripled with 71 adults and 12 foals.

Wild horses far exceed U.S. government population goals, and officials say the free-roaming horses that number about 73,000 can face starvation. Captured horses are offered for adoption, but 46,000 are being held at government corrals and pastures costing taxpayers \$50 million annually.

Wild horse advocate groups have questioned federal population goals for wild horses as being on the low side.

Suzanne Roy, executive director of American Wild Horse Campaign, said that sterilizing the Idaho herd could have led to the sterilization of herds in other states. Her group and the others had planned to battle in the appeals court, but that's no longer necessary with the BLM withdrawing its appeal.

"This is a very important decision from our perspective," Roy said. "It affirmed that the BLM has a legal mandate to manage wild, viable herds."

# Brazil kicks out Venezuela's top diplomat amid tensions

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) — Authorities in Brazil say they are stripping Venezuela's top diplomat of his credentials and kicking him out in a dispute between the neighboring South American countries.

Brazil's ministry of foreign affairs said Tuesday it considers Venezuelan chargé d'affaires Gerardo Antonio Delgado Maldonado a persona non grata.

Venezuela is in a deepening political and economic crisis under the rule of socialist President Nicolas Maduro, drawing international criticism from several nations, including

Brazil and Canada.

The president of Venezuela's national constituent assembly accused diplomats from the two countries of meddling in Venezuelan affairs.

Delcy Rodriguez took the first step Saturday toward ejecting diplomats from both countries, declaring them persona non grata.

Canada already responded by barring Venezuela's top diplomat, saying the Venezuelan government is undemocratic and is guilty of human rights abuses.



## AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Department of Academic Affairs

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**Position Title:** TED/ASDOE RECRUITER/DATA  
**Employment Status:** One Year Contract

### General Description:

Main course of work: Recruiting in-service teachers to attend ASTEP and keep data of teacher's enrollment and participation semesterly.

### Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Coordinate and schedule school site visits to high schools, elementary schools both public and private to recruit possible candidates for Associate of Arts (A.A.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) program.
- Design and create power point presentations pertaining to A.A./B.Ed. programs for school site visitations.
- Participate in informational presentations at school sites to high school juniors and seniors and/or parents for recruiting purposes to include: Setting up projector and power point presentation, distributing hand-outs of program information, presenting, making available a sign-up sheet that includes contact information for those interested, and doing follow up contacts with school administrators.
- Design, develop and distribute approved educational information/advertisements/brochures, and track the effectiveness of targeted education and outreach campaigns. This will include free community advertisements on radio and television, if available, and any other creative recruiting ways and means that can be implemented.
- Develop good working relationships with ASDOE Secondary and Elementary leaders and Teacher Quality to encourage and pipeline in-service teachers into the program.
- Create data sheets on the demographics of the in-service population as needed; male, female, age, village, school, years of experience, certified, non-certified, coursework, etc.
- Keep raw data on pre-service and in-service teachers to monitor progress in the program.
- Interpret and provide disaggregated data according to the needs of the program to show success rates and progress of students as well as to provide DOE with data as required.
- Participate in workshops and set up informational booth at various venues throughout the community.
- Work with TED's Lumana'i Educators Association (LEA) for recruiting purposes.
- Collaborate closely with TED Administrative Assistant on pipelining in-service and pre-service students into program
- Write and submit a report on progress of in-service population to Director of TED. Maintain a record of all teachers recruited in the program.
- Make copies of all literature pertaining to recruiting/outreach and maintain a filing system of all correspondence.
- Answer phones and direct calls to appropriate staff or faculty, assist with registration process, and assist Administrator Assistant when and where needed.
- Keep travel log and sign in sheets for recruiting purposes, run errands on/off campus pertaining to TED matters, provide a weekly schedule when actively visiting school sites, and perform other duties as assigned.

### Minimum Requirements:

- Some College or Associate's Degree
- A combination of work experience including training and education may be substituted for degree
- 2-5 years of relevant experience
- Professional knowledge in Public Relations
- Typing skills and ability to use WP and Excel Software

**Salary:** Salary to be commensurate with experience, qualification, and credentials.

**Application Deadline:** December 27, 2017 no later than 4:00pm.

Applications are available from American Samoa Community College, Human Resources Office at 699-9155 ext. 428/441/429, online at <http://www.amsamoa.edu/employmentopportunities.html> or by email at [ascchumanresources@amsamoa.edu](mailto:ascchumanresources@amsamoa.edu).

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# Democrat in Virginia House race asks court to invalidate tie

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (AP) — The Democrat in a tied race for a Virginia House seat that could affect which party controls the chamber said Tuesday that she'll ask a court to declare the tie invalid and her the winner.

Shelly Simonds and her lawyers said the court failed to follow state election law by allowing a ballot to be counted a day after last week's recount, among other errors. The campaign said it will ask the same court to reconsider its decision.

In the meantime, state election officials said they postponed their plan to break the tie Wednesday in Richmond by drawing names from a bowl.

James Alcorn, chairman of Virginia's State Board of Elections, said in a series of tweets that name drawing "is an action of last resort."

"(N)eutral election administrators should not be choosing election winners — or influencing the next Speaker of the House," he wrote.

The race between Simonds and Republican Del. David Yancey is for the 94th House of Delegates District in Newport News. If Simonds were declared the winner, it would split party control of Virginia's House 50-50.

A rare power-sharing agreement would have to be brokered between Democrats and Republicans. If no agreement can be reached, prolonged chaos could ensue.

Simonds appeared to have lost November's election by 10 votes. Then she appeared to have won a recount by a single vote last week. A day later, a court in Newport News declared a tie.

"At the end of the day, this is really about the integrity of elections in Virginia," Simonds said during a conference call with reporters.

Ezra Reese, an attorney for Simonds, said Tuesday that the court erred in following election law because it allowed an uncounted ballot to be challenged by Yancey's campaign after the recount concluded.

Yancey's attorneys told the court that a Republican election official was "confused" about election guidelines. The official had let the vote remain uncounted before raising concerns the next day.

The court allowed Yancey's attorneys to challenge the ballot.

On the ballot in question, the voter had picked Republican candidates in statewide races. For the 94th District, the voter filled in the bubble for Yancey and the bubble for Simonds. But he or she also drew a single slash through the bubble for Simonds.

Yancey's attorneys argued that the ballot was clearly a vote for Yancey. Simonds' attorneys disagreed.

The court ultimately counted

the vote for Yancey, which brought the tally to 11,608 votes each.

Gretchen Heal, a spokeswoman for the Yancey campaign, declined to comment Tuesday on the Simonds campaign's planned litigation. But Heal said Yancey stands by the arguments made last week by his attorneys.

Whoever wins the 94th District race, the fight over control of the House may not end there. A lawsuit is pending over the results of a hotly contested race in the 28th District in the Fredericksburg area.

Democrat Joshua Cole lost to Republican Bob Thomas by 82 votes in November and by 73 votes in a recount last week. But voters filed a lawsuit in federal court after at least 147 ballots were found to be assigned to the wrong districts.



FILE- In this Dec. 19, 2017, file photo, Democrat Shelly Simonds reacts to the news that she won the 94th District precincts by one vote following a recount in Hampton, Va. Simonds, the Democrat in a tied race for a Virginia House seat that could affect which party controls the chamber says she'll ask a court to declare the tie invalid. Simonds' lawyers said Tuesday, Dec. 26, that they'll ask the court to reconsider its ruling after last week's recount.

(Joe Fudge/The Daily Press via AP, File)

## In The High Court of American Samoa FAMILY, DRUG AND ALCOHOL COURT DIVISIONS FDA/JR No. 35-17 IN RE: A CHILD NOTICE/FA'AALIGA

TO: Mr. John Doe  
Leone Village  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above-named respondent that a petition has been filed before the High Court of American Samoa to terminate your parental rights in a female child born on July 24, 2017, at LBJ Tropical Medical Center, Fagaalu, American Samoa. A hearing will be held after two months and ten days from the date of the first publication of this notice, in which the Court may enter an order that you have not acquired any parental rights to the minor child and place the child for adoption. If you have any objection, or wish to claim or assert your parental rights, you must appear within two months and ten days from the date of the publication of this notice and file and objection or a claim with the Court.

O LE FA'AALIGA E TUUINAATU ia te oe, le ua ta'ua i luga, ua iai se talosaga ua failaina i le Fa'amasinoga Mauaoga o Amerika Samoa e iloilo ai ou aia fa'a-matua i se teineititi sa fanau o ia ile aso 24 o Iulai, 2017, i le Falemai i Fagaalu, Amerika Samoa. O lenei iloiloaga e faia pe a tuana'i le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le aso o le ulula'i faasalalauga o lenei faaaliga, ma e ono tuuina atu ai se poloa'iga a le Fa'amasinoga e faailoa ai ua leai ni ou aia fa'a-matua i lenei teineititi. Afai ete tete'e, pe e te finagalo e faamaonia ou aia fa'a-matua, ia e failaina se talosaga tete'e i le Fa'amasinoga i totonu o le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le ulua'i faasalalauga o lenei faaaliga.

Dated/Aso: October 25, 2017

CLERK OF COURTS

Published: 10/27 & 11/27/17



## DISTRICT COURT OF AMERICAN SAMOA NOTICE

TO: All Commercial Drivers  
RE: Commercial Driver Annual Permit Renewals

Your Commercial Driver's permit will expire on 31 December 2017. As part of your permit renewal process, you will be required to obtain a copy of your driver's record from the District Court. This request must be made in person by the driver desiring to renew this permit. Each driver must display a valid private driver's license issued by O.M.V. and, if not on file with O.M.V., a copy of that driver's social security card.

A record showing outstanding fines or bench warrants must be paid in full or adjudicated and paid in full, before a District Court clerk will issue, stamp and sign the record clearance. Any driver desiring to check that individual's record may stop by the District Court between 7:30am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday, and determine if any outstanding fines or tickets need to be addressed before obtaining a final record clearance.

Dated: December 20, 2017

## FA'AALIGA

FA'AFUINA PEMITA AVETA'AVALE FA'APISINISI I  
TAUSAGA TA'ITASI MO AVETA'AVALE FA'APISINISI UMA

E uma le aoga o lou pemitā aveta'avale fa'apisinisi i le Aso 31 o Tesema 2017. Ina ia toe fa'afuina lou pemitā, e ao ona e tau'a'aina se kopi (copy) o ou rekoti (record) mai le Ofisa o Fa'amasinoga Fa'aitumalo i Fagatogo.

O le aveta'avale e ona le laisene e fa'atalosagaina lana rekoti pe a mana'o e fa'afou lona pemitā. E ao fo'i i le aveta'avale ona fa'aali lana laisene o lo'o lelei mai le Ofisa Tauta'avale, ma, afai e le mafai ona faailoaina le laisene, e tatau ona fa'aali se kopi o lona numera saogalemu.

O rekoti o iai sala po'o tusi saisai e le'i totogiina, e ao ona fa'auma, pe faia iai se fa'ai'uga ma totogiina atoa, a'o le'i tu'uina atu e se tasi o faillautusi o le Ofisa o Fa'amauga o Solitulafono se rekoti ua fa'amaufa'ailogaina ma sainia ua mama.

So'o se aveta'avale e mana'o e siaki ona fa'amauga, e mafai ona susu mai i le Ofisa o Fa'amasinoga Fa'aitumalo i Fagatogo i le va o le 7:30 i le taeao ma le 4:00 i le afiafi, Aso Gafua e o'o i le Aso Farai, ina ia iloa po'o iai ni sala po'o ni moliaga e ao ona fa'ai'ugaina, ona fa'ato'a tu'uina atu lea o se rekoti.

Aso: Tesema 20, 2017

Fiti A. Sunia  
District Court Judge







# APNewsBreak: Ex-trooper charged had other Taser misconduct

DETROIT (AP) — Michigan State Police tried but failed to suspend a trooper for his use of a stun gun months before he fired a Taser at a teenager who crashed an all-terrain vehicle and died, according to records obtained by The Associated Press.

Mark Bessner is charged with murder in the death of Damon Grimes, but it wasn't his only incident involving a Taser. Details are in personnel documents released to the AP through a public records request.

State police wanted to suspend Bessner for 10 days for firing his Taser twice at a handcuffed man who was running away in 2016. But an arbitrator said there was no "just cause" for discipline.

In 2014, Bessner fired his Taser at a suspect who was handcuffed. He agreed to a five-day suspension, records show, but four days were eventually dropped. It apparently was his first case of misconduct.

Bessner, 43, now faces serious legal trouble. He was charged last week with second-degree murder in the August death of Damon Grimes of Detroit, who was joyriding on an all-terrain vehicle when the trooper fired his stun gun. The 15-year-old crashed and died.

Bessner, who quit the state police after the teenager's death, has pleaded not guilty and is being held on \$1 million bond. Prosecutor Kym Worthy said there was no reason for him to fire his Taser — especially from a moving patrol car.

"His behavior was criminal. We're not trying to pull the rug over anyone's eyes," a state police spokesman, Lt. Mike Shaw, said Tuesday.

Just two months earlier, an arbitrator had cleared Bessner

of misconduct in how he used his Taser while chasing a crime suspect. The man was handcuffed during a traffic stop in Detroit but suddenly sprinted away and was able to clear fences.

Bessner believed the man must have slipped out of the cuffs so he used his Taser twice to subdue him. It was a wrong assumption. It's generally against state policy to use a stun gun on a handcuffed person who's in custody.

Arbitrator Steven Lett, however, found technical distinctions. He said the man was "no longer in custody" as soon as he ran away.

"The question is whether the officer's actions are objectively reasonable in light of all the facts and circumstances," Lett said, quoting a training guide from the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards.

If the 10-day suspension had been affirmed, it would have triggered an additional four days from the 2014 incident that were being held in abeyance, Shaw said.

Bessner's personnel file shows he faced a third misconduct allegation in March. State police said he was driving at high speed without emergency lights or sirens. The case apparently wasn't resolved before he quit last fall.

Bessner's file also includes praise for his work. He was recognized by the department for saving a woman who had overdosed on heroin. "Best wishes for continued success," Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue wrote in February 2017.

This story has been corrected to show that the arbitrator's decision came two months before the teen's death, not three.

# Bitter cold expected until New Year in Midwest and Northeast

CHICAGO (AP) — A white Christmas for much of the Northeast and Midwest has given way to bitter cold until the New Year.

Chicago-area National Weather Service meteorologist Amy Seeley says to expect colder-than-normal temperatures the rest of the week.

Temperatures hovered around zero degrees in Chicago on Tuesday.

Meteorologists warn of sub-zero frigid arctic air and danger-

ously cold wind chills.

Wind chill advisories or warnings are in effect for all of North Dakota and Wisconsin, as well as swaths of South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan and Indiana.

Wind chill advisories are also in effect for parts of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and New York. Meteorologists say frostbite is possible with as little as 30 minutes of exposure.



FILE - In this Dec. 21, 2017 file photo, former Michigan State Trooper Mark Bessner, center, arrives at his arraignment in 36th District Court in Detroit. Bessner is charged with murder in the death of Damon Grimes after he fired a Taser at the teenager who crashed an all-terrain vehicle and died. State police wanted to suspend Bessner for 10 days for firing his Taser twice at a handcuffed man who was running away in 2016, according to records obtained by the Associated Press. He was also questioned in a separate 2014 taser incident.

(Max Ortiz/Detroit News via AP File)



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## REQUEST FOR QUOTES (RFQ)

RFQ No: ASPA18.010.ESD-WTR Closing Date & Time: Thursday, December 28, 2017  
Issuance Date: December 14, 2017 No later than 2:00 p.m. local time

The American Samoa Power Authority issues a Request For Quotes (RFQ) to invite qualified firms to submit formal, written proposals for the:

**"Supply of Electro-Mechanical Equipment for the Tramway Tank Project (Re-Bid)"**

### Submission

An original and one (1) PDF must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: **"RFQ No. ASPA 18.010.ESD-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 2:00pm. (local time), **Thursday, December 28, 2017:**

New Operations Building  
American Samoa Power Authority  
P.O. Box PPB, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
Attn: Ioana 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 New Operaitons Building 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 proposals and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted proposals that are not in the best interests of the American Samoa Power Authority or the public.

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# Tasi le pepe na soifua mai i le Kerisimasi 2017



tusia Leua Aiono Frost

I lenei Kerisimasi e na'o le to'atasi lava le pepe ua fanau mai i le aso Kerisimasi, o le tama'ita'i lea o ToeMary-Christmas Mariner mai le afio'aga o Malaeloa.

O le tina o le pepe o Telesia Joyce Iole Mariner, sa ia fa'ailoa mai, "O a'u ou te le'i manatu lava o le a ou fanau i le aso Kerisimasi. Sa amata mai le aso e le'i tiga lava lo'u manava, peita'i ina ua o'o i le afiafi ua amata tiga soso'o ma ua manatu loa e o mai i le falema'i. Na taunu'u ma'ua e tusa o le itula e 8:00 i le afiafi i le falemai ae fa'ato'a fanau mai pepe i le 10:00 ae toeitiiti uma itula o le aso Kerisimasi."

Peita'i sa ia fa'ailoa mai, "E ese fo'i lagona ina ua usu mai le pese o le Kerisimasi ia te'i ma'ua ma si a'u tama, ua lagona le fiafia ma ua fa'atumulia le loto i le fa'afetai i le Atua ua ou maua lea avanoa, e fanaua ai se meaalofo sili mo ma'ua ma le tama o le aiga. Ua fai si leva ma'ua moomo'o mo se pepe teine, o lea ua tali fa'aaliali fo'i le Atua ua maua tonu lava i le Kerisimasi le ma'ua meaalofo taua."

E to'alua tuagane matutua o ToeMaryChristmas Mariner, ma ua fa'afiafiaina fo'i Auntie Mary Felise aua o lona igoa lea ua fa'asoso'o i le igoa o le pepe o le Kerisimasi 2017.

O lo'o fa'amautu nei le aiga o Telesia ma Geoffrey Mariner i Malaeloa lea o lo'o ua tatali mai ai matua o Telesia, Sogialofa ma Tina Lene Iole e fa'afeiloa'ia lea latou pepe o le Kerisimasi 2017.

O lo'o galulue i latou i le

Ekalesia Katoliko i Malaeloa fa'atasi ai fo'i ma matua ma le aiga atoa o Telesia Iole Mariner. O le aiga lenei, e nofo lelei Telesia e va'ai ma tausia lelei le fanau, a'o le tama ole aiga Geoffrey Mariner e faigaluega o ia i le ASCO Motors i Tafuna.

Manuia le Kerisimasi ma le Tausaga fou i le auaga Mariners ma Iole i Malaeloa.



O le tatou Pepe o le Kerisimasi 2017 o le tama'ita'i mai Malaeloa, Ekalesia Katoliko Roma - ToeMaryChristmas Mariner. Manuia le Kerisimasi!

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



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O se va'aiga i se tasi o aiga na agava'a mo le foa'i a lana afioga Lenamuaiao Senatoa Galea'i LK Tuufuli i le aso Kerisimasi 2017.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# Ono tausaga o fa'asoa atu mo aiga tuaoi

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

O le ono ai lenei o tausaga o saunia pea e le afioga Lenamuaiao, Senatoa Galea'i L. Tuufuli ma le Fanau ma Aiga foa'i mo aiga tuaoi mai lona maota i Fagatogo lava. O lea fa'amoemoe, e toe fafagu ma fa'atau atili ai le 'auga o lenei vaitau, "Ola foa'i ma fa'asoa atu ou manuia i nisi!"

"E le o mamao lava oe ma se isi o lo'o i ai se mana'omia i o latou lotoifale. Ona o aiga fo'i e to'atele ina fa'amoemoe i tagata faigaluega, ae ta'ito'atasi fo'i tagata faigaluega e tausia atoa ai le fanau, totogi pili ma toe faia mea fai a le ekalesia ma aiga potopoto, e le o faigofie ai le fa'asoa. Mo aiga na, fa'afetai pe afai ae o'o atu se fa'asoa mai ia te a'u ma le fanau. Ua na'o se fa'amalositino e tatalia ai le motusia o galuega i lenei vaitau, ma fa'afiafiaina atili ai le fanau i lenei vaitau fiafia o le tausaga."

Na tapena e le tama matua o mea taumafa eseese, e aoga tele mo le aiga atoa ae maise le fanauiti e fesoasoani i matua i le tausiga o la le tino o le fanau.

"Ua le agaga i ni meata'alo aua e le maua ai se malosi, ae sili ona avatu pea lava o mea tausami eseese ina ia fa'afiafiaina fa'atasi i tatou uma i lotoifale o tatou aiga i le aso Kerisimasi lava lenei," o sana talanoa mai lea i le Samoa News.

I le taeao lava o le Kerisimasi na auva'a potopoto ai aiga na taua'aoina fa'apitoa i ai tusi vala'aulia ma fa'amanuia ai le Kerisimasi mai ia Galea'i ma le fanau. Na faia se sauniaga pu'upu'u i le maota o Galea'i i Fagatogo ma sa auai uma matua ma fanau nei na vala'aulia, o i latou ia o le a agava'a mo le foa'i.

I se tautalaga a le susuga Sauafea Sonny sa ia fa'aailoa ai, "O lenei foa'i e taumafai le matou Tama matua ina ia tofusua i tatou i le agaga o le fiafia i le aso lenei. O le aso e auga i le soifua fa'asoa pe foa'i atu i le tasi o ou uso a tuaoi. O le agaga o le alofa. Peita'i e leai lava se mea e mana'omia e le tama matua, ae tasi se fa'anaunaga o i matou le fanau, ia outou tatalo ia malosi ma fa'afualoa pea le soifua o le tama ia maua fo'i nisi aso fa'apenei i le lumana'i mo i tatou, ae silisili ia auauna ai pea le tama i le atunu'u ma le tatou Malo."

Matagofie mea uma na tapena mo le foa'i. Ua

va'aia mea'ai si'i'atua ua aofia fa'atasi ai. O taga araisa 20 pauna, pusa saimini ipu ma paketi, pusa wahoo atoatoa, pusa apainu pusa o snack ma pusa supokeli, o Cereal tetele ma Pizza XL, o le aiga i le taeao a aiga ta'itasi e fa'amanuia ai le Kerisimasi.

E leai se tasi na toe fa'au'u, peita'i sa gasolo atu nai aiga, ma fa'amanuia le Kerisimasi i le Tama ia Galeai.

E le'i galo i lana afioga Lenamuaiao nisi o e tino matutua o le afio'aga. I lona tuaoi le faletua o Tiimalu Telesia Scanlan na fa'ao'o i ai lana meaalofo ma sana foa'i na tapena mo lana tausiga. O lona uso fo'i o Duke Tuufuli ma le aiga, sa la'ua maua se Kerisimasi fiafia e toe talatalanoa ma le fiafia i le tele o tausaga, ae o loo tumau pea le nonofo fa'atasi o uso.

I sana fa'asoa mai sa fa'apea ai, "Ua ou fa'alogi fo'i i le matagofie o le saunoaga fa'amalosi a le Kovana ina ia e tagai toto'a i lou vaia'ai i se aiga o i ai se mana'omia, tula'i ma foa'i atu, o le agaga tonu lea o lenei vaitau, ae ua atoa ai nei le 6 tasuaga o faia lenei galuega alofa, ina ia tumau fo'i i le fanau ma latou fanau, se agaga lelei fa'apea, ia le tagai na'o oe lava ma lou aiga, ae ola fesoasoani atu i nisi, ma fa'asoa atu i isi ou manuia pe afai ua lava ma totoe lau fa'asoa i lou lotoifale," o sana tala fiafia lea i lenei vaitau o le 2017.

O se tala fiafia a lona alo tama'ita'i Malama-maisaua Galea'i Tuufuli Sauafea, sa ia fa'apea ai, "O se mea fiafia ia te a'u le tapenapenaga o lenei fa'amoemoe o le tama, e ui ina matua ae le mafai ona galo ia te ia ona fa'amanatu mai ia te a'u le fa'amoemoe lenei e le tataua ona toe tu'u. E le'i taitai mai i lenei masina, ae ua leva ona sau lana fa'amanatu. O lona ia iloa, e leai se isi e fia 'ai i le tatou atunu'u, pe afai e tumau pea Samoa i lona agaga foa'i atu ma fa'asoa atu manuia i lou tuaoi."

Na'o le alaga o le fa'afetai sa lagona o fa'aleo e i latou na autova'a mai lea fa'asoa taua, ma e mautinoa lava, e leai se tasi e tu ma tau galuega fa'apenei, na'o le Atua lava o i ai manuia e toe fa'atutumu mea ua fa'agaogaoina ona o le agaga alofa ma foa'i atu.



tusia Leua Aiono Frost

## KI MOLI KERISIMASI AFIO'AGA NUUULI PO KERISIMASI!

Ua tula'i mai fo'i le afio'aga o Nuuli i le latou saofaga mo le fa'amanatuga o le Kerisimasi fiafia 2017, ua fa'atulaga ai latou moli uma o maota fa'asolo i totonu o le afio'aga, ina ia ki ma fa'aalia atili ai le agaga o le Kerisimasi i le aotelega o le afio'aga.

Na fa'atautaia se sauniga mata'ina mo lea fa'amoemoe a'o loma le afiafi o le Kerisimasi ma sa fa'aalia fo'i le agaga foa'i ina ua tufatufaina mai fo'i ma le 'aiga mama o le afiafi a tamali'i.

Ua iloga ai ona matagofie le sauniga mamalu, ina ua ki moli uma ua mae'a saunia e aiga ta'itasi i totonu o Nu'uuli e faa-solo lava i le ala. O fale ua teuteuina i moli fe'ilafi atoa ai ma Falesa, o pou moli i la'au tutu i autafa o fale o aiga ua le iloga se ma ua teuteuina.

"O le agaga lea o se mea, ia fa'aosofia lagona lelei, aua o le lagi lea tatou e aga atu i ai, ua tatou iloa e pei ona fa'aailoa mai, e teuteuina i auro ma ario ma ma'a taua uma. E mama ma le matagofie," o se tala lea a se tasi o tama matua o le afio'aga na fesiligia i sona lagona e ala ai ona faia lea galuega lelei, i lenei vaitau o le Kerisimasi.

Ua so'o fa'atasi fo'i Ekalesia tetele i totonu o Nuuli i lea fa'aailo, ma sa tau fai tofu sao ta'ita'i i le sauniga fa'apitoa e ki ai moli uma i lumafale o aiga taitasi ma ekalesia i totonu o le afio'aga.

O le afio'aga fo'i o Aoloua lea sa latou muaimalae i lea fo'i fa'aailo matagofie, ma e mautinoa fo'i, e soso'o i lea tausaga fou lea fo'i fa'aailo ma atili fa'ateleina ai le olioli ma le fiafia o tagata uma i lenei vaitau o le tausaga, le vaitau e fa'aailoa atu ai lou alofa i se tasi, fa'amagalo i se tasi sa lua feseta'i, ma fa'asoa atu se mea ua ia te oe mo se tasi i lea vaitau o lagona lelei.

O se tasi o le afio'aga sa ia fa'aailoa mai, "O lenei fa'amoemoe ina ia galulue fa'atasi tagata uma i le afio'aga e fa'aailoga le aso soifua o le Mesia, ma ia gatasi fo'i le agaga o tagata e fa'atino ai lenei fa'amoemoe. O lea ua ausia uma nei mea, fa'afetai i le Atua."

## FAI MEAALOFA LOU TUAOI, FA'ASOA LOU MANUIA UA TELE!

O le agaga tonu o le tautalaga fa'apitoa a le fa'aailuuluga o le faigamalo a Amerika Samoa i lenei tausaga, Kovana Lolo Moliga sa ia saunoa ai, "O le fa'asoa atu o lou manuia i se tasi e ala i le soifua foa'i, o se mea e ao ina fa'asilisilina lea e tagata uma i lenei vaitau o le soifua mai o le Mesia, ma lona fa'amoemoe e toe osia ia te ia le taulaga fa'aola mo tagata agasala uma."

"O se meaalofo lea ua sili lona tau i lo se meaalofo ua tatou maua i le olaga nei. Peita'i, ua fa'aailoa ma fa'amautu atili ai le mafuaga o lenei vaitau, lea ua fa'aailo o le vaitau na soifua mai ai le Fa'aola."

"Pe afai lava ua leai se isi mea e te mafaia ona avatua, ua e iloa se tasi o lou vaipanoa o e alaala ai o lo'o i ai se mana'omia, foa'i atu i ai. O le fa'atinoga fo'i lena o le alofa foa'i atu o lo'o 'auga i ai lenei vaitau."

"A'o tatou avatua mea lelei uma mo a tatou fanau, se'i taga'i ane pe le o i ai se isi tamaititi o le tou tuaoi o lo'o nanau lona loto i se meaalofo fa'atauva'a, ae le o gafatia e lona aiga, ona e le o lava le fa'asoa? A'apa ane i ai ma e foa'i. O oe lava lena ua fa'asino atu e le Atua mo se fesoasoani."

"Afai ua lava ma totoe lau fa'asoa, e mautinoa lava e le o fa'apena uma lotoifale o lou afio'aga. Tau lava o sina taimi itiiti e tau matauina ai se aiga o lo'o i ai se mana'omia, e mafai ona e fa'atumu mo se aso e tasi lena avanoa lelei. Fai ma sou sao i le fa'amoemoe ma le auga tonu o lenei vaitau i le lalolagi."

"Fa'afetai fo'i i le Atua ona o le saogalemu o tatou ola ma nonofo ai i lenei laueleele o Amerika Samoa, ua avefa lea ma sao o tatou fanau o lo'o autova'a atu e tautua le Malo tele i ana vaega au".

## AIGA FIAFIA A LE FA'ALUPEGA & PULENU'U O SUA:

O le aiga fiafia e fa'ai'u ai galuega o lenei tausaga a le afioga le Fa'alupega Igafo Maria Va'a Brown ma le vasega o ali'i Pulenu'u o lona itumalo, sa fa'atautaia lea i le aso Faraile i le Fale'aiga o le Fiafia Restaurant i Fagatogo lava.

Sa mua'i faia le latou se'i fa'alilolilo ina ia fa'atino ai a latou Meaalofo e fa'aailo ai fo'i le agaga o le loto foa'i atu i lou tuaoi o lo'o lua galulue fa'atasi. Peita'i o le latou taumafataga atoa e tapena ma totogia lea e le afioga le Fa'alupega o le Itumalo, o ia fo'i lea o lo'o galue o se So'oupu mo le vasega o Fitafta Tuai i le latou Ofisa Autu i Tafuna.

"Ona o le fiafia tele i le galulue fa'atasi fo'i o ali'i Pulenu'u o le matou Itumalo, e fa'afetaia fo'i le latou galuega ma le pitola'au taua e faia i o latou afio'aga o lo'o tutula'i mai ai. O le agaga o lenei vaitau, o le galulue fiafia ma ia maua se tauitiiti o le galue ma le fa'amaoni," o se tala fiafia lea a Igafo. O i latou na auai i lea fa'amoemoe e aofia ai ali'i pulenu'u o Fagatele Pete Tuitea mo le afio'aga o Masausi; Fa'aumumu Paulo Vaeluaga mai Afonotele; Tuiafotolu L. Galu mai le afioaga o Sa'ilele; Meko Troy Fiaui mai le afio'aga o Amaua, Auto ma Alega; Amotasi Laloni Malo mai le afio'aga agasala uma."

(Faaauau itulau 19)





O le 'aiga fiafia lea a le afioga le Fa'alupega Igafo Maria Va'a Brown ma Pulenu'u uma ma o latou aiga o lona itumalo o Sua. Na faia fo'i le latou se'i e fa'afiafiaina ai i latou i lenei vaitau o le Kerisimasi. Matagofie fo'i lea faatasiga fiafia. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



O se va'aiga lena i le taimi o loo taua'ao atu ai meaalofo na tapena e le afioga Lenamuaiao ma le fanau mo i latou na vala'aulia. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

## ► Tala i Vaifanua...

Mai itulau 18

o Lau'i'i ma Agaolei'a Pa'uesi Manumalo mai le afio'aga o Fagaitua. O le latou fa'alupega na fa'atuina lea fa'amoemoe ina ia so'ofa'atasi i le agaga e tasi i le galuega puipuimalu o afio'aga ma o latou tagatanu'u o alaala ma papa'a'ao ai o Igafo mai Masausi. "O lo ua taua'aoina latou meaalofo na tapena e le tasi mo lana piki

i le matou se'i, peita'i na ou sau mamao lava ma le fagu usiki mo Pulenu'u ta'itasi ina ia mafai ona la'ua fa'amanuia faatasi latou aso Kerisimasi ma lona to'alua i le lotoifale o le latou aiga," o se tala ata lea a le afioga le fa'alupega lea ua fiafia ua toe fa'atasi ma i latou uma mai lona itumalo.



O i latou e sili ona pisi i le tapenaga mo mea uma e tuufa'atasia mo le Foa'i a le afioga Lenamuaiao Senator Galea'i LK Tuufuli o le tama'ita'i o Malamamaisaua Galea'i Tuufuli - Sauafea, le tama o le aiga Sauafea Sonny ma le fanau. Fa'afetai le foa'i. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]





In this still image taken from video, a giant assault vehicle and gun turrets towers over the carpet at the Shrine Auditorium where guests will make their way into Saturday’s world premiere of “Star Wars: The Last Jedi,” in downtown Los Angeles, Friday, Dec. 8, 2017. “The Last Jedi” is one of the year’s biggest releases.

(AP Photo/Rick Taber)

# ‘The Last Jedi’ collects almost \$100M at holiday box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — “Star Wars: The Last Jedi” claimed the biggest Christmas haul over the four-day holiday weekend, adding almost \$100 million to its coffers, according to box office figures released Tuesday.

Four new releases couldn’t catch the intergalactic juggernaut.

Of the new films, “Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle” fared best. The Sony adventure debuted in second place with \$55.4 million.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Tuesday by comScore:

1. “Star Wars: The Last Jedi,” Disney, \$99,025,055, 4,232 locations, \$23,399 average, \$395,627,411, 2 weeks.
2. “Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle,” Sony, \$55,400,000, 3,765 locations, \$14,714 average, \$72,005,967, 1 week.
3. “Pitch Perfect 3,” Universal, \$26,424,890, 3,447 locations, \$7,666 average, \$26,424,890, 1 week.
4. “The Greatest Showman,” 20th Century Fox, \$14,410,116, 3,006 locations, \$4,794 average, \$19,008,847, 1 week.
5. “Ferdinand,” 20th Century Fox, \$10,118,526, 3,630 locations, \$2,787 average, \$29,601,410, 2 weeks.
6. “Coco,” Disney, \$8,188,615, 2,111 locations, \$3,879 average, \$164,307,743, 5 weeks.
7. “Downsizing,” Paramount, \$7,670,130, 2,668 locations, \$2,875 average, \$7,670,130, 1 week.
8. “Darkest Hour,” Focus Features,

9. “Father Figures,” Warner Bros., \$5,480,000, 2,902 locations, \$1,888 average, \$5,480,000, 1 week.
10. “The Shape of Water,” Fox Searchlight, \$4,420,381, 730 locations, \$6,055 average, \$8,986,046, 4 weeks.
11. “Wonder,” Lionsgate, \$2,697,076, 816 locations, \$3,305 average, \$115,654,826, 6 weeks.
12. “All the Money In the World,” Sony, \$2,600,000, 2,068 locations, \$1,257 average, \$2,600,000, 1 week.
13. “Tiger Zinda Hai,” Yash Raj Films, \$2,569,231, 299 locations, \$8,593 average, \$2,569,231, 1 week.
14. “The Star,” Sony, \$1,550,000, 1,106 locations, \$1,401 average, \$38,641,925, 6 weeks.
15. “Justice League,” Warner Bros., \$1,510,000, 1,101 locations, \$1,371 average, \$223,133,455, 6 weeks.
16. “DaWednesday, December 27, 2017’s Home 2,” Paramount, \$1,476,026, 1,073 locations, \$1,376 average, \$99,751,582, 7 weeks.
17. “Lady Bird,” A24, \$1,414,496, 372 locations, \$3,802 average, \$28,715,314, 8 weeks.
18. “The Disaster Artist,” A24, \$1,209,633, 488 locations, \$2,479 average, \$16,020,034, 4 weeks.
19. “Thor: Ragnarok,” Disney, \$1,163,335, 701 locations, \$1,660 average, \$309,454,093, 8 weeks.
20. “Molly’s Game,” STX Entertainment, \$1,042,075, 271 locations, \$3,845 average, \$1,042,075, 1 week.

# Construction halted at church destroyed in Sept. 11 attacks

NEW YORK (AP) — Construction on a Greek Orthodox church to replace one that was crushed in the Sept. 11 attacks has been temporarily suspended amid rising costs and questions over how donations have been managed.

The St. Nicholas National Shrine next to the World Trade Center memorial plaza was to replace a tiny church obliterated when the trade center’s south tower fell in 2001. The new building was designed by renowned architect Santiago Calatrava, who created the soaring white bird-like mall and transit hub nearby called the Oculus.

But unlike the transit hub, built largely with federal transportation dollars, the church is being funded through donations including from the Greek government, Greek Orthodox church members around the world, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston and the Italian city of Bari, whose patron saint is St. Nicholas.

In September, the estimated cost was \$50 million. But according to The New York Times , which first reported the work suspension, the cost had jumped to an estimated \$72 million to \$78 million as of this month.

Two firms, PricewaterhouseCoopers and Baker-Hostetler, were hired to perform an independent investigation into the construction, according to a Dec. 9 statement posted on the website of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

The stoppage was ordered by the construction company on the project, Skanska USA, the statement said.

“The archdiocese is confidently hopeful that construction will recommence in the

very near future and has been assured by Skanska ... that they are looking forward to the rescinding of this temporary suspension to continue working together in cooperation with the archdiocese for the completion of the building project,” the statement read.

The Greek Orthodox archdiocese, based in New York, represents more than 500 parishes across the country with more than 1.5 million members of the church and 800 priests. It reported last fall it was suffering from a “severe and complex” financial deficit.

Skanska, part of Stockholm-based Skanska AB, said it had extended payment deadlines and discussed alternatives with the archdiocese to try to keep the project going but ultimately had to halt construction.

“We regret that stopping work was the only viable option at this point in time,” Skanska USA Executive Vice President Tom Webb said in a statement Tuesday. “We are confident that they will find the funding to complete this work at some point in the future.”

The St. Nicholas shrine, meant as a salve for the faithful and a welcoming space for those wishing to reflect, was inspired by two Byzantine shrines in Istanbul, the Hagia Sophia and the Church of the Holy Savior in Chora. The building was to be sheathed in marble from quarries north of Athens, the vein of marble used to build the Parthenon.

The original St. Nicholas was far more modest. The building housed a tavern when Greek immigrants bought it in 1919 to use as a church. It was the only building not part of the trade center complex that was demolished after hijackers flew commercial jets into the towers.

# Christmas storm brings record snow to Erie, Pennsylvania

ERIE, Pa. (AP) — A Christmas storm has dumped a record amount of snow on Erie, Pennsylvania, and surrounding areas.

The National Weather Service office in Cleveland says Monday’s storm brought 34 inches of snow, an all-time daily snowfall record for Erie.

Another 19 inches fell before dawn Tuesday, bringing the total to 53 inches, the greatest two-day total in commonwealth

history. The previous record was the 44 inches that fell in Morgantown in March 1958.

Erie issued a snow emergency, citing “dangerous and impassable” roads. It asked residents to stay off streets until the snow stops and roads can reopen.

State police and the state Department of Transportation are urging people to avoid travel, citing poor visibility and deteriorating conditions.





# Man held in Phoenix killings of estranged wife, 2 kids

PHOENIX (AP) — A man accused in the Christmas day shooting of his estranged wife and their two children was held without bail Tuesday on three counts of first-degree murder following an afternoon of violence that culminated in a night-time shootout with police officers.

Maricopa County Superior Court records filed Tuesday show Anthony Milan Ross, 45, was also charged with multiple counts of aggravated assault and assault against a police officer in the Monday afternoon mayhem.

Police responding to a report of gunfire arrived at the Phoenix apartment complex where the shooting had taken place to find the body of Ross' estranged wife, 38-year-old Iris Ross, outside. Officers later found the bodies of their 11-year-old son Nigel Ross, and their 10-month-old daughter Anora Ross inside the apartment where the father had barricaded himself.

Police tried to talk to Ross when he was inside the unit, Sgt. Jonathan Howard said. Several hours later, Ross indicated he had killed the two children and began shooting at officers, said authorities. After a brief gunbattle, he was taken into custody.

Ross was not hurt, Howard said. One officer was injured by shrapnel and taken to the hospital in stable condition.

It was unclear where Ross was currently living. Police had initially indicated he no longer lived at the complex and was visiting the area for the holidays, but court documents listed the apartment address as his residence.

Police did not give a motive for the shooting that they said they were investigating as a domestic violence incident.

## Longtime local television news anchor in Buffalo dies at 87

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — A longtime local television news anchor in Buffalo, New York, known for his “rapid-fire delivery and famous alliteration” has died. Irv Weinstein was 87.WKBW-TV, where Weinstein had worked for 34 years, says he died Tuesday in Costa Mesa, California, after a long battle with Lou Gehrig’s disease, also called amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS.The television station says Weinstein was hired by WKBW-Radio as a newscaster and news director in 1958. Six years later, he became an anchor and news director at WKBW-TV. He retired on Dec. 31, 1998, a day that was proclaimed .

It was not clear if Ross had a lawyer who could speak on his behalf.

A status conference was set to be held at Maricopa County Superior Court on the morning of Jan. 3, and a preliminary hearing was scheduled for the morning of Jan. 5.

On the afternoon of the shooting, tactical units escorted residents from the area, and some clustered outside a convenience store for hours until the standoff ended. Others returning home weren’t allowed in.

“It’s kind of crazy, just because it’s supposed to be a holiday for your family and getting together,” Sierra Scott, whose mother lives at the apartment complex, told Phoenix news station KSAZ-TV.



In this Monday, Dec. 25, 2017, photo provided by Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office shows suspect Anthony Ross in Phoenix, Ariz. Ross is accused of shooting and killing his estranged wife and their two children at a Phoenix apartment complex before getting into a Christmas Day shootout with officers, authorities said Tuesday, Dec. 26.

(Maricopa County Sheriffs Office via AP)



American Samoa  
Power Authority

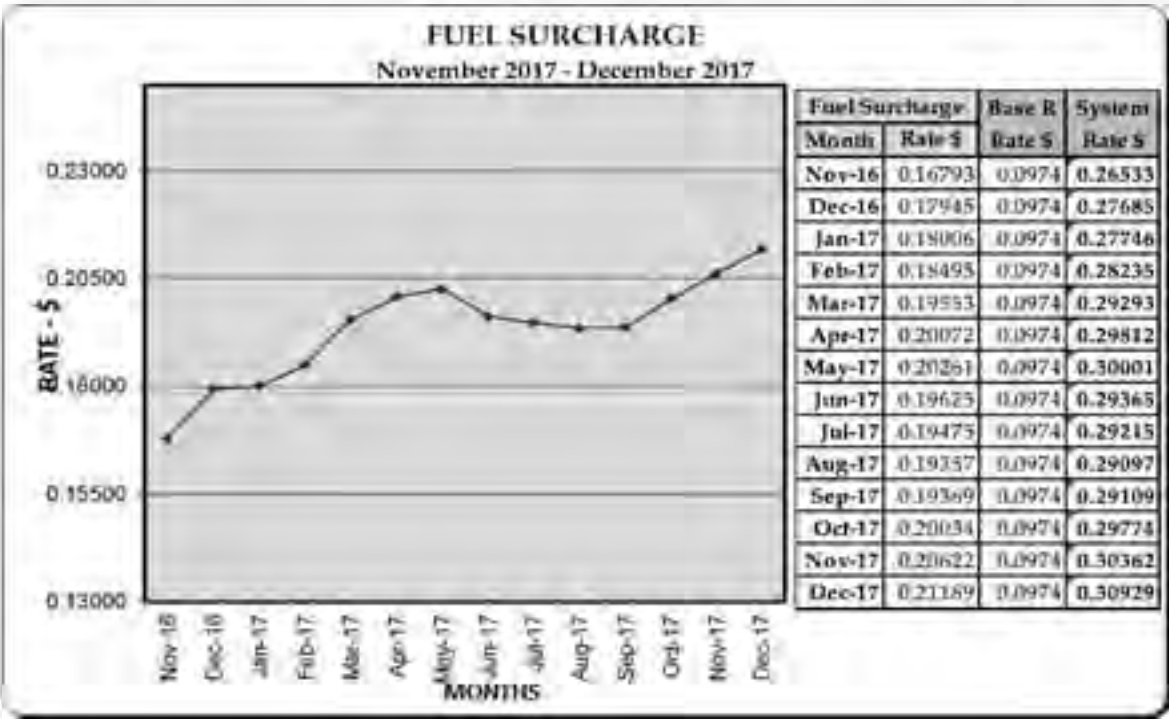
December 15, 2017

## Monthly Fuel Surcharge Notification

The American Samoa Power Authority is informing its customers about the monthly fuel surcharge rate, which is the direct cost of fuel to generate electricity. The charge for each kilowatt hour (kWh) comprises the “base rate” and the “fuel surcharge rate.”

The base rate, which remains the same monthly for all electric customer classes, pays for ASPA’s operating costs and for infrastructure upgrades needed to get power to your home and business.

The fuel surcharge rate changes monthly due to fluctuating fuel costs. The fuel surcharge is approximately 70%-75% of the total kWh price. This is considered a “pass-through” revenue because it goes directly to pay the local fuel suppliers for diesel fuel consumed at the five power plants in Tutuila, Manua and Aunuu.



The fuel surcharge rate also includes the “Renewable Reduction” from electricity produced by the ASPA Photo Voltaic panels. The avoided fuel costs or fuel being saved from producing electricity through the Photo Voltaic panels, is passed on to customers as the “Renewable

Fuel Surcharge and System Rate for December 2017			
Rate - \$	Residential	Small General	Large General
Calculated Fuel Surcharge	0.22190	0.22190	0.2219
Renewable Reduction	-0.01001	-0.01001	-0.01001
Fuel Surcharge	0.21189	0.21189	0.21189
Fixed Electric Base Rate	0.09740	0.10650	0.08960
Electric System Rate (kWh)	0.30929	0.31839	0.30149

Reduction” savings. There are seven active sites, with more sites in progress to increase ASPA’s renewable energy portfolio. As ASPA increases renewable energy capacity, more savings will be realized and passed on to customers.



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# Asian stocks mixed in quiet holiday trading

TOKYO (AP) — Asian indexes were mixed Wednesday in quiet holiday trading after oil prices erased some of its recent gains and the region generally shrugged off the dip in technology stocks on Wall Street.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 inched up less than 0.1 percent to 22,902.75 in morning trading, while Australia's S&P/ASX 200 added nearly 0.2 percent to 6,079.90. South Korea's Kospi slipped 0.3 percent to 2,421.05. Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 0.2 percent to 29,628.99, while the Shanghai Composite stood unchanged at 3,306.09.

WALL STREET: The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 2.84 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,680.50. The Dow Jones industrial average slid 7.85 points, or 0.03 percent, to 24,746.21. The Nasdaq lost 23.71 points, or 0.3 percent, to 6,936.25. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-

company stocks picked up 1.30 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,544.23.

APPLE FACTOR: Apple slid 2.5 percent on Wall Street overnight amid speculation the consumer electronics giant might cut its targets for sales of its latest iPhone. A Taiwanese newspaper had reported iPhone X sales targets may get cut amid weak sales, but that had already largely gotten figured in for Asian trading.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude dropped 22 cents to \$59.75 a barrel. It gained \$1.50 to \$59.97 on the New York Mercantile Exchange overnight. Brent crude, which is used to price international oils, slipped 33 cents to \$66.13.

CURRENCIES: The dollar fell slightly to 113.27 yen from 113.30 yen late Tuesday in Asia. The euro strengthened to \$1.1861 from \$1.1859.



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# Singer files sex assault complaint against former Trump aide

WASHINGTON (AP) — A singer and potential congressional candidate said Tuesday that she has filed a sexual assault complaint against President Donald Trump’s former campaign manager for hitting her twice on her buttocks during a Washington gathering in November.

Joy Villa, a Trump backer who wore a “Make America Great Again” dress at the Grammys this year, said she plans to meet with detectives in Washington next week about the complaint against Corey Lewandowski.

In a phone interview from Tampa, Florida, Villa said she was initially reluctant to come forward because she was worried about any backlash. But she said she called Washington’s Metropolitan Police Department on Christmas Eve after a friend who witnessed the incident spoke about it publicly, and other friends urged her to come forward.

“I didn’t know him at all,” Villa said about Lewandowski. “I only knew him by reputation. He broke my trust.”

She said she saw him at a gathering at the Trump International Hotel on the day after Thanksgiving, and said Lewandowski struck her “extremely hard” even after she told him to stop. She said she felt it was “disgusting and shocking and demeaning.”

Villa, who is considering a run for a Florida congressional seat, said she initially thought it was sexual harassment, but police told her that touching someone on any body part that is sexual in nature constituted sexual assault. She said she was told it was classified as a misdemeanor.

“I was initially fearful to come forward with this,” she said, adding that she did not want to bring shame or embarrassment on Lewandowski’s family or hers.

“I did nothing wrong,” Villa said. “I realized if he’s not going

to respond or apologize to me, I think it’s the right thing to do.”

Lewandowski did not respond to an email seeking comment.

Villa made news earlier this year when she wore a dress displaying Trump’s campaign slogan at the Grammys. She explained her decision to wear the dress in an Instagram post, writing, “You can either stand for what you believe in or fall for what you don’t.” She added, “agree to disagree.”

This is not the first time Lewandowski has faced police charges. In March 2016 he was charged with misdemeanor battery for an altercation involving a female reporter after a news conference in Florida. The charges were later dropped.

Trump fired him as campaign manager in June 2016.



Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate Doug Jones thanks supporters as he holds his wife Louise’s hand Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017, in Birmingham, Ala. In a stunning victory aided by scandal, Jones won Alabama’s special Senate election on Tuesday, beating back history, an embattled Republican opponent and President Donald Trump, who urgently endorsed GOP rebel Roy Moore despite a litany of sexual misconduct allegations.

(AP Photo/John Bazemore)

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*FILE - In this July 21, 2017, file photo, Anthony Scaramucci, right, blows a kiss after answering questions during the press briefing in the Brady Press Briefing room of the White House in Washington. For an administration that has spent 2017 throwing off headlines at a stunningly dizzying pace, the frenetic fortnight in the second half of July reached an unparalleled breakneck speed. Set amid the backdrop of a president grappling with his deepest insecurities, the West Wing, ’s breakdown in policy collided with its collapse in personnel and acted as a crucial inflection point for Donald Trump, ’s first year in office. Scaramucci stepped off the stage and aimed to usher in a new era for a White House that had been gripped with in-fighting, drowning in bad media coverage and struggling to maintain its credibility with the public while pleasing a demanding audience of one. He lasted 11 days.*

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais, File )



## AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Department of Academic Affairs

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**Position Title:** TED/ASDOE RECRUITER/DATA  
**Employment Status:** One Year Contract

### General Description:

Main course of work: Recruiting in-service teachers to attend ASTEP and keep data of teacher’s enrollment and participation semesterly.

### Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Coordinate and schedule school site visits to high schools, elementary schools both public and private to recruit possible candidates for Associate of Arts (A.A.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) program.
- Design and create power point presentations pertaining to A.A./B.Ed. programs for school site visitations.
- Participate in informational presentations at school sites to high school juniors and seniors and/or parents for recruiting purposes to include: Setting up projector and power point presentation, distributing hand-outs of program information, presenting, making available a sign-up sheet that includes contact information for those interested, and doing follow up contacts with school administrators.
- Design, develop and distribute approved educational information/advertisements/brochures, and track the effectiveness of targeted education and outreach campaigns. This will include free community advertisements on radio and television, if available, and any other creative recruiting ways and means that can be implemented.
- Develop good working relationships with ASDOE Secondary and Elementary leaders and Teacher Quality to encourage and pipeline in-service teachers into the program.
- Create data sheets on the demographics of the in-service population as needed; male, female, age, village, school, years of experience, certified, non-certified, coursework, etc.
- Keep raw data on pre-service and in-service teachers to monitor progress in the program.
- Interpret and provide disaggregated data according to the needs of the program to show success rates and progress of students as well as to provide DOE with data as required.
- Participate in workshops and set up informational booth at various venues throughout the community.
- Work with TED’s Lumana’i Educators Association (LEA) for recruiting purposes.
- Collaborate closely with TED Administrative Assistant on pipelining in-service and pre-service students into program
- Write and submit a report on progress of in-service population to Director of TED. Maintain a record of all teachers recruited in the program.
- Make copies of all literature pertaining to recruiting/outreach and maintain a filing system of all correspondence.
- Answer phones and direct calls to appropriate staff or faculty, assist with registration process, and assist Administrator Assistant when and where needed.
- Keep travel log and sign in sheets for recruiting purposes, run errands on/off campus pertaining to TED matters, provide a weekly schedule when actively visiting school sites, and perform other duties as assigned.

### Minimum Requirements:

- Some College or Associate’s Degree
- A combination of work experience including training and education may be substituted for degree
- 2-5 years of relevant experience
- Professional knowledge in Public Relations
- Typing skills and ability to use WP and Excel Software

**Salary:** Salary to be commensurate with experience, qualification, and credentials.

**Application Deadline:** December 27, 2017 no later than 4:00pm.

Applications are available from American Samoa Community College, Human Resources Office at 699-9155 ext. 428/441/429, online at <http://www.amsamoa.edu/employmentopportunities.html> or by email at [ascchumanresources@amsamoa.edu](mailto:ascchumanresources@amsamoa.edu).

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# 13 Days in July: The Trump White House’s crucible

WASHINGTON (AP) — They were the 13 days that transformed the White House.

Even for an administration that spent most of 2017 throwing off headlines at a dizzying pace, events in the second half of July unfolded at breakneck speed. They encapsulated both the promise and peril of President Donald Trump’s first year in office — and yielded aftershocks that reverberate within the White House even as the calendar turns to 2018.

The two-week span laid bare the splintering of Trump’s relationships with two influential Cabinet members, foreshadowed the reach of the Russia probe into the interior of his orbit; saw the dramatic, last-minute defeat of one of the president’s signature campaign promises; and featured a senior staff shakeup that reset the rhythms of this presidency.

From the outside, it was an unruly stretch that threatened to turn the White House into a sideshow. Inside the West Wing, the chaotic days between July 19-31 stand as a panicked memory but also one that also paved the way for future successes, according to nearly two dozen administration officials, outside advisers and lawmakers. Most of those interviewed for this account spoke anonymously because they were not authorized to talk publicly about private discussions.

For the record, though: “That was the extreme,” said former press secretary Sean Spicer.

### THE KISS

His suit perfect and his hair just so, Anthony Scaramucci lifted his right hand off the briefing room podium and blew a kiss to the slack-jawed White House press corps.

Trump’s new communications director, known to his friends as the Mooch, made his dramatic debut on July 21 and aimed to usher in a new era at a White House riven by in-fighting, drowning in bad press and struggling to maintain credibility.

He lasted 11 days.

Scaramucci’s shockingly brief tenure — some White House aides have taken to calling a short period of time a “Mooch” — underscored the drama that dominated and frequently paralyzed the West Wing.

This was a White House where aides undermined each other with blind items in the press and jockeyed for face time with a president who left the Oval Office door open. Self-proclaimed “nationalists,” led by chief strategist Steve Bannon, were pitted against more centrist “globalists,” who included Trump’s powerful

adviser and son-in-law Jared Kushner.

How the rivalries played out in the press was particularly important for Trump, the former reality TV star who consumes hours of cable news each day. For months, he demanded that his schedule be arranged so he could watch the daily White House press briefing, often barking at aides about what he was seeing in between sips of Diet Coke in his private dining room. Some of his rants were about the “fake” news media. But many were about Spicer, whom Trump believed failed to adequately defend him — or to look the part. Long believing he was his own best spokesman, Trump told one confidant that he saw something of himself in Scaramucci, a rich, fast-talking New York hedge fund manager who excelled on television. Within hours of when Scaramucci was hired, Spicer quit.

That was only the beginning of the drama: Scaramucci fired one staffer and threatened to push others out, including the entire press shop. He vowed to cut down on leaks, but many in the White House believed that was a cover story for his own vengeful agenda. Believing that Bannon and White House chief of staff Reince Priebus had initially blocked his entrance to the White House, Scaramucci moved to oust them, culminating in a New Yorker interview in which he graphically cursed out both men.

Scaramucci himself was pushed out the door days later. Scaramucci’s expletive-laden interview was only part of the problem.

Trump was unwilling to share the spotlight with an aide, and came to believe Scaramucci had forgotten his place.

### THE TANK

Tension was thick in the air as Trump and several top advisers strode out of a windowless room at the Pentagon on July 20 and climbed into a waiting motorcade.

Over the previous 150 minutes, top U.S. officials had explained to the president the critical importance of forward worldwide deployments of U.S. military, intelligence and diplomatic assets. For months, Trump had questioned why the U.S. government needed “so many people” abroad and suggested that he wanted to reduce its footprint, an idea that triggered alarm in capitals around the globe. Armed with charts, maps and diagrams, Defense Secretary James Mattis, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and others schooled Trump with talking points and commentary sure to click with the former businessman.



# Vietnam to try former oil executives in widened crackdown

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — Vietnam says it will put on trial nearly two dozen former senior oil executives as communist authorities widen their crackdown on corruption.

Among those facing charges are Dinh La Thang, a former member of the all-powerful Communist Party Politburo and a former head of state energy giant PetroVietnam, and Trinh Xuan Thanh, a former chairman of the board of a subsidiary of PetroVietnam.

Germany accuses Vietnamese intelligence services of kidnapping Thanh near a park in Berlin and bringing him back home. He could face the death penalty if convicted of embezzlement.

Thang faces up to 20 years in prison if found guilty.

The official Vietnam News Agency says the two men will go on trial along with 20 others on Jan. 8.

The trials are expected to last three weeks.



*In this Friday, Dec. 8, 2017, photo, Christians pray as evangelist Franklin Graham preaches in Hanoi, Vietnam. More than 10,000 Vietnamese have filled up a stadium in a rare Christian evangelistic event led by the Rev. Franklin Graham, who says he wants the communist government to consider Christians its best citizens.*

(AP Photo/Hau Dinh)

# Treasury issues sanctions against 2 North Korean officials

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Treasury Department issued sanctions Tuesday against two officials it describes as “key leaders of North Korea’s unlawful weapons programs.”

The sanctions against Kim Jong Sik and Ri Pyong Chol block them from any property or interests in property within U.S. jurisdiction, and prohibit them from transactions with American citizens.

Treasury said the men are senior officials in North Korea’s Munitions Industry Department.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said the sanctions are part of the United States’ “maximum pressure campaign” to isolate North Korea and “achieve a fully denuclearized Korean Peninsula.”

The United Nations Security Council unanimously approved tough new sanctions against North Korea on Friday in response to its latest launch of a ballistic missile, which Pyongyang says is capable of reaching the U.S. mainland.

Baik Tae-hyun, spokesman of South Korea’s Unification Ministry, expressed hope Wednesday that the continuing campaign of sanctions and pressure will eventually force North Korea into “making the right decision” and engaging in dialogue over its nuclear program.

Baik noted it was the seventh time the U.S. Treasury has imposed unilateral sanctions against the North since the start of President Donald Trump’s administration.

Baik also pointed out that the two North Koreans had already been under U.N. Security Council sanctions.



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## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

**RFP:** Financial and Single Audit Services for 2017-2019  
**Approved to issuance by:** Ruth Matagi-Fa’atili; DBAS President  
**Date of issuance:** Dec 1, 2017  
**Date & Time Due:** December 30, 2017  
No later than 2:00 pm local time

DBAS requests proposals for financial audits and the related single audits for a period of three years, beginning with the audit of fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2019. Fiscal and calendar years are coincident at DBAS.

**DOCUMENT**

DBAS requests proposals for financial audits and the related single audits for a period of three years, beginning with the audit of fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2019. Fiscal and calendar years are coincident at DBAS.

Document: Requests for proposal packet outlining requirements will be available for pick up at DBAS on Friday Dec 1, 2017 or emailing [charmaine@dbas.as](mailto:charmaine@dbas.as) for information regarding the RFP. It can also be accessed through the DBAS website: [www.dbas.as](http://www.dbas.as) (click public notice).

The Request for Proposals (RFP) describes the specifications for the services to be provided in sufficient details to permit competition and allow the interested party to properly respond to the RFP.

This RFP is issued under Title 28, Chapter 1, of the American Samoa Code Annotated.

DBAS invites the submission of proposals to include pricing and other details as indicated in the specifications. Attachments will be provided as an aid in presenting a comprehensive proposal consistent with the requirements of DBAS.

DBAS will select a contractor who best meets the needs of DBAS. The factors for selection will include, but not be limited to the following: understanding of the requirements of the financial and single auditors; verifiable ability to perform well; good reputation; flexibility, including ability to respond quickly to needs of a small client in a remote location and throughout the year; and reasonability of costs.

The proposals will be reviewed by a committee consisting of representatives from DBAS management and board. The committee may request interviews with potential contractors after reviewing the proposals before the final selection is made.

Submission: Proposals must be received by DBAS no later than 2:00pm local time on December 30, 2017. They may be mailed or hand delivered in a sealed envelope to:

Development Bank of American Samoa  
PO BOX 9  
Attention: Charmaine Faleaana  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

They may also be emailed to [charmaine@dbas.as](mailto:charmaine@dbas.as), as an attachment in Word Format with a confirming email required to confirm receipt; or faxed to DBAS at (684) 633-1163 with a confirming fax to confirm receipt. The original is to follow by airmail first class.





FILE - This file photo provided by the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office in Wichita, Kan., shows Miranda Miller, the mother of Evan C. Brewer whose remains were discovered encased in concrete Sept. 2, 2017, inside the Wichita house where she once lived. Miller, and her boyfriend, Stephen Bodine were charged Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2017, with first-degree murder in the death of 3-year-old Brewer.

(Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office via AP, File)



**American Samoa Government  
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)  
RFP-022-2018**

**Issuance Date: December 20, 2017**

**Date & Time Due: January 17, 2018**

**No later than 2:00p.m (local time)**

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Proposals (RFP) from qualified firms to provide:  
**"Tecnical Support Services: Island-Wide Land Surveying Services"**

**Submission**

Original and five copies of the Qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: "RFP: Technical Support Services: Island-Wide Land Surveying Services." Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), January 17, 2018:

**Office of Procurement  
American Samoa Government  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
Attn: Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton, CPO**

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 Scope of Work outlining the proposal requiements is available at the Office of Procurement, Tafuna, American Samoa, during normal working hours.

**Review**

Request for Proposal data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement Officer, Office of Procurement, ASG.

**Right of Rejection**

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

**DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON**  
Chief Procurement Officer

Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action

# Police: Video captured abuse of boy found dead in concrete

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Video images of a 3-year-old Wichita boy being severely abused months before his body was found encased in concrete in the home where he lived with his mother and her boyfriend were described in the police documents backing up the mother's and boyfriend's arrest.

The images appear to show the abuse was happening while the boy's father was frantically trying to get the authorities to intervene.

Among the images is one of Evan Brewer being kept nude on a concrete floor with a belt around his neck and his hands tied behind his back, according to a police affidavit released last week in the arrest of his mother, Miranda Miller, and her boyfriend, Stephen Bodine, The Wichita Eagle reported. That image was time-stamped March 12, which was about two months before authorities believe the boy died.

Miller and Bodine are charged with murder. Mark Orr, who has served as their attorney, didn't immediately reply to a Tuesday voicemail from The Associated Press seeking comment.

Amid a custody battle, Evan's father, Carlo Brewer, contacted the Kansas Department for Children and Families and police with concerns. Although some police and one judge did everything they could to help Evan, the rest of the child protection system failed the boy, said Shayla Johnston, a Brewer family spokeswoman.

The new leader of DCF, Secretary Gina Meier-Hummel, is calling for a thorough review of the agency, including how to better prevent the deaths of chil-

dren in contact with the agency.

"We are bound by court order to not discuss case specifics once the records have been sealed, as they have in this case," DCF said in a statement. "But as is clear from the affidavit, this innocent child died an unspeakable death for which there can be no excuse."

In addition to the video images time-stamped March 12, there was a May 19 video showing more abuse. It isn't clear why the abuse was recorded.

Evan's family is horrified by the abuse described in the affidavit, Johnston said. From March 13 until May 2, DCF received four reports that Evan was being abused, she said.

"I consider that torture," said Johnston, an attorney and a cousin of Evan's father.

Carlo Brewer obtained a protective order prohibiting Bodine from being around Evan on May 4 and another order on May 18 against Miller requiring that the boy be turned over to his father, Johnston said.

The family thinks Evan died between May 8, when he was photographed alive, and May 26, when the affidavit says Miller bought concrete and a trowel.

On Sept. 2, the landlord of the home where Miller and Bodine had been living found Evan's body encased in a slab of concrete in the laundry room. He was wrapped in a bed sheet with Ninja Turtle characters, the affidavit says.

Evan Brewer's grandfather is former Wichita Mayor Carl Brewer, a current Democratic candidate for Kansas governor. Reforming DCF is among his priorities.

# Police: Man attempted to rob store with fake furniture gun

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — Police say a man who tried and failed to rob an Ohio convenience store with a fake gun made from pieces of furniture has been charged with robbery.

Akron police say the man walked into a local Circle K store Monday afternoon waving what appeared to be a rifle and demanding cash. An employee realized the rifle was a fake and confronted the man with the

help of three customers.

The man tried to flee but was subdued and detained by the people in the store until police arrived. He has been charged with aggravated robbery and is scheduled to appear in municipal court Wednesday.

Police say the man had a pole, a fake scope, a spring and two table legs fastened together to look like a rifle.



# Man who killed mom, self wasn't allowed to have firearms

BETHLEHEM, Pa. (AP) — A man who killed his mother and then fired more than 100 rounds at police as her body lay in a yard during an eight-hour standoff before killing himself wasn't permitted to have firearms and likely obtained them from his father, who killed himself days after the rampage, authorities said.

State police on Tuesday identified Marylouise Meixell-Moyer as the woman shot 11 times in Bethlehem Township by Justin Kephart.

Kephart began firing at police after an officer responded to a call about the woman's body on Friday, officials said. A bullet whizzed by an officer's head as he peeked from behind a parked car as he tried to figure out where the shots were coming from.

Police called in an armored police vehicle to the quiet suburb about 55 miles (90 kilometers) north of Philadelphia as authorities locked down the area. But Kephart did not relent,

shooting continuously at police from inside the house.

Officials don't know what caused the rampage but said Kephart had some "ongoing issues" with his mother and called his father to tell him that he'd killed her, Northampton County District Attorney John Morganelli said.

"It's hard to get in the mind of someone like this," Morganelli said, adding that the scene was like a "war zone."

Police found Kephart with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head, officials said. Surrounding his body were two semi-automatic rifles, a shotgun and dozens of spent rounds.

Authorities said Kephart had a criminal record that should have prevented him from obtaining a gun but said he likely got the weapons from his father.

Kephart's father, Dale C. Kephart, killed himself on Christmas Day, a coroner's office in a neighboring county said.

# Burglary charges dropped against Nebraska bounty hunter

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A judge has dismissed a burglary charge against a bounty hunter who broke into and searched an Omaha family's home before realizing he was in the wrong house.

Douglas County District Judge Shelly Stratman ruled that Duane Wilson's actions weren't out of line with court rulings that govern the actions of bounty hunters.

"If the state desires to curtail the broad powers of bail bondsmen, then it ought to do so legislatively rather than through selective criminal prosecution," Stratman said in her ruling.

Douglas County Attorney Don Kleine told the Omaha World-Herald that he plans to appeal the ruling. He argued that fugitives should be apprehended by officers in the Metro Area Fugitive Task Force, not by "armed vigilantes."

Kleine said he might request that the Legislature create more laws pertaining to bounty hunters.

"When you allow people to act as vigilantes, it can put a lot of innocent people in jeopardy," Kleine said. "I'm going

to do everything I possibly can to prevent this activity from going on."

Wilson, 25, works for Gallagher Bail Bonds in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Police documents show Gallagher was looking for a 17-year-old who didn't show up to court after being bailed out of jail. Wilson broke into a family's home Jan. 30 intending to catch the teen.

"This isn't the house of the person who skipped bail," Kleine said. "It's the house of a family who was totally innocent and was terrorized. Something very bad could have happened."

The family said Wilson searched the house with a gun drawn.

"Someone pushed open the front door with gun drawn," the police report said.

Wilson has denied the claims. In an interview with police, he said the family might have confused his flashlight for a handgun.

"Wilson stated that he knows that Nebraska does not recognize bounty hunters but he felt that he still had the right to enter the residence," the report said.



FILE - This undated file booking photo provided by the San Francisco Police Department shows Jose Ines Garcia Zarate. The Mexican man acquitted of murder but convicted of illegal gun possession for the shooting death of a San Francisco woman that sparked an immigration debate is seeking a new trial for the firearm charge. Lawyers for Zarate said Thursday, Dec. 14, 2017, that the judge presiding over the murder trial failed to properly instruct jurors before they acquitted him of killing Kate Steinle in 2015.

(San Francisco Police Department via AP, File)



**DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AMERICAN SAMOA**  
P. O. BOX 9, Pago Pago A. S. 96799  
Office: (684) 633-4031 Fax: (684) 633-1163.  
Website: [www.dbas.as](http://www.dbas.as)

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**Position: LEGAL COUNSEL**

**Responsibilities:**

- Provide legal advice to the Board, management and staff on all matters pertinent to the Development Bank of American Samoa.
- Provide legal representation of the Development Bank of American Samoa before American Samoa Courts, Legislature and executive departments.
- Supervise the Legal Department and Legal Department staff.
- Provide in-house advice on borrower and lender compliance.
- Design and implement appropriate legal remedies, including suit and foreclosure, for delinquent loans referred to the Legal Department.
- Draft contracts, leases, manuals, policies, loan documents and other DBAS documents for the Development Bank of American Samoa.

This position supervises Legal Dept. Manager and Legal Collection Officers while reporting to the President.

### QUALIFICATIONS

**Education/Experience/Qualification:**

Juris Doctor degree from an ABA accredited law school with five to seven (5-7) years experience as an attorney in relevant areas of practice. Must be admitted to practice in any state and a member in good standing of a state bar. Must be eligible for admission to practice in American Samoa and must either be admitted to practice and licensed to practice in American Samoa or obtain admission and license to practice within thirty days of commencement of employment. All hired employees are subject to background and credit checks.

**Skills/Abilities:**

- Excellent problem solving, analytical and negotiating skills. Strong leadership, management and supervisory skills.
- Excellent interviewing, communications and public relations skills.
- Excellent ability to work with President, Bank Management and Development Bank Board of Directors.
- Proficient in computer applications, including MS Word and MS Excel.

Please submit your Resume & Application to the Development Bank of American Samoa located in Pago Pago - 2nd floor. This job posting will expire January 15, 2018 @ 4:00pm.







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## 2018 SPRING SEMESTER DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Placement Test</b>	<b>January 3 - 4</b>
<b>Late Placement Test</b>	<b>January 5</b>
<b>Registration (New Students Only)</b>	<b>January 10</b>
<b>Registration (New/Continuing/Returning)</b>	<b>January 11 - 12</b>
<b>Instruction Begins</b>	<b>January 16</b>
<b>Late Registration</b>	<b>January 16 - 17</b>



**For more information regarding 2018 Spring semester dates, call 699-9155 ext. 333, 380 or 313, email [info@amsamoa.edu](mailto:info@amsamoa.edu), or visit [www.amsamoa.edu](http://www.amsamoa.edu) online.**