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GOVERNOR

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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 007-2014

**AN ORDER CREATING THE ISLAND WIDE CLEANUP COMMITTEE TO
DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A STRATEGIC CLEANUP PLAN FOR THE
TERRITORY**

Section 1. Authority

This Executive Order is issued under the authority granted to the Governor under Article IV, Sections 6 & 7 of the Revised Constitution of American Samoa and Section 4.0111 of the American Samoa Code Annotated.

Section 2. Preamble

WHEREAS, American Samoa's natural beauty is marred by the presence of unsightly litter on land, in streams, beaches, reefs, harbors and in the ocean; and,

WHEREAS, unsightly litter is a common complaint of residents as well as visitors to the territory even as American Samoa endeavors to encourage tourism as part of its economic development strategy; and,

WHEREAS, the accumulation of litter such as junk vehicles, tires, bottles, cans, appliances, computers, scrap metal, plastic containers, wrappers and other non-biodegradable wastes damage the environment including streams, wetlands, reefs and the ocean; and,

WHEREAS, such damage includes injury or death of sea life, including fish, crustaceans, mammals, birds, corals and other residents of the reefs—all creatures vital directly or indirectly for the sustenance of human life; and,

WHEREAS, the accumulation of litter results in standing water that serves as breeding grounds for mosquitoes which are vectors for diseases such as filariasis, dengue, chikungunya, vika, and other new and exotic mosquito borne diseases introduced into the territory; and,

WHEREAS, the mindset of the people of the territory must be changed in order to stop the bad habit of littering, to appreciate and respect the natural beauty of our territory, and to have pride in our environment whether in one's own village or in common areas; and,

WHEREAS, in the religious and cultural traditions of the Samoan people cleanliness is next to godliness;

NOW THEREFORE, I, LOLO MATALASI MOLIGA, Governor of American Samoa, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Revised Constitution of American Samoa and Territorial statutes passed pursuant thereto, hereby execute this Order.

Section 3. Establishment of the Island Wide Clean-up Committee

There is established the Island Wide Clean-up Committee (IWCC), which shall be chaired by the Executive Director of the American Samoa Power Authority and co-chaired by the Director of the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency. Other members are the heads of the Department of Public Safety, Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Commerce, Department of Marine & Wildlife Resources, Department of Youth & Women's Affairs, Department of Public Works, Office of Public Information, Office of the Attorney General, Office of Samoan Affairs, a representative from the Clergy and one from the Chamber of Commerce. Senior employees who may represent each director at IWCC meetings must possess a passion to improve the quality of life of the community through a clean, litter-free Territory.

Section 4. Powers and Duties of the IWCC

The IWCC shall have the following authority & responsibilities:

- (1) Organize clean-ups of the Territory on a regular basis, ideally, with the participation of the entire community and not just government. Groups or individuals are not to be compensated for cleaning their own areas of responsibility whether buildings or villages.
- (2) Maintain accurate records by weight and kind of solid waste disposed.
- (3) Promote programs that will change the behavior of the public, particularly children, so that a litter-free mentality is second nature to all in the community.
- (4) Educate and promote a clean territory through traditional and social media.
- (5) Enforce the present anti-litter laws strictly and propose new rules, regulations or laws that will serve to enhance the cleanliness of the island. These efforts may include development of more stringent laws, deputizing anti-litter enforcement officers or passage of a bottle deposit bill. The Commissioner of Public Safety is specifically tasked and reminded to enforce the anti-litter laws.
- (6) Meet at least bimonthly to gauge progress in making the Territory clean; develop new policies and propose rules that are enforceable.
- (7) Develop a strategic plan that incorporates the aforementioned points and which includes financing of IWCC programs.
- (8) Emphasize the fact this is an island wide effort, *ole tatou galuega fai faatasi*.

Section 5. Staffing

The Committee shall use the services of staff and equipment as needed and shall include the resources of ASEPA, DOC, DOH, DPW and ASPA as well as others.

Section 6. Effective Date

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon signing and shall remain in effect until further order of the Governor.

Dated: December 30, 2014

LOLO MATALASI MOLIGA


Governor of American Samoa