



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

MEDIA STATEMENT

February 10, 2026

Senator Shawn Gumataotao issued the following statement after concluding this afternoon's Oversight Hearing regarding the Guam Police Department (GPD):

"Today's discussion highlights the importance of building up our Guam Police Department through the provision of uniformed officers and support personnel complemented with the critical resources - village precincts, police vehicles, firearms, equipment, and supplies - GPD needs to effectively and efficiently do its work.

The responsibility to fund the needs of GPD lies with this Branch of Government. However, our ability to fulfill this obligation requires the department and the Executive Branch to be honest and transparent with us. According to published financials from the Executive Branch, GPD recorded approximately \$8 million in unexpended funds as of September 30, 2025, from an estimated \$50 million across appropriations authorized in Fiscal Year 2025. During today's Oversight Hearing, GPD testified that the department has 201 vacancies representing an unfunded cost of approximately \$8.8 million. In addition to personnel requirements, GPD stated that funding is needed for the replacement of its Crime Lab HVAC System.

This Committee takes its role seriously and we will continue working closely with GPD in the weeks and months ahead on policies that strengthen the delivery of police services for Guam's 170,000 citizens. The Committee has demonstrated during the past 13 months that we will push forward with measures that help our police department and the broader public safety and law enforcement community - through policies that prioritize unused public land for additional precincts and an emergency communications center; temporary POST Certification for eligible applicants; and, improvements to our emergency reporting system.

The Committee appreciates Chief Stephen Ignacio's and his Command Staff's commitment to continue working together in support of the hardworking women and men of GPD as they protect life and property and prevent crime through the enforcement of laws across our 19 municipalities."

For more information, please contact Senator Gumataotao's office at (671) 647-1409/1411 or via email at office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov.