



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

MEDIA STATEMENT

February 20, 2026

Senator Shawn Gumataotao issued the following statement after concluding this morning's Oversight Hearing regarding the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission:

“The POST Commission was created nearly 30 years ago to assure Guam citizens that our peace officers meet prescribed standards of competency and ethical behavior consistent with our island community's expectations regarding officer performance and conduct.

Today's discussion highlighted immediate and long-term challenges facing the POST Commission including developing a General Force Structure based on a comprehensive review of job requirements, compensation, and benefits across Government of Guam public safety and law enforcement agencies. The issue of decertification of POST-certified individuals due to serious misconduct or criminal conviction, and the development of corresponding decertification policies and procedures, have yet to be addressed.

Across the country, POST academies generally provide standardized training for law enforcement organizations; Guam is no different. The law enforcement agency members of the Guam POST Commission strive to be professional. All the members agree that training is an essential component for professionalizing this important occupation in our island community. The work of our peace officers is serious, dangerous, and not for everyone.

No one is compelled to choose the profession of a police officer, but having chosen it, everyone is obliged to live up to the standard of its requirements. Not my words. Those are the words of the 30th President of the United States Calvin Coolidge.

Moving forward, it remains our obligation as a government to ensure that individuals who swear an oath to uphold and comply with our nation's laws and regulations and their respective peace officer code of conduct are always held to the highest standards of integrity and professionalism. Accordingly, the POST Commission must have the resources it needs to guarantee that individuals desiring to become peace officers are vetted, trained, and continue to be in good standing throughout their public service.”

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