



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

MEDIA STATEMENT

March 9, 2026

Senator Shawn Gumataotao issued the following statement after conducting this morning's Oversight Hearing regarding the Department of Corrections (DOC). The Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard (Committee) will continue today's Oversight Hearing on DOC at a later date and will provide Public Notices accordingly.

"The Committee issued and DOC Director Fred Bordallo, Jr. confirmed receipt of the First Notice of today's Oversight Hearing. The Director also received a Legislative Subpoena requiring his presence at today's Oversight Hearing and his submission of the Government of Guam-U.S. Marshals Service Agreement for the confinement of federal inmates and detainees. Director Bordallo did not participate in today's Oversight Hearing, he did not provide a copy of the Government of Guam-U.S. Marshals Service Agreement, and he did not inform the Committee that he was unable to attend today's Oversight Hearing. The Committee learned this morning through DOC Major Antone Aguon that Director Bordallo is out sick. DOC Warden Alan Borja informed the Committee that Director Bordallo plans to resign from his position at the end of this month.

Notwithstanding Director Bordallo's failure to appear at today's Oversight Hearing, this second Oversight Hearing on DOC since December 2025 highlights the work needed going forward to expedite facility repairs and develop a new prison pursuant to law. The decision of the U.S. District Court of Guam in December 2025 to transfer federal detainees from the *Hagåtña* Detention Center to another facility confirms what DOC leadership has known all along but has failed to address. The Committee recognizes the impact any decision made by the federal judiciary to transfer federal detainees from DOC facilities to non-DOC facilities will have on the department's operations and its credibility as a partner of the Federal Government.

The Public Safety Committee acknowledges the attention policymakers have given to the urgent safety and health concerns that have plagued DOC for many years. That recognition translated into public policy with the enactment of the DOC Modernization Act, followed by a \$5 million General Fund appropriation in FY 2025, an authorization for DOC to use \$1 million from that same funding source for immediate facility repairs, and a \$5 million appropriation from unappropriated excess FY 2026 General Fund collections in the current year. All 5 members of the Public Safety Committee and 6 of our colleagues supported this through our *Yea* vote for the FY 2026 Budget Bill and subsequent Override of the Governor's Veto.

Director Bordallo's lack of prioritization to improve conditions at DOC is not due to a lack of funding or legislative support. It is clear that Director Bordallo has failed to support his employees and his disregard of a Legislative Subpoena confirms that he has abandoned his responsibilities as the leader of DOC. Accordingly, the Committee will work with the Finance Committee and the full legislature to use the FY 2027 Budget to hold department leadership accountable for continuing to neglect the safety and health of DOC employees, inmates, and the People of Guam."

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