

# 39 cadets graduate from Pohnpei's Sixth Police Academy

By Bill Jaynes  
 The Kaselehlie Press

August 27, 2021

**Pohnpei**—The Pohnpei Department of Public Safety held a graduation ceremony for the 39 police officers graduating from the sixth Pohnpei Police Academy this morning at the Kolonia China Friendship gym. Included in this year's graduation were 170 sixth, seventh and eighth graders who participated in the new Junior Police program.

The program began with the members of the Junior Police program demonstrating their drill and ceremony skills and a pass

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## Improvements made after FSM government staffer points out numerous quarantine procedural flaws

All 69 passengers aboard most recent repatriation flight tested negative for COVID-19

By Bill Jaynes  
 The Kaselehlie Press

August 28, 2021

**Pohnpei**—On Thursday, while Pohnpei State Legislature's Committee on Health held an oversight committee hearing regarding problems at Pohnpei's quarantine facility, another United flight carrying 69 more repatriated FSM residents landed at Pohnpei International Airport. After Richard Clark, Special Assistant to the President for Information sent, an email sharing

his concerns with members of the FSM and the Pohnpei task force regarding the effectiveness of quarantine, the flight that had been scheduled to arrive on Monday was delayed until Thursday.

This afternoon, the Pohnpei Task Force shared the good news that all 69 passengers at the Medical Monitoring Area (MMA) tested negative for the COVID-19 virus.

Clark's August 18 email was based on his own observations as he and other members of the FSM government who

had been part of an FSM delegation to Hawaii underwent quarantine after their return.

During the oversight hearing, Chairman Shelten Neth said that during a briefing that morning, Pohnpei Department of Public Safety (DPS) officials told the legislature that improvements including monitored video cameras installed at the quarantine site had already been made. He said that DPS had also assigned four

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# Man arrested, criminally charged, for assassination threat against the President of the FSM

## FSM Information Services

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—Recently, a man was arrested and criminally charged in connection with a Facebook post threatening to assassinate the President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), His Excellency David W. Panuelo.

Criminal charges were filed against the Defendant under Title 11 of the FSM Code having to do with making threats of bodily harm, among others, in retaliation of a decision made in connection with the mandatory COVID-19 vaccination for all eligible FSM citizens residing in the FSM. President Panuelo issued a decree on August 10th, 2021, describing the enforcement mechanisms behind the Nation-wide vaccination mandate in a manner that would implement Congressional Resolution No. 22-33 passed by the 22nd FSM Congress on July 28th, 2021.

The Defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in Court. Prior to the arrest, the FSM National Police Investigators were able to link the Defendant to the Facebook

post made online making the threat of assassination against President Panuelo. The Investigators, in joint cooperation with the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (US FBI) et al., were able to reach out and secure critical pieces of information from Facebook, Google, and other relevant entities, regarding this matter.

Over the course of their duties, the National Prosecutors and Police Investigators asked the FSM Supreme Court for the issuance of a search warrant that would give authority under the law, and the rules of the Court, to search the residence, vehicle, and place of employment of the Defendant in connection with the illegal Facebook post. The Police Investigators were able to serve and execute the search warrant peacefully and safely.

After staying in jail during the weekend, the Defendant was ordered released on strict conditions pending Court trial and further proceeding in this case. The specific charges against the Defendant, who is presumed innocent until proven guilty, and whose charges are a matter

of public record upon their filing at the FSM Supreme Court, are with regards to Section 517 of Title 11 of the FSM Code (threats and other improper influence in official and political matters), Section 518 of Title 11 of the FSM Code (retaliation for past official action), Section 603 of Title 11 of the FSM Code (criminal mischief), Section 609 of Title 11 of the FSM Code (assault), and Section 701 of Title 11 of the FSM Code (deprivation of rights).

Not every decision the Government makes, such as the COVID-19 vaccine mandate, will be popular. It is healthy, proper, and appropriate for citizens to engage in spirited debate (i.e. the exchange of views) and dialectic (i.e. the art of investigating or discussing the truth of opinions) on topics of public interest. The FSM National Government encourages the public to freely express differing views on matters of public importance, to include the use of colorful and expressive language when one holds a particularly passionate view, as the Freedom of Expression is sacrosanct.

Making threats of bodily harm against any person, however, to include any public official for that matter, is prohibited and punishable as a felony by law. The highest penalty applicable for Threats and other Improper Influence in Official and Political Matters is up to 10 years.

The Panuelo-George administration

promotes transparency and accountability in public service, but the law cannot, will not, and does not tolerate threats of physical harm to citizens and residents, to include those directed against the Head of State and Head of Government.



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Bill Jaynes  
Managing Editor

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# US Embassy and IOM present grant awards to small business startups in Pohnpei



By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

August 24, 2021

**Pohnpei**—During a ceremony this morning at the U.S. Embassy in Pohnpei, U.S. Ambassador Carmen Cantor and Nathan Glancy, International Organization for Migration Chief of Party presented start-up awards for 12 business startups in Pohnpei. Each of the recipients received \$5000 for their new business. The grants were provided through the “Inspiring Women’s Advancement Through Collective Action (IWA) program.

IWA is a \$2,200,000 program with the intent to contribute towards increased local understanding, and demand, on removing barriers to gender equality in the FSM, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau, through diplomacy and galvanizing coordinated actions.

Ambassador Cantor said that the selection process was highly

competitive. They received 200 applications. Only 12 were selected in Pohnpei.

Ambassador Cantor and Nathan Glancy presented certificates to the 12 grantees. The actual grant money will be presented separately.

The names of the grantees and a summary of how the grant money will be used for their new businesses as described by the US Embassy follows:

**Anselynn Penias**—To purchase sewing machines and materials, empower and build capacity of community women, and teach how to sew and market products locally and for export.

**Delma Zarred**—To purchase necessary equipment and raw materials to start up a doughnut making business, teaching family members the same trait and starting up business.

**Reinaldo Panuel**—To create hand

woven crafts, molasses from coconut syrup, and wet salted fish. To empower community involvement and economic opportunities in Sapwuafik communities/island.

**Joseph/Erihne Manuel**—Sewing Skirts, empowering others to join in the tailoring business, creating events to showcase the Pohnpeian skirts.

**Bernarda Mathias**—Starting fresh mwaramwar business, partnering with flower farmers and purchasing equipment to sustain and prolong the local/fresh products.

**Fumiko Salomon**—To provide a community where home management is considered career management, laundromat services and job opportunities.

**Kesia Paulino**—To phase from family consumption gardening to start up gardening business. Job opportunities and/or equipment/tool purchases.

**Enoleen Thomas**—To empower the community to be a part of her tailoring business to meet the demands of skirts and to provide job opportunities and community engagement.

**Esther Anson**—To start up business in farming that will engage community and opportunity in this COVID-19 era along with sustainability and growth of green-house nursery.

**Julie Warren**—To start up a farming business, purchase supplies, hire and train employees in farming and to sustain the business.

**Mikel Bernardo**—To enhance family farm income, food security and hygiene through improved vegetable production utilizing piggery-based compost.

**Norleen Oliver**—To start up a consultancy business specializing in gender and social inclusion development, networking services, and to support grant writing services and capacity building.

Ambassador Cantor said that within

the next few months, the Embassy will be sponsoring a fair to show off the products of local businesses, including the businesses of the IWA grant recipients.

## ‘Historical’ Case found at MMA quarantine facility

*Pohnpei Enginkehlap*

August 17, 2021

**Pohnpei**--On August 17, 2021, Dr. Elizabeth Keller and Acting Chair of the Pohnpei COVID-19 Task Force, Mr. Patrick Carl advised Governor Oliver that COVID-19 testing conducted at MMA for the recently repatriated residents in quarantine for seven (7) days revealed one positive test for SARS CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The resident and roommate were immediately isolated and an investigation was conducted by the health staff. During the investigation, additional COVID-19 tests were conducted and the results were negative. All other residents including the roommate were tested negative for SARS CoV-2.

The case was isolated and determined to be a historical case meaning that the resident was previously infected and had fully recovered and was deemed non-infectious. The case and her roommate were isolated and monitored for an additional 7 days.

The public is advised to remain calm as this presents no risk to the community.

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## ...Quarantine

*Continued from front page*

officers to the site to enforce quarantine rules. He said that the officers will remain at the site for the entire duration of the quarantine.

According to DPS Director Patrick Carl, four officers were assigned to the site. However, one of the assigned officers was dismissed from the assignment before he arrived at the site due to a seriously ill child at home. He confirmed that CCTV cameras had been installed at the site.

Chairman Neth also said that DPS had issued citations to two government officials for alleged violations of quarantine and named names. However, this afternoon Director Carl confirmed that though DPS is conducting investigations into several allegations of quarantine violation, some of them involving government officials, none have yet been issued. It will issue citations if it finds cause after investigation but those investigations are not yet completed.

“The virus doesn’t pick and choose, but some government officials seem to think that they are immune,” Senator Herolyn Movick said in a statement related to the allegations. “We’re here to be sure that it (quarantine) works for all of us.”

She added that it would be easy to focus on the negatives of what has happened at the quarantine site but that the important thing to remember is that revelations had already contributed to big improvements. She gave her personal opinion that repatriations should continue but that they should be cut back to only one per month to give time to reset the quarantine site between quarantine periods.

Neth said that the task forces had inspected residences and given approval for the safe home quarantine of the FSM President, the US Ambassador, and for the Pohnpei Governor, should he ever require it. President Panuelo and the First Lady spent the quarantine period at home after their repatriation to the FSM.

However, Governor Reed Oliver has, in an email to his staff members and Chief of Staff made his intentions clear regarding his exemption from quarantine. “The Governor of Pohnpei and the First Lady will not go through anything different from what the normal regular citizens and residence will have to go through regarding quarantine- Governor and First

Lady of Pohnpei will be quarantined if they travel and return to Pohnpei and should follow protocol and should be quarantined at the MMA just like everyone else,” he wrote. “We cannot put together an SOP or protocol that doesn’t reflect the Governor of Pohnpei. So, any decision made for the Governor should be cleared and okayed by the Governor first- if not- we can ask ourselves, by whose authority that dictates that the Governor will be ‘home quarantined’, let alone (the fact that the) Governor now has no place that will qualify that a self-quarantine will be the best prevention area.”

Before the hearing closed, Clark, who is the Special Assistant to the President for Information outlined his email which Chairman Neth later shared in its entirety.

Clark pointed out that the person who drove repatriated passengers to the quarantine site went home after doing so and delivered gifts from repatriated people to several communities.

He provided several examples of abandonment of social distancing at the site such as a “feast” on the premises during which “10 to 20 people gathered together to eat from the same plate”. He noted groups of “men smoking cigarettes and passing the cigarettes to each other, thus exchanging saliva; children running around playing tag...without supervision; couples liaising outside my bathroom window to describe where they’ll engage in consensual sexual congress later that evening; government officials walking into other persons’ containers, sometimes on purpose and sometimes by accident; church services were held, sometimes demonstrated so very publicly.” For the last item, he provided a screen shot of a Facebook post with the caption “nothing beats Quarantine Church Service” posted by one of the participants in that service.

Clark wrote that every COVID-19 test he took in Guam involved swabbing both nostrils as the CDC recommends but that in Pohnpei, a swab was taken from only one nostril.

Clark’s email included a screen shot of the list of rules posted in the containers that serve as rooms. The first rule is that individuals must remain in their room for the entire duration of the quarantine... with daily supervised breaks which would be staggered. He wrote that in fact “you can walk around at your heart’s content.” He wrote that medical personnel did come around once, knocking on doors telling people not to do so, “but then it never came up literally again.”

He wrote that daily temperature checks did happen as required.

According to rule three, meals were to have been brought and left on the table outside of each room. In practice, meals were hand-delivered, sometimes by people wearing gloves and sometimes they wore no gloves.

The list said that a laundry bag would be provided for each room but in practice, there was no laundry bag and no protocol for laundry service.

The rules list said that people who need to contact the nursing staff could do so by calling numbers provided on alert forms but there were no alert forms and no documentation on how to use the phone provided in the container. Additionally, “the internet password was not provided in a collective, inclusive manner.”

He said that there was no orientation of any kind regarding what kinds of symptoms residents should report if they experienced any.

The rules mentioned resource materials that didn’t exist. Also, an “information packet” with options for keeping active during the quarantine time also didn’t exist. Clark said that beyond the sheet of paper with the rules on his door, there was no other written material of any kind.

He mentioned that the list on his door said that “wrap around services” such as mental or spiritual support were “to be determined”, which apparently was still the case after several quarantines had already taken place.

“There was never a period of time where the State Government provided information on what was going to happen, what was actively happening, or what had happened,” Clark wrote. The information vacuum included Commander Price, a diplomat. He said that failure led the US Department of Defense Attaché in Pohnpei to report to the Pentagon that a senior diplomat was being detained without any information.

“The only responsible course of action is to delay or postpone the Monday August 23rd repatriation effort on the premise that quarantine in Pohnpei State is a theatrical smokescreen that fails at every single one of its objectives. The quarantine experience in its current form is a sham and an active danger to the Nation’s safety...I don’t mind being a villain here if it means possibly saving lives,” his email concluded.

## Pohnpei Chamber of Commerce meets with COVID-19 Task Force to discuss COVID-19 response efforts

*Pohnpei Enginkehlap News*

*August 18, 2021*

**Pohnpei--**On Wednesday, August 18, the Pohnpei Chamber of Commerce (PCC) met with the Chair, Dr. Elizabeth Keller, and Vice-Chair, Director of Public Safety Patrick Carl of the Pohnpei COVID-19 Task Force to openly discuss areas of concern with Pohnpei’s COVID-19 response efforts.

Representing the leadership of the PCC were Mr. Benjamin Rodriguez, Mr. Cassidy Shoniber, and Mr. Richie Adams. Also included in the meeting were former Governor Marcelo Peterson and business owners from Ray & Dors Enterprises, Black Sand Enterprises, INS, Ace Hardware, NAPA, Sunset car rental, A&P Construction, and other local businesses.

Discussion topics included questions and concerns about the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus, guidelines in place for an active case in Pohnpei, repatriation priorities and flights, Pohnpei vaccination percentage, and general COVID-19 medical questions.

Concerning the Delta variant, PCC members were advised that currently, Pohnpei State is undergoing routine reviewing and updating of standard operating procedures with consideration of the DELTA variant. The current repatriation flights schedule of two repatriation flights per month has been recommended to Governor Oliver for once a month only. Concerning vaccinations, (at the time of the meeting) 55 percent of Pohnpei’s target population of 18 years and above was vaccinated. PCC members were advised of Pohnpei’s goal to reach 70 percent. All PCC members including their employees and family members were encouraged to get vaccinated at the earliest possible time.

Director Carl and Dr. Keller assured the members that Pohnpei State is doing all they can to prevent the arrival of the virus on our shores and welcomed the comments and concerns brought to them. Recommendations made by PCC will be shared with the rest of the Pohnpei Task Force. The general public is encouraged to call the COVID-19 hotline at 320-3109 for any questions, comments, or concerns regarding COVID-19.

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## Australian Ambassador Visits FSM Patrol Boats, marking over 30 years of Australian support



### Australian Embassy

On Tuesday 24 August, the Australian Ambassador HE Jo Cowley was hosted at the Headquarters of the Division of Border Control and Maritime Surveillance by CMDR Steward Peter and staff. Ambassador Cowley was given a tour of FSS Micronesia and given a brief on the capabilities of the current patrol boats, all gifted by Australia. FSM was one of the first

Pacific island countries to receive a patrol boat from Australia. Ambassador Cowley was also received an update on FSM Maritime Surveillance activities including the recently completed FFA Operation Island Strong.

Ambassador Cowley commented that the Pacific Maritime Security Program operated by Australia throughout the Pacific was Australia's premier security cooperation program in the region and

she was impressed by the condition of the FSM patrol boats that are over 30 years old. "FSM has a well-deserved reputation within the program for the upkeep and maintenance of their patrol boats and I am delighted to see first-hand that that reputation is indeed true. Australia looks forward to gifting the new Guardian Class Patrol Boats to FSM next year with the first of the vessels due to be launched next month."

On completion of the tour Ambassador Cowley took the opportunity to present the Australian Federation Star to the Maritime Surveillance Adviser, LCDR David Perry, on behalf of the Australian Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Noonan. The Federation Star is presented to recognise the exceptional achievement of 40 years continuous service in the Royal Australian Navy.

## 57% of FSM adults fully vaccinated; FDA-approved Pfizer Vaccine arrives in FSM, multiple repatriation flights scheduled

### FSM Information Services

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—As of August 24th, 2021, approximately 57% of the adult population of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is fully vaccinated against COVID-19. While historically the two COVID-19 vaccines available in the FSM were the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines, the Nation has recently received the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, which carries full U.S. Food & Drug Administration (US FDA) approval and is suitable for vaccinating adolescents aged between 12 to 17 years old. The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines, which are equally safe and effective, are presently being used under an Emergency Use Authorization. The FSM National Government expects the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines to receive full US FDA approval in the coming weeks.

The State of Kosrae, with assistance from the U.S. Centers for

Disease Control & Prevention (US CDC), has already begun vaccination efforts targeting adolescents between 12 to 17 years of age. It is the intent of the FSM National Government to expand vaccination access for citizens in this age range in the coming weeks in the States of Yap, Chuuk, and Pohnpei.

57% (approximately 33,400 adults) are fully vaccinated in the FSM. An additional 5,287 adults have received one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and are awaiting their second dose.

For the State of Yap, 77% of the adult population is fully vaccinated.

For the State of Chuuk, 50.5% of the adult population is fully vaccinated.

For the State of Pohnpei, 56.8% of the adult population is fully vaccinated.

For the State of Kosrae, 67.2% of the adult population is fully vaccinated.

The mandate for all FSM citizens residing in the FSM to be vaccinated remains in effect. Citizens abroad wishing

to return to the FSM remain mandated to possess documentary evidence of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

The State of Yap recently repatriated approximately 18 persons from the Republic of Palau on August 18th, 2021. The repatriating citizens were fully vaccinated and tested negative for COVID-19 prior to and upon arrival in Yap, and at the time of this release remain in Yap State's quarantine facilities, inclusive of additional COVID-19 testing. There is another repatriation flight to Yap State, originating from the U.S. Territory of Guam, scheduled for August 29th, 2021.

The State of Kosrae recently repatriated 20 persons from the U.S. Territory of Guam on August 23rd, 2021. The repatriating citizens were fully vaccinated and tested negative for COVID-19 prior to and upon arrival in Kosrae, and at the time of this release remain in Kosrae State's quarantine facilities, inclusive of additional COVID-19 testing.

The State of Pohnpei intends to repatriate approximately 69 persons from the U.S. Territory of Guam on August 26th, 2021, which was originally scheduled to occur on August 23rd, 2021. The cause for the temporary delay was to allow National and State medical officials the necessary time and resources to ensure the continued safety of Nation-wide repatriation efforts. There is another repatriation flight to Pohnpei State scheduled for September 16th, 2021.

Additionally, September 30th, 2021, is scheduled for the arrival of essential workers, such as engineers, health professionals, and educators.

The FSM National Government is not able to publicly commit to a date to begin repatriation flights to the State of Chuuk in this release, but expects to be able to make such an announcement in the coming weeks and months.

# Joint press release President Panuelo, Ambassador Cantor kayak for the Human Race Challenge

FSM Information Services  
U.S. Embassy Kolonia

To mark World Humanitarian Day August 19th, 2021, His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States

of Micronesia (FSM), and his son David Panuelo, Jr. joined Ambassador Carmen G. Cantor and USAID Country Coordinator Rodger Garner in kayaking from Lidakika Causeway to Mangrove Bay. The event, based on the 100-minute Human Race Challenge, had at various times brilliant sunshine, rain, and headwinds, and raised awareness of the importance of Climate Change Mitigation.

with 100, even 200 students per school, and for School Year 2021-2022 we can see enrollment rates as low as 14 children for some of these same schools. The resulting loss of our people means that Climate Change isn't just an environmental or economic issue, but a cultural problem as well, as the loss of our people means future generations will be less aware of, and less able to embrace, their own and rightful heritage."

The Biden Administration stands in unity with the FSM National Government in the fight against Climate Change. President Biden has pledged to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by fifty percent or more by 2030.



President Panuelo, Ambassador Cantor, First Lady Edwin, and David Panuelo Jr. pose for the FSM-US celebration of World Humanitarian Day

World Humanitarian Day's theme this year is "A global challenge for climate action in solidarity with the people who need it most." This theme highlights the immediate challenges of Climate Change on the World's most vulnerable people.

President Panuelo, when asked "How is climate change affecting the people of the FSM today?" responded with the following:

"The impacts of Climate Change right now, today, are significant in number and extensive in scope. Saltwater intrusion in our taro patches on remote atolls is occurring at precisely the time we see an increase of storms heavy enough to fell banana trees. The resulting food and economic insecurity from higher seas, rougher and more frequent storms, and less predictable rainfall means we have a massive out-migration and brain-drain, which is perhaps most strongly shown through school enrollment rates. Atolls like Woleai, Polowat, Mwoakilloa, Pingelap, Kapingmarangi, and Sapwuahfik used to have schools



President Panuelo, Ambassador Cantor, and USAID Country Coordinator Garner as they come near the docking area



# Stamps, Flats, Postcards, Certified Mail, & Registered Mail prices increasing at FSM Postal Service

FSM Information Services

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—The Honorable Ginger Porter Mida, Postmaster General of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), has informed His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the FSM, that from August 29th, 2021 onwards, prices for numerous products and services at the FSM Postal Service are scheduled for a mid-year rate increase.

Per the terms of the Compact of Free Association, as Amended, the FSM Postal Service is obligated to match (or be more expensive than) the United States Postal Service's postage rates.

Stamps are increasing from \$0.55 to \$0.58, an increase of three cents (\$0.03).

Flats will increase from \$1.00 to \$1.16, an increase of sixteen cents (\$0.16).

Postcards will increase from \$0.36 to \$0.40, an increase of four cents (\$0.04).

Certified mail will increase from \$3.60 to \$3.75, an increase of fifteen cents (\$0.15).

Registered mail will increase from \$12.90 to \$13.75, an increase of eighty-five cents (\$0.85).

The shipping rates on services such as Priority Mail are not increasing; citizens should not expect to see any change in Priority Mail shipping rates.

The FSM Postal Service does not anticipate further pricing changes for letter mail until next year, though there will likely be another peak surcharge for packages this holiday season.

# ...Police Academy

Continued from front page

and review. DPS Director Patrick Carl said that Kitti had the highest number of participants with 130 in two separate teams. More than 20 students participated in each of the Madolenihmw and Sokehs teams. There were eight members of the Kolonia team. Carl said that the Junior Police academy program was very successful and four of the eight project teams completed all of the objectives of the three-week program.

The program described the Junior Police program. "The three weeks course is designed to expand the knowledge (and) understanding of policing and supervision in the field and introduced the Junior Police project where participants are required to accomplish the objective to train and teach grade (school) students about law enforcement in a three months duration."

The sixth Police Academy began with 44 cadets and at graduation time had a total of 39 cadets from the Pohnpei State Police Department, FSM National Police represented by representatives from Pohnpei, Chuuk and Kosrae, the Kosrae Department of Public Safety, and the Kolonia Town Police.

DPS leadership presented awards to some of the top performing cadets:

- Achievement Award - Marsellino Santiago (KTP Local Pohnpei)
- Leadership Award - Myra Joakim (NP FSM Pohnpei)
- Salutatorian Award - Travis Rudolph (DPS Pohnpei)
- Valedictorian Award - Thomas Charley (DPS Kosrae)
- Commanders Award - Winster Edgar (DPS Pohnpei)

The Pohnpei Department of Public Safety's Facebook posting listed Academy officers as:

Field Training Officers (FTO) Kitti Municipal Police Officers - PO Nickson Abraham and PO Brian Henly - Kitti Junior Police Team #1 (Rohi, Wone, Enipein & NMS)

Pohnpei Police Officers POIII MC Ioanis and PO III Regan Barnabas -



Kitti Junior Police Team #2 (Seinwar & Poahloang)

Pohnpei Police Officers POIII Jermis Noket and POIII Joseph Artui and Sokehs Municipal Police Sgt. Johnson Clarence and PO Kilimente Wesel - Sokehs Junior Police (Sekere, Sokehs Powe and Sokehs Pah)

Pohnpei State Police POIII Jason Ringlen, POIII Steward Silbanuz and POIII Nathaniel A Santos - Madolenihmw Junior Police (Wapar, Pohnlangas, Temwen, ESDM and Ohmine)

Police Academy Thunder Squad (Kolonia, Awak and Saladak)

Pohnpei State Training & Development Staff/ Instructors

Commander - Det. Lt. Bronson B. Martin - PNI - DPS  
Deputy Commander - Hilario Bermanis Jr. - PNI - DPS



First Sergeant - Chief Darney Phillip - KTG  
Instructor/ Male Proctor - Lt. Marvin Heine - PNI - DPS  
Instructor/ Female Proctor - Cpt. Cynthia Ludrick - FSM - NP  
Tactical Officer - Sgt. Ketson Kapiriel - PNI - DPS  
Tactical Officer - Det. Brenson Rodriguez - PNI - DPS  
Tactical Officer - POIII Jermis Noket - PNI - DPS

The Honorable Nelson Joseph, Chief Justice of the Pohnpei Supreme Court was scheduled to administer the oath of office to the graduates but was represented by Associate Justice Mayceleen JD Anson.

DPS Director Patrick Carl and Pohnpei Governor Reed Oliver gave special remarks.

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Vital Scholars!



www.vitalenergy.fm/csr\_program



## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER - FIMS INC.

The Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) are the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu plus Tokelau that provides a framework for co-operation in the management and conservation of shared tuna stocks.

The PNA Office was established in January 2010 with its Headquarters in Majuro, Marshall Islands and PNA now controls the world's largest sustainable tuna purse seine fishery.

FIMS Inc. is owned by the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) and is an international software development and information management company providing services to the fisheries sector. The company FIMS Inc is incorporated under Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) law and is based in Majuro.

FIMS Inc. is governed by an independent board of directors appointed by its shareholders.

FIMS Inc. develops and manages a suite of integrated web-based software programmes known as the Fisheries Information Management System. FIMS enables fisheries managers and the fishing industry to capture and analyse data to support the sustainable economic development of fisheries resources.

**FIMS Inc (FIMS)** is now seeking to recruit a **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** based in Majuro, Marshall Islands.

Reporting to the Chair of the FIMS Inc Board, the CEO will be responsible for providing strategic leadership, planning, and operational management of both the FIMS organisation and the Fisheries Information Management System.

The CEO will also be involved in developing productive working relationship with FIMS clients and stakeholders and seeking out new opportunities to promote and enhance FIMS.

### In addition, the CEO is responsible for:

- Annually develop a rolling 3-year FIMS business plan and associated budget
- Implement Board approved business plan within approved financial limits
- Develop and implement FIMS organisational staff, financial, information, and other relevant policies, systems, and processes
- Recruit, lead, and manage staff and contractors
- Manage all facets of FIMS including finances, information and including risk management
- Ensure FIMS maintains a world class fisheries information management system
- Contribute and oversee the ongoing development, delivery and review of FIMS to ensure its purpose and objectives are achieved
- Lead and contribute to the governance of information to ensure proper quality, security, integrity, confidentiality and access for its clients
- Provide advice and analysis on the effectiveness of training programs to users,
- Promote and market FIMS to new and prospective clients to increase income and maintain FIMS world class standing in information management

### Essential Competencies and Experience:

- Tertiary qualifications in one of the following areas of Information Management, Business Administration, Commerce, Accounting, or Economics
- Minimum of 10 years proven experience in leadership, financial management, human resource management, and administration
- Proven experience in program and project management
- Proven experience in client / customer management
- Experience in information management would be desirable
- Experience in the fisheries sector would be an advantage

### Personal attributes:

- A well organised self-starter that enjoys the confidence of the people they work with
- A people person – respects and works collaboratively with people
- Excellent communicator
- Highly professional and operates in an ethical manner
- Has attention to detail.

It is the stated preference of the Parties to appoint a citizen from one of the eight PNA countries or Tokelau, however, the position is merit based and other citizens may apply.

### APPLY NOW

Please visit our website: <https://vanguard.com.pg/vacancies/>

Complete the Application form and follow the website instructions to forward to us including a detailed CV and three current referees.

Alternatively, please call us on (+675) 7500 7500 or email [recruitment@vanguard.com.pg](mailto:recruitment@vanguard.com.pg)

**Applications close COB Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021**

Incomplete and late applications may be deemed invalid and excluded from consideration.

**Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.**

**VANGUARD INTERNATIONAL**  
E: [info@vanguard.com.pg](mailto:info@vanguard.com.pg) W: [www.vanguard.com.pg](http://www.vanguard.com.pg)

# FSM DOJ charges two in Pohnpei for charges related to a fraudulent PUA claim

By **Bill Jaynes**  
*The Kaselehlie Press*

August 30, 2021

**Pohnpei**—The FSM Department of Justice has filed criminal charges against two in Pohnpei related to alleged falsifying of records and filing a fraudulent Pandemic Unemployment Assistance application and for receiving funds based on the fraudulent filing. Swister Sahm Perman and Charles Edwin were named in the charges.

In her application, supported by a letter of recommendation written by former Kolonia Elementary School principal, Perman claimed in her application that her livelihood as a self-employed food vendor to Kolonia Elementary School had been disrupted because the school was closed due to the pandemic. Investigators discovered that Perman never had been an approved vendor at the school and that several of her supporting documents appeared to have been forged.

The two separately or jointly face a total of 10 criminal charges in criminal case 2021-504 at the Supreme Court of the Federated States of Micronesia.

# FSM DOJ criminally charges port pilot for false PUA claims

By **Bill Jaynes**  
*The Kaselehlie Press*

August 30, 2021

**Pohnpei**—Today, the FSM Department of Justice filed criminal charges (criminal case 2021-505) against Perdus Ehsa, Jr. related to allegedly false statements in his Pandemic Unemployment Assistance filings. The charges say that Ehsa received \$2343.75 in PUA on September 7, 2020 and \$3045.00 on September 21, 2020.

Ehsa, a pilot with the Pohnpei Port Authority claimed that his pilotage business had been drastically reduced

Perman and Edwin were charged with attempted theft. Prosecutors say that Perman filed the application which was supported by a letter of recommendation written by Edwin. Perman is also additionally charged with theft for her fraudulent taking of benefits of \$3,121.50 and \$747.00 for which she did not qualify.

Perman is charged with attempted solicitation and solicitation for asking Edwin to write a recommendation letter to recommend her false application to PUA.

Perman is also charged with false swearing in official matters for making false statements and claims in order to mislead the staff at PUA in their official capacities.

Both of the defendants were also charged for unsworn falsification to authorities.

Perman is also charged with criminal mischief and unauthorized possession or removal of property.

According to an affidavit by a national police officer, both defendants were cooperative during the investigation.

All defendants are innocent unless proven otherwise in court.

as a result of the pandemic. The affidavit of a National Police officer who conducted the investigation into the voracity of his application and statements said that Ehsa filed paperwork with PUA for the week of June 28 that claimed zero hours of work and zero hours income. PUA awarded the \$3045 payment for that week. The investigator said that Ehsa actually received a check during that week amounting to \$5,816.22 for piloting services.

The investigator said that information provided by PPA showed billing invoices issued by Ehsa and paid in the amount of

*Continued on next page*

# National and State government launch Food Systems Summit with 3-day dialogue in Pohnpei

*International Organization for Migration (IOM)*

Food systems are complex and directly support the livelihoods of over 1 billion people worldwide. Despite there being more food available to the world than ever before, more than half of all deaths worldwide are food-related. However, enabling food systems to evolve so that they provide affordable, safe, and nutritious food for all in ways that are beneficial for both people and planet is not straightforward.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. António Guterres, announced the convening of a major Food Systems Summit in 2021 at the United Nations in New York. The purpose of this summit is to help stakeholders to better understand and manage the complex choices that effect the future of food systems and to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Food Systems Summit Dialogues provides an opportunity for diverse exchanges between food systems stakeholders towards the objective of creating a resilient and sustainable food system. Every Member State of the United Nations has been invited to organize consultations with all

*Continued from previous page*

\$35,986.38 for piloting services between March 17, 2020 and February 14, 2021.

The affiant testified that Ehsa told PUA and Integrity Unit investigators that he is willing to pay back any over payment to him and that he understood that there might be prosecution against him regarding his PUA file. The affidavit also said that Ehsa wants to clear any over payments as soon as possible.

Ehsa faces a count each of attempted theft and theft, false swearing in official matters for making false statements, unsworn falsification to authorities, criminal mischief, and unauthorized possession or removal of property.

No trial has yet been set, and Ehsa is presumed to be innocent unless otherwise proven in court.

relevant stakeholders.

The President of the Federated States of Micronesia, H.E. David W. Panuelo, responded with great enthusiasm to this call and directed the FSM Department of Resources and Development (R&D) to launch the consultations. The national team is also comprised of staff from the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management (DECCEM), the Department of Health and Social Affairs, Department of Education, Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Finance and Administration.

The national team will partner with State government to co-facilitate discussions in Pohnpei, Chuuk, Kosrae and Yap. The first round of discussions took place in Pohnpei, from July 20 to July 22 and was co-facilitated by Mr. Hubert Yamada, Director of the Department of Resources and Development for Pohnpei State. The discussions in Yap, Chuuk and Kosrae will take place over the following weeks.

Over 70 stakeholders from National and State government, the health sector, education professionals, importers and exporters, producers and farmers, as well as the NGO and civil society organizations participated in Pohnpei's Summit. The summit was opened by the Honorable Reed B. Oliver, Governor of Pohnpei, who praised the comprehensive review of food systems in FSM.

For three days, participants exchanged in lively and fruitful discussions on three themes of Food and Health, Food and Livelihood as well as Food and Security. The topic for the first day was Food and Health, and participants discussed the impact of non-communicable diseases on health including access to the right types of food, the role of locally produced foods in promoting nutrition and changes in social behavior and effective levers of change. The second day of discussions focused on food and livelihoods, such as the promotion of small-scale terrestrial and marine production as well as supporting services and policies. The third day was on food and security, which dealt with building resilience to vulnerabilities, and the important role of migrants and remittances in promoting food security.

The dialogues generated significant interest from the public, who called for multistakeholder dialogue process to start from the community level. The dialogues also identified the need for effective enforcement of regulations and the sharing of timely information to stakeholders. Overall, the dialogue provided a platform for strengthening partnership between governments, the private sector, producers and civil society.

The Food Systems Dialogue in FSM is being supported by the Resident Coordinator Office (RCO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Pacific Community (SPC). In addition to financial assistance, IOM provided technical support on questions related to migration.





CALL FOR PROJECT CONCEPT PAPERS  
FSM GEF SGP  
FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS  
2021

The Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme is accepting Project Concept Papers requesting grant funding for community projects that meet the relevant Country Program Strategy and addresses at least one of the following Environment Focal Areas:

**Most Community Focused**

- Have a positive and concrete impacts on livelihoods of communities (income, health, education)
- Empower communities to be able address community needs and issues

**Must address one of the GEF Focal Areas;**

- a) biodiversity conservation and sustainable use,
- b) climate change mitigation and adaptation,
- c) protection of international waters,
- d) prevention of land degradation/sustainable land management, and
- e) elimination of persistent organic pollutant (POPs).
- f) COVID responds projects

**Eligible Recipients:**

- a) Any non-government organization, community-based organization/group, or community in the FSM that is chartered OR if not chartered, have evidence of legitimacy.

**Grants:**

- A. Full Grants are up to US\$50,000 (average \$20,000) for projects of 1-3 years duration (preferably 2 years).
- B. Planning Grants - proponents may apply for a grant of up to US\$2,000 to use in assisting them to develop a full project proposal. This Planning Grant is subject to approval of Concept Papers.

**How to Apply:**

1. Contact the Program Assistant (see address below) to obtain a Project Concept Format, the general criteria, and other relevant documents.
2. Fill out the 3-page Project Concept Paper and submit to the Program Assistant anytime.
3. If Project Concept Paper is approved, Proponent is then asked to submit a full Proposal.

**Deadline for Submission:**

Project Proponents can submit Project Concept Papers AT ANY TIME. Reviews of Concepts are usually done quarterly but can be more frequent depending on number of Concepts received. Project Concept Papers must be submitted WITH ALL ATTACHMENTS to the appropriate contact below before they can be reviewed.

**If you have questions, please contact the following:**

Mr. Simpson Abraham  
Coordinator, SGP-FSM  
P. O Box 2466  
Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941  
Telephone Number: (691) 320-4192  
E-Mail: Simpson.abraham@undp.org

Ms. Lavernie Pretrick  
Program Assistant, SGP-FSM  
P. O Box 2466  
Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941  
Telephone Number: (691) 320-4192  
E-Mail: lavernie.pretrick@undp.org

## The FSM joins the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education Now more aspiring students have access to 170+ colleges and universities in the West

*Melanie Sidwell, director of communications at the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

**BOULDER, Colo.** – The Federated States of Micronesia has joined the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, allowing more students in the Pacific Islands region access to tuition savings, workforce development, and behavioral health programs.

The Federated States of Micronesia, a sovereign nation in free association with the United States located about 3,200 miles west of Hawai'i, shares its WICHE membership with the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

"I know firsthand how a world-class education can benefit one's career and one's community," said President David W. Panuelo of the Federated States of Micronesia. "Joining WICHE gives more students access to educational opportunities, and this, in turn, strengthens our economy and workforce. It's a win-win situation where students now have the opportunity to take actions today for our nation's prosperity tomorrow."

Before serving his country through a long political career, Panuelo left his home island of Pohnpei to earn a bachelor's degree in 1987 from Eastern Oregon University, a participating institution in WICHE's tuition savings program. WICHE's growing partnership in the region is thanks in part to substantial collaboration across the Pacific Islands jurisdiction, as well as a grant from the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, which is covering the fiscal year 2022 membership dues.

WICHE's Pacific Islands membership is open to all the U.S. Pacific Territories and Freely Associated States after they pass the necessary legislation. This is a historic moment for colleges and universities in the entire West, said WICHE President Demarée K. Michelau.

"Thanks to strong leadership and close collaboration across the region, more aspiring students who wish to pursue higher education now have the opportunity to do so more affordably," Michelau said.

WICHE's member states, territories, and freely associated states can participate in its Student Access Programs,

including the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE), the Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP), and – with the required approved funding from the local government – the Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP), which allow students from those areas to enroll in undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs elsewhere in the West and pay reduced tuition. WICHE members also benefit from the full range of other WICHE programs, including policy and research initiatives, institutional collaborations, workforce development, behavioral health training and assistance, and technology initiatives.

In the 2020-21 academic year, Guam residents saved \$1.3 million and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands residents saved \$1.35 million through WICHE's tuition savings programs.

Now more students across the Micronesian region can gain from increased school choice and cost savings, and WICHE partners gain by strengthening their workforce, said Susan Anderson, WICHE Commission chair and president/CEO of The CIRI Foundation.

"By providing access to an affordable education in over 170 colleges and universities across the West," she said, "WICHE continues its legacy of serving students and that, in turn, serves our communities near and far."

**About WICHE**

Since 1953, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education has been strengthening higher education, workforce development, and behavioral health throughout the region. From promoting high-quality, affordable postsecondary education to helping states get the most from their technology investments and addressing behavioral health challenges, WICHE improves lives across the West through innovation, cooperation, resource sharing, and sound public policy. WICHE members include Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawai'i, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and the U.S. Pacific Territories and Freely Associated States (the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia).

## Woman farmer shows way as SIDS country battles pandemic's struggles

*The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*

17 August

**Apia, Samoa** -A woman farmer in Samoa is using innovation and technology to overcome economic hardship as the Pacific island nation seeks ways to adapt to the challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although Samoa, with a population of less than 200,000 remains one of a few countries in the world without a positive COVID-19 case, the border closure, resulting from the State of Emergency imposed by the government to protect lives, has dealt the country's economy a decisive blow.

Tourism, which the country regards as the mainstay of the economy, has been crippled by the absence of foreign visitors for nearly two years. Hotels, restaurants and tourism-related businesses have had to shut their doors and look elsewhere to make ends meet. But it's not just the inner circle of the tourism industry that has been affected. Domestic growers and farmers who had relied on the steady and frequent influx of visitors suddenly found themselves on the back foot.

Among them is Shelley Burich, the owner of an island organic vanilla farm, which profited from the tourism industry. Burich's farm and business, perched on the cool heights of Vaoala, overlooking Apia, the capital of Samoa, was booming prior to the pandemic.

"Before COVID I was relying a lot on tourists that would be coming to the islands," said Burich. "I was getting farm tours, people looking to come and visit the vanilla farm and a lot of my business was word of mouth. So when the borders closed, that stopped."

Like other farmers, Burich needed to be innovative to survive. She did not sit idle. Days of studying social media and innovation gave birth to her new baby called "Long Distance Vanilla."

"I make my own composting and mulching to feed the vanilla, and from the vanilla beans we export our premium beans, which are the grade ones and twos," she explains. "From the other beans I make value-added products like vanilla syrup, vanilla extract and vanilla powder."

Innovation and digitalization were critical to transforming her fortunes and she had to think outside the box in terms of the local market.

"I decided to go full-time into a social media realm. I created an online store. I had to figure out a way of how to keep my business generating products and getting it out of Samoa. My products are now being sold to Ireland, Japan, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the (United) States and they are going all over."

While COVID is a pain and an unwelcomed challenge, Burich said it forced her to diversify.

"And now I am doing a lot more on the



social media platform. So, my reach, even though I am sitting here in Samoa, I am actually building an online store for customers in Canada."

### Thinking big

But this woman farmer is not done. She has big plans in the pipeline.

"My dream is really to use (my experience) as a training farm, to get people more into growing it and also teach people how you can use it to build your business online through my experience and knowledge."

The woman farmer from Samoa will soon share her story with the world in a bid to inspire others who have found themselves in a similar situation. Burich is one of the solutions to be showcased during Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Solutions Forum, scheduled for

30 – 31 August 2021.

She will share the stage with other success stories from SIDS around the globe.

The SIDS Solutions Forum creates a space for government leaders, development partners, farmers, fishers, community development practitioners and leaders, entrepreneurs, women and youth to discuss, share, promote and encourage home-grown and imported solutions to respond to the challenges posed by COVID-19 and several of those that pre-existing the pandemic.

The ultimate goal is to accelerate the achievement of the agriculture; food and nutrition related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in SIDS.

## President Panuelo directs FSM COVID-19 Task Force to extend vaccination timelines for social security beneficiaries to September 30th, 2021

*FSM Information Services*

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—On August 18th, 2021, His Excellency David W. Panuelo—President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)—signed a Directive to the Chair of the FSM COVID-19 Task Force extending the mandatory requirement for FSM Social Security beneficiaries to receive their COVID-19 vaccination to September 30th, 2021. The previously mandated date was August 30th, 2021. The purpose of the extension is to give ample time to the Nation's elderly citizens to complete their vaccination, and in a more

comfortable and achievable timeline.

Additionally, the Directive requires the Administrator of the FSM Social Security Administration to provide the Chair of the FSM COVID-19 Task Force a list of Social Security beneficiaries for the special purpose of verifying their COVID-19 vaccination coverage, including special exemption from the vaccination for those individuals with rare medical conditions upon their assessment by a qualified medical doctor.

Not specified in the Directive, but discussed in a meeting on August 18th,

2021, with the Chair of the Task Force, was the President's instruction that the Task Force and Department of Health & Social Affairs shall develop the necessary documentation for those who qualify for special exemptions from the vaccination for medical reasons, and to ensure that such documentation is uniform throughout the Nation.

Finally, the Directive requires the Chair of the Task Force to provide timely updates to the President and bi-weekly updates to the public on the Nation's vaccination efforts.

55% of the Nation's eligible adult population is fully vaccinated, a 3% increase from the previous week and directly attributable to the Nation-wide COVID-19 vaccine mandate. 63% of the Nation's eligible adult population has received partial COVID-19 vaccination coverage.

As of August 18th, 2021, the FSM remains COVID-19 free.

The President's Directive may be found here: [https://gov.fm/files/August\\_18\\_DIRECTIVE\\_on\\_SS\\_Extention\\_to\\_V.pdf](https://gov.fm/files/August_18_DIRECTIVE_on_SS_Extention_to_V.pdf)



## Vacancies

### Executive Coordinator Officer

#### The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Forum Secretariat) is the region's premier political and economic policy organisation, with a vision of helping to create a region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion and prosperity, so that all Pacific people can lead free, healthy, and productive lives.

The international organisation works to achieve this vision by fostering cooperation between governments, collaboration with international agencies, and by representing the interests of its members - including directly engaging with community members in order to identify pressing needs of the region.

The work of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) is guided by the Framework for Pacific Regionalism (FPR) as:

The expression of a common sense of identity and purpose, leading progressively to the sharing of institutions, resources, and markets, with the purpose of complimenting national efforts, overcoming common constraints, and embracing sustainable and inclusive development within Pacific countries and territories and for the Pacific region as a whole.

The FPR is underpinned by the Blue Pacific narrative, endorsed by Forum Leaders in Samoa in 2017, which calls for a long-term regional commitment to act as one "Blue Continent" as the means to achieve its development aspirations. The Leaders vision was that it would serve as the platform to reinforce and inspire the region in its shared stewardship of the Pacific Ocean, and to reaffirm the connections of Pacific peoples with their natural resources, environment, culture and livelihoods.

#### The Opportunity

The Forum Secretariat is looking for an Executive Coordinator Officer to join the team in Suva, Fiji. The position is tasked with coordinating the daily affairs of the Office of the Secretary General and liaising with the staff of the Secretariat as required. The role works in close coordination with the Senior Policy Adviser.

To facilitate the above, the incumbent will be responsible for:

- Efficient clearing of documents requiring the Secretary General's attention, approval or action;
- Coordinating the preparation of speeches, briefs and other background information for the Secretary General;
- Providing Secretariat Support to Executive and Senior Management Team; and
- Coordinating the preparation of policy papers on key issues and confidential correspondence as requested by the Secretary General

The Forum Secretariat is seeking a strategic and proficient individual who hold a graduate degree in relevant disciplines with proven experience in providing executive or advisory support to a Chief Executive Officer, Minister or Leader. Candidate should have knowledge of the workings of Pacific Islands Forum, the Secretariat and the place of Forum Island countries in the international trade and political arena, and also knowledge and experience of the workings of regional and International Organisations (CROP, UN, WTO, EU, ACP, APEC etc.)

#### The Benefits

The appointment carries a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The starting salary will be in the range of SDR 30,412 to SDR 34,214 per annum. At the 1 August 2021 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to FJD90,190 to FJD101,465. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free. To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum member state\*. Applicants must be willing to travel periodically via economy class.

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply through our website: [www.forumsec.org](http://www.forumsec.org) where an information package containing the job description and remuneration details is also available. Candidates must include in either their application or Curriculum Vitae the full contact details of three referees. The Forum Secretariat is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Deadline for applications is at 5pm (Fiji time), 24 September 2021.

\* *Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.*

Vacancy Announcement  
Project Manager (National)  
FSM Department of Education



### The Position: **Manage the PIU, Technical Coordinators, and Component Organizations**

- Supervise and provide technical advice to support and guide the PIU staff and Technical Coordinators.
- Support and supervise procurement, financial, and administrative staff, to ensure adequate progress is made and maintained with regards to contract awards, financial disbursements, and project implementation. Task trackers, reporting tools, monitoring and follow-up schedules, and accountability framework may be developed.
- Monitor the performance of the Procurement Specialist, the Finance Specialist, and the Technical Coordinators, and provide feedback, guidance, and recommendations to improve their performance and the PIU operations.
- Regularly follow-up on both implementation and financial progress of the project for timely acquisition and submission of withdrawal applications, reimbursement requests, disbursements, expenditure reports along with progress reports from the consultants, and financial audits.
- Develop a system for technical management and coordination of component organizations (e.g., NDOE CIA staff, COM-FSM). Coordinate technical inputs, manage contracts, follow due-diligence, track inputs and deliverables, and ensure financial management.
- Coordinate and facilitate National Working Group (NWG) needs, including monitoring attendance and accountability for assignments.
- Ensure collection of sex-disaggregated data and coordinate data analysis training, as needed.
- Report on the project's Gender Action Plan (GAP).

#### Connection point between SDOEs and NDOE

- Support and strengthen collaboration of National and State level PIUs to ensure adequate and regular coordination and communication, quality reporting of project information, and procurement/financial matters progress smoothly between the national and state level government counterparts.
- In partnership with the Technical Coordinators, coordinate professional development workshops between TA-1/TA-2/TA-3 and the SDOEs.
- Manage and support State-level PIU on specific project implementation activities, including National Working Groups, report preparation, and project performance monitoring.

#### Support the Project Director

- Support Project Director, with necessary information including interaction with relevant stakeholders, in assessing project status, especially the challenges and issues that are deemed as roadblocks in its progress.
- Identify strategies and action points to bring the project back on track including strategies relevant during and after the pandemic.
- Tracking and Follow-up on specific development targets as set-out in the Design and Monitoring Framework (DMF).
- Serve as a liaison between the Project Director and the local community, including NDOE and SDOE staff, FSM government officials, and project partners. Collect progress monitoring data to support Project Director's reporting functions. Facilitate introductions, as necessary, especially when the Secretary of Education is unavailable for this purpose.
- Provide briefings to Project Director about FSM protocols and culture, when appropriate.
- Perform other duties and tasks as advised by the Project Director to further the work of the IQBE project.

#### Qualifications:

The Project Manager should hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree or higher. At least 4 years of working experience in education and/or management. Professional experience and/or background in FSM is required. Previous ADB (Asian Development Bank or donor-funded project experience is preferable.

**Benefits:** The annual salary is \$55,016 depending upon qualification and experience of the applicant.

**To apply:** Register on Asian Development Bank (ADB) CMS at [www.cms.adb.org](http://www.cms.adb.org) first before you can submit a Curriculum Vitae and Expression of Interest. Deadline for EOI and CV submission is September 10, 2021.

For further clarification, please email [marlynn.halbert@national.doe.fm](mailto:marlynn.halbert@national.doe.fm).



PACIFIC ISLANDS  
FORUM SECRETARIAT

# Vacancies

## Opportunities at the Secretariat

### The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Forum Secretariat) is the region's premier political and economic policy organisation, with a vision of helping to create a region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion and prosperity, so that all Pacific people can lead free, healthy, and productive lives.

The international organisation works to achieve this vision by fostering cooperation between governments, collaboration with international agencies, and by representing the interests of its members - including directly engaging with community members in order to identify pressing needs of the region.

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### The Opportunities

Applications are invited to fill four vacant international positions for Strengthening Pacific Intra-Regional and International Trade Project (SPIRIT) at the Secretariat. The SPIRIT Project aligns to the Pacific Regional Integration Support (PRISE) programme. SPIRIT seeks to boost and increase intra-regional and international trade through strengthening of institutional and human capacity of the Pacific ACP countries (PACP).

#### 1. Team Leader - SPIRIT

The position reports to the Director Programmes & Initiatives, this role is responsible in overseeing, coordinating and managing the SPIRIT Programme to achieve the targets outlined in the Log Frame.

The primary role of the Team Leader is to lead, provide advisory, project management, coordination and technical support to the Project.

To facilitate the above, the incumbent will be responsible for:

- Project leadership and management;
- Technical and policy advice, support and facilitation;
- Communications, visibility and capacity building;
- Monitoring, evaluation and reporting;
- Financial and administrative management; and
- Networking, partnerships and collaboration

#### 2. SPIRIT - Trade Adviser x 3 for Melanesia; Micronesia; and Polynesia

These position reports to the to the Team Leader - SPIRIT and to successfully implement the KRAs of the SPIRIT program to address the relevant needs of the sub region. Under the SPIRIT project, three Trade Advisors will be appointed and deployed in each of the three sub-regions, i.e. Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia and they will be stationed in Vanuatu, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and Samoa respectively.

The Trade Advisor (TA) is a key position within the Project. Reporting to the Team Leader - SPIRIT, the position will be responsible for advancing, coordinating and implementing the Project's work programme and activities in the three (3) sub-regions.

As such the TA will be expected to:

- Provide advice and technical input to the Trade Leader in the formulation of the SPIRIT work programme for the designated sub region;
- Provide advice on trade matters to PACPs in the designated sub region;
- Coordinate capacity building, training and awareness in the three sub-regions and PACPs;
- Conduct research and provide technical advice to support the implementation of SPIRIT in the designated sub region; and
- Provide accurate and timely reporting on project performance from the designated sub region.

#### The Package

The starting salary for Team Leader – SPIRIT will be in the range of **SDR 42,297 to SDR 47,584** per annum. At the 1 August 2021 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to FJD124,844 to FJD140,449.

The SPIRIT – Trade Adviser positions starting salary will be in the range of **SDR 36,640 to SDR 42,297** per annum. At the 1 August 2021 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to **FJD108,146 to FJD124,844**.

All appointments at the Secretariat attract competitive remuneration and benefits packages that include medical and life insurance. For international positions, packages include housing allowance and education allowance for dependent children. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free.

#### Additional Information

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply through our website: [www.forumsec.org](http://www.forumsec.org) where an information package containing the position description and remuneration details for respective positions are also available therein. Candidates must include in either their application or Curriculum Vitae the full contact details of three referees.

To be eligible for these positions, applicants must be nationals of Forum member countries\* and/or citizens of European Union or Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States. The Forum Secretariat is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Deadline for applications is at 5pm (Fiji time), **03 September 2021**.

*\*Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.*



Embassy of the United States of America

#### Vacancy Announcement:

VA2021.004

#### POSITION TITLE:

Security Guard

#### OPENING PERIOD:

September 1 - 14, 2021

#### SERIES/GRADE:

LE-0710/03

#### SALARY:

USD \$9,101

#### FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION AND JOB DESCRIPTION VISIT:

[fm.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/](http://fm.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/)

#### CONTACT THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE:

KoloniaHumanResourceRequests@state.gov

**DUTIES:** The incumbent provides security services to safeguard U.S. Government personnel, facilities and property. The employee provides access control and screens all visitors and vehicles entering U.S. Government facilities. The incumbent will also provide fixed post security and conduct roving patrols on Mission Chancery and residential compounds.

**EDUCATION:** Completion of elementary education is required.

**EXPERIENCE:** One year experience in security-related field, such as security company, law enforcement agency or military services is required.

**LANGUAGE:** Level 2 (Working knowledge) Speaking/Reading/Writing English is required. (This will be tested.)

Selected applicant under consideration will be required to pass medical and security certifications.

#### EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO):

The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.



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## CFE Director Recognized as the Pacific Island Small Business Development Center Network (PISBDCN) 2021 State Star

One year after opening the Pohnpei SBDC, the Center for Entrepreneurship director, Timothy James Mamangon, was recognized at this year's PISBDCN State Star. The State Star award is given to a network staff who has demonstrated and made significant contribution to their state or regional SBDC program, shows strong commitment, and is dependable to small businesses.

The State Star Performer is chosen by the advisory board members, center directors and staff. Nominations are submitted

by over 7 membered network/lead centers located in all 7 states; which include: CNMI, Palau, Guam, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap, and Kosrae. Mr. Mamangon will be featured in the upcoming Pacific Business Partners news edition. This is a great achievement that will bring additional support for the Pohnpei SBDC

In his first year as a center director, Mr. Mamangon achieved his milestone goals for both core and CARES Act funding. Tim secured additional funding through an EDA grant for \$1M



over three years. He established key partnerships in finance, non profits, and government, to expand SBDC counseling and training.