



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

MEDIA STATEMENT
For Immediate Release
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Senator Shawn Gumataotao issued the following statement after concluding today's Oversight Hearing regarding the Guam Fire Department (GFD):

“Today's hearing is the first of a handful of discussions planned this year by the Public Safety Committee in preparation for Performance-Based Budgeting. With at least \$41.2 million prioritized for more than 300 uniformed and support personnel, the Committee is focused on strengthening GFD's delivery of critical public safety services, particularly at a time of unprecedented military growth across the island and in our part of the world.

Aside from our families, thousands of construction workers, military contractors, and those who relocate to Guam as new employees or service providers for existing and new industries that are created because of DOD's expansion in the region, require a stronger GFD now and into the future.

Our discussion today must help ensure that legislative appropriations reach our fire stations through the continuous recruitment of firefighters and an expanded inventory of emergency response vehicles. The purpose and practicality of the 911 Surcharge established back in 1999 must also be reassessed to support implementation and maintenance of a modern and reliable emergency reporting system serving our local and military communities.

The Committee stands ready to assist the Guam Fire Department through sound policy and the effective and efficient administration of personnel, equipment, and resources moving forward.”

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

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