

PETER TALI COLEMAN
Governor

# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR PAGO PAGO. AMERICAN SAMOA 96799

TUFELE LI'A Lt. Governor

### EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 6-1983

# SHORTFALL RECTIFICATION PROGRAM GOVERNMENT OPERATIONAL MEASURES AND COLLECTION OF ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND TAXES

The American Samoa Government is continuing to experience fiscal difficulties. Despite significant cost reductions in Government operations and assistance from the federal government, it is estimated that without further corrective measures the present cash balance of the Government could deteriorate to a point where the obligations of the Government would exceed available revenue by \$6 million.

While this problem remains serious, there has been significant improvement over the situation that existed only 4 months ago. At that time the financial exposure of the Government was estimated to be \$16.6 million. The combined efforts of the executive and legislative branches of the Government, working together with the Congress of the United States and the Department of the Interior, have already achieved savings of over \$3 million and new revenue of \$7 million. However, as the financial reports indicate, the crisis has not yet passed and it is necessary to continue with our shortfall rectification program.

Accordingly, by the authority vested in me as Governor of American Samoa by the Revised Constitution and laws of American Samoa, it is hereby ordered as follows:

#### 1. Government work week.

- (a) The Government will operate the usual 5-day work week and continue services normally provided to the fullest possible extent. However, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the work week of individual employees is 35 hours regular time, scheduled by appropriate supervisory authority, until further notice.
- (b) Employees who are required by contract or by the nature of their duties to work a 40-hour work week must continue working 40 hours and be regularly paid accordingly.

Employees in this category by the nature of their duties must be individually identified by name and position to the Governor by their respective department, office and other agency heads and thereafter approved by the Governor.

# 2. Delay of step increments, reclassifications and promotions.

Step increments, reclassifications and promotions for Government employees during fiscal year 1983 are delayed until such time as the Governor determines that the Government's fiscal position will not be unreasonably jeopardized by these personnel actions.

### 3. Freeze on hiring.

Hiring to fill vacant or new positions is terminated, except upon the Governor's approval of certification by the Director of Manpower Resources that filling the position is essential. The Director of Manpower Resources is directed to coordinate evaluation of the personnel requirements of each department, office and other agency.

# 4. Income tax refunds.

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Individual income tax refunds are deferred. Payment will be made when the Governor determines that the Government's fiscal position will not be unreasonably jeopardized by payment. Interest will be paid on refunds when made as provided by law.

# 5. Contract specialists' terminations and rental increases.

- (a) The Director of Manpower Resources is directed to coordinate identification of contract specialists who may desire or for other reasons should be permitted early termination of their employment contracts.
- (b) The Director of Administrative Services is directed to develop and upon the Governor's approval, implement a schedule of increases in rental charges for Government housing furnished to contract specialists.

# 6. Other cost containment measures.

Other cost containment measures are as follows:

- (1) the Director of Material Management and other department, office or other agency heads maintaining inventories are directed to reduce those inventories as quickly as feasible;
- (2) all travel is terminated, except as the Governor determines essential;
- (3) all department, office and other agency heads are directed to postpone expenditures for contractual services which are unobligated or can otherwise be delayed;

- (4) all department, office and other agency heads are directed to postpone the purchase of nonessential equipment and supplies; and
- (5) all expenditures for special programs are suspended except as authorized by the Governor's prior written approval.
- 7. Collection of accounts receivable and taxes.
- (a) The Director of Administrative Services and the heads of all other revenue generating agencies are directed to increase efforts, including appropriate legal remedies with the Attorney General's assistance, to collect outstanding accounts receivable for goods and services provided by the Government.
- (b) The Tax Manager is directed to increase efforts through audits and other means, including appropriate legal remedies with the Attorney General's assistance, to collect income and other taxes now and hereafter due.
- (c) Executive Order No. 6-1982 concerning the collection of excise taxes on the importation of petroleum products is suspended until further notice. The Director of Port Administration is directed to collect taxes before these products are permitted storage at onshore facilities.
- 8. Implementation. The Director of Administrative Services and Director of Program Planning and Budget Development are directed to oversee implementation of these orders, continually monitor the fiscal situation of the Government, and report to the Governor weekly on the situation and at such other times as significant changes may occur.

Dated: August 1, 1983

PETER TABLE COLEMAN

Governor of American Samoa