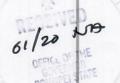


# POHNPEI STATE GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR

P.O. BOX 370 KOLONIA, POHNPEI STATE, FM 96941

TEL: (691) 320-2638 Hotline (691)320-8497



01/20/2022

The Honorable Reed B. Oliver Governor Pohnpei State Government Kolonia, Pohnpei, FSM 96941

Maing Governor:

Please find enclosed our fiscal year 2022, 1st Quarter Performance Report. If further assistance is needed please contact us.

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Ihlen K. Joseph State Public Auditor

1/20/22
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#### **Progress Report**

#### 1<sup>ST</sup> Quarter

- 1. Prepared and transmitted our fiscal year 2022 proposed budget to the Governor
- 2. Prepared and transmitted to the Speaker and the Governor our 4rth quarter Performance Report for Fiscal Year 2021.

# Activity 5: Staff capacity building and skill enhancement to build local capacity

#### **Indicated Output:**

- 1. Four (4) training courses covering auditing, investigation, fraud and accounting conducted by certified instructors to enhance staff skills and at the same time required CPE hours.
- 2. Four (4) in-house training courses conducted covering auditing, investigation, report writing and accounting.

#### **Progress Report**

#### 1st Quarter

- 1. PESA-SA & staff auditor Vellisa continuing on-line studying and completing required activities.
- 2. Staff Investigator Dainard continuing on-line college courses with Walden University

# Activity 6: Conduct community awareness programs, update POPA's website and do press release to increase public awareness

#### **Indicated Outputs**

- 1. Five (5) community fraud awareness programs
- 2. Four (4) newspaper release on POPA's work and activities

#### **Progress Report**

#### 1st Quarter

- 1. Our A Year-in-the-Life (YIL) of POPA under review
- 2. POPA activities on K-press, POPA and PASAI official websites as part of our communication strategy
- POPA partners with the Office of the Attorney General and Department of Treasury and Administration in conducting training on Ethics, Financial Management Regulation, Internal Control and Fraud to local government officials and employees.

# POPA's Fiscal Year 2020 Approved Budget/Expense

		Encumbrance	YTD Encumbrance	Expenses	Balance
586.00	92,480.59	7,584.59	8,953.92	66,602.13	16,924.54
0.00	1,250.00	0.00		1,759.00	3,241.00
			586.00 92,480.59 7,584.59	586.00 92,480.59 7,584.59 8,953.92	586.00 92,480.59 7,584.59 8,953.92 66,602.13

Prepared by:	Elaine H. Carl/ Administrative Officer	Date:	
Approved by:	Iso Ihlen K. Joseph/Public Auditor	Date:	

- 4. PCIU 19-001-Madolenhimw Municipality Government-filed in court/sentenced/appealed
- 5. PCIU 20-009-Sapwuafik-Investigator Dainard appeared in court as witness

Difficulties Encounter: CID Advisor is taking an extended leave of absence without pay to assist our FSM Pandemic Unemployment Assistant Office on Compliance Issues.

## Proposed action plan for next period:

1. Complete and issue report on pending cases

Activity 3: Follow up on outstanding audit findings to ensure timely resolution to improve government operations

**Timeline**: Conduct follow up on prior year audit findings to ensure recommendations are implemented timely.

### Measurable Performance Outputs:

- 1. Conduct follow up on audit deficiencies to ensure that at least 50% of our recommendations are implemented.
  - Note: implementation of recommendations can only be done by auditees
  - Minor progress has been made.

#### Difficulty encounter

POPA has made it a priority to follow up on recommendations, but very little cooperation from auditees. Without full cooperation and support from top officials, the findings will not fully be resolved. POPA lacks staffs to be dedicated to doing follow up at all times.

# Activity 4: Ensure compliance to mandated progress reporting and effective administrative support Services

#### **Indicated Outputs:**

- 1. Four (4) quarterly performance and activity reports completed and transmitted to Legislature and the Governor
- 2. One (1) annual progress report and activity report completed and transmitted to the Legislature and the Governor
- 3. Update OPA's Manual of Administration and Work Procedures
- 4. Ensure adequate funding to support POPA's operations

Difficulties Encounter: Auditees records not readily available due to lack of skilled staff and weak internal control compliance.

Activity 2: Conduct independent Preliminary review and administrative investigations (PRAI) on audit related cases, departmental referrals and tips received through the hotline.

Timeline: To investigate cases based on audit, departmental referrals and tips from the hotline Measurable Performance Outputs:

#### **Indicated Outputs:**

Activity 2: Three cases to be investigated and results reported, and 3 working files prepared and filed

## **Progress Report:**

#### **Active Cases/Status**

#### 1st Quarter

- 1. PCIU 20-005-PTA Heavy Equipment-to conduct more interview; analyze documents and finalize report.
- 2. PCIU 21-001-Tourism Project- (Hotline); analyzing of documents obtained
- 3. PICU 21-002-DOE Ghost Employee (departmental referral)-document gathering and interview of possible persons of interest.
- 4. PCIU 21-005-Quarantine Sites-finalizing report
- 5. PCIU 21-006- Senator H-document gathering

# Cases referred to AG and/or MA still pending

- 1. PCIU 18-010-Sapwuafik Municipal Government-referred to AG/not yet filed
- 2. PCIU 19-004-EPA Recycling Program-referred to AG/MA not yet filed
- 3. PCIU 19-003-PTA Activities-referred to AG/MA-not yet filed
- 4. PTA Coral Theft-referred to AG-7/23/20-not yet filed
- 5. PCIU 20-001-Outer-island Medical Referral Program-9/7/20-referred to AG/MA not yet filed
- 6. PCIU 20-007-PTA Comptroller Housing allowance-referred to AG

#### Cases closed for file:

- 1. PCIU 21-003-Hospital Security Supervisor
- 2. PCIU 21-004-Fraudulent Checks: closed under intelligent watch

# Litigation Support with AG's Office /pending in court

- 1. PCIU 18-003-Nukuoro Municipal Government-filed in court/awaiting defense closing statement
- 2. PCIU 18-004-Agriculture Revolving Fund-filed in court/sentenced
- 3. PCIU 18-007-T&I Contract Activities- field in court/trial

OFFICE: Pohnpei Office of the Public Auditor

FISCAL YEAR: 2022

Sector: General Fund

Quarterly Report: 1st Quarter Performance Report

Strategic Goal: To Enhance Accountability and Transparency in the Public Sector

To conduct independent performance audit, financial audit, attestation engagement Activity 1: and special reviews of Pohnpei Government Programs and activities

Complete and issue financial audit reports before or by March 31, 2021. Complete all Timeline: other audits and reviews by December 2021.

#### **Indicated Outputs**

Two (2) financial audit reports, seven (7) performance audit and other review reports, and nine (9) corresponding supporting working paper files completed.

## **Progress Report:**

#### **Financial Audits**

#### 1st Quarter

- 1. Small Business Guarantee & Finance Corp- Planning phase- following up on the status of the unaudited financial statement of the cooperation
- 2. Pohnpei Transportation- Planning phase- following up on the status of the unaudited financial statement for the Authority

#### **Performance Audit**

#### 1st Quarter

- 1. Pohnpei Supreme Court-completed fieldwork and all open items, preparation of report, 1st draft completed
- 2. Revenue & Taxation-completed field work, preparation of report, completed and submitted  $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$ draft for review
- 3. Nett District Government-Completed field work, drafting audit report
- 4. Recruitment Process-completed field work phase, completed 1st draft is under review