

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT

## **PROCLAMATION**

## "2024 CLICK OR TICKET MOBILIZATION" May 20<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

- WHEREAS, the safety and security of the citizens of American Samoa and surrounding areas are vitally important; and
- WHEREAS, a large percentage of our citizens regularly drive or ride in motor vehicles on our roadways; and one in five motorists (or 19 percent nationally) still fail to regularly wear their seat belts while driving or riding in a motor vehicle; and
- WHEREAS, American Samoa's 2023 Territory-wide Seat Belt Survey resulted in a 84.4% seatbelt usage rate, the survey concluded that more drivers were belted, while most passengers were not and;
- WHEREAS, the use of seat belts is supported by the laws of American Samoa; the territory should adhere to the laws by ensuring that all occupants in the vehicle are belted; children under the age of 4 should be in the back seat in car seats; children over the age of 4 should be properly seated and belted in the back seat;
- WHEREAS, May 20th to June 2nd, 2024, has been named the national "Click It or Ticket" law enforcement mobilization period;
- WHEREAS, across the country law enforcement officers will actively be participating in the mobilization to ensure all motor vehicle occupants are buckled up day and night, and to reduce the risk of injury and death caused in traffic crashes;
- WHEREAS, the American Samoa Department of Public Safety law enforcement officers will conduct increased enforcement of seat belt laws, and partner with the media and stakeholders to provide constant and consistent awareness during the mobilization period, which has been proven to be an effective method to increase the use of seatbelts and decrease fatal crashes:

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA,** Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim May 20<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, as the "Click It or Ticket Mobilization" in American Samoa and urge all citizens to always wear seat belts when driving or riding on our roadways.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this //w day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four.

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA

Governor