

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
Informational Briefing/Hearing/ Oversight Hearing / Roundtable Hearing

STANDING COMMITTEE / SENATOR	HEARING	COMMITTEE REPORT	HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard.	Oversight Hearing	Digital Committee Report on the Oversight Hearing on the Guam National Guard-Department of Military Affairs	3/13/26 2:00 p.m.	6/30/26	



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

June 15, 2026

The Honorable Frank F. Blas, Jr.

Speaker

I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: The Honorable V. Anthony Ada
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RE: Committee Report on the Guam National Guard-Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

Håfa Adai Speaker Blas:

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report relative to the Guam National Guard-Department of Military Affairs (DMA) Oversight Hearing which was conducted by the Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard (Committee) on March 13, 2026 at 2:00 p.m..

Please contact our office if you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

SHAWN GUMATAOTAO

Chairman

Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard



COMMITTEE ON RULES

RECEIVED:

June 15, 2026 2:22 p.m.

Marie Crisostomo



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

COMMITTEE REPORT

Oversight Hearing
Guam National Guard-Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

First Notice of Oversight Hearing - Friday, March 13, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

3 messages

Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>Fri, Mar 6, 2026 at 8:00
AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov

Bcc: "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, "vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov"

<vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, "office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov"

<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, "senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov" <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>,

Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>, "officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov"

<officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, "senatortelot@gmail.com" <senatortelot@gmail.com>, Office of Senator

Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, Senator Vince Borja <vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov>,

"senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, "malafunkshun@guamlegislature.gov"

<malafunkshun@guamlegislature.gov>, "senator.perez@guamlegislature.gov" <senator.perez@guamlegislature.gov>,

Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, "senator.parkinson@guamlegislature.gov"

<senator.parkinson@guamlegislature.gov>, "senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Joann

Camacho <joann.camacho@guamlegislature.gov>, Guam Legislature Clerks <clerks@guamlegislature.gov>, Legislative

Counsel <legislativecounsel@guamlegislature.gov>, Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>, news@guampdn.com,

Maureen Maratita <publisher@glimpesofguam.com>, publisher@pacificislandtimes.com, reporters@postguam.com,

newsdirector@kuam.com, reporters@kuam.com, Troy Torres <troy@kanditnews.com>, news@kanditnews.com,

raygibsonradio@gmail.com, context@pasquines.us, guamwebsites@gmail.com, managingeditor@glimpesofguam.com,

editor@glimpesofguam.com, reporter2@glimpesofguam.com, kyle@power98.com, patti@thewave105.com,

dice@power98.com, reese@power98.com, marc@postguam.com, dick.sheffield@abc.com, ready@guamwebz.com,

thomas.manglona@marianaspress.com, local@bayareanewsgroup.com, local@bakersfield.com, runner@csu.edu,

jimk@ebpublishing.com, tritonscalluog@gmail.com, nestor@postguam.com, Jenna Blas <jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov>

March 6, 2026

MEMORANDUM**To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media****From: Senator Shawn Gumataotao**, Chairman, Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard**Subject: First Notice of Oversight Hearing - Friday, March 13, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.**

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 - Department of Military Affairs Federal Grants Matching Requirements

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Special Accommodations

Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids or services are asked to submit their request to Ms. Diana Topasna at the Office of Senator Shawn Gumataotao at (671) 647-1409/1411, 120 Father Duenas Avenue Capitol Plaza Building, Suite 103, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910, or via email at office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov. *Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!*

--

Office of Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao
Chairman, Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard
38th Guam Legislature
120 Father Duenas Avenue Capitol Plaza Building, Suite 103, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910
(671) 647-1409/1411



3.06.26 First Notice of Oversight Hearing - Guam National Guard-Department of Military Affairs.pdf
263K

Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>

Fri, Mar 6, 2026 at 8:06 AM

To: Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>

Håfa adai and posted on the calendar.

[Quoted text hidden]

--



Edward S. Pocaigue, Jr.
Sergeant-at-Arms

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Guam Congress Building, 1st Floor
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910



1-671-969-3514



sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov

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Guam Legislature Clerks <clerks@guamlegislature.gov>

Fri, Mar 6, 2026 at 8:17 AM

To: Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>

Cc: "Rennae Vanessa C. Meno" <rennae.meno@guamlegislature.gov>

Håfa Adai,

Received, and thank you.



Elijah Untalan

Clerks Office

I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Voice: (671) 472-3465/3460 Fax: (671) 472-3524

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Thank you

From: Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 6, 2026 8:00 AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov <phnotice@guamlegislature.gov>

Subject: First Notice of Oversight Hearing - Friday, March 13, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

[Quoted text hidden]



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

March 6, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: **All Senators, Stakeholders, Media**

From: **Senator Shawn Gumataotao**, Chairman, Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard 

Subject: **First Notice of Oversight Hearing - Friday, March 13, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.**

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First Notice of Oversight Hearing - Friday, March 13, 2026 - 2:00 p.m.

First Notice of Oversight Hearing - Friday, March 13, 2026 - 2:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

 **Posted on:** 03/06/2026 08:00 AM

 **Posted by:** Diana Topasna

 **Public Hearing Date:** 03/13/2026 02:00 PM

 **Department(s):**

GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):**

OFFICE OF SENATOR SHAWN GUMATAOTAO (/notices?division_id=294)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

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March 6, 2026

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To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Shawn Gumataotao, Chairman, Committee
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INVOICE

Second Notice of Oversight Hearing - Friday, March 13, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

3 messages

Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>Wed, Mar 11, 2026 at 8:00
AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov

Bcc: "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, "Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada" <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Telo Taitague <senatortelot@gmail.com>, Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, Senator Vince Borja <vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.gov>, Sabina Perez <senator.perez@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator William Parkinson <senator.parkinson@guamlegislature.gov>, "Senator Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajegum@gmail.com>, Joann Camacho <joann.camacho@guamlegislature.gov>, Guam Legislature Clerks <clerks@guamlegislature.gov>, Legislative Counsel <legislativecounsel@guamlegislature.gov>, Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>, news@guampdn.com, Maureen Maratita <publisher@glimpsesofiguam.com>, publisher@pacificislandtimes.com, reporters@postguam.com, newsdirector@kuam.com, reporters@kuam.com, Troy Torres <troy@kanditnews.com>, news@kanditnews.com, raygibsonradio@gmail.com, context@pasquines.us, guamwebsites@gmail.com, managingeditor@glimpsesofiguam.com, editor@glimpsesofiguam.com, reporter2@glimpsesofiguam.com, patti@thewave105.com, dice@power98.com, marc@postguam.com, dick.sheffield@abc.com, ready@guamwebz.com, thomas.manglona@marianaspress.com, local@bayareanewsgroup.com, local@bakersfield.com, runner@csu.edu, jimk@ebpublishing.com, tritonscalluog@gmail.com, nestor@postguam.com, Jenna Blas <jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov>

March 11, 2026

MEMORANDUM**To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media****From: Senator Shawn Gumataotao**, Chairman, Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard**Subject: Second Notice of Oversight Hearing - Friday, March 13, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.**

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--

Office of Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao
Chairman, Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard
38th Guam Legislature
120 Father Duenas Avenue Capitol Plaza Building, Suite 103, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910
(671) 647-1409/1411



3.11.26 Second Notice of Oversight Hearing - Guam National Guard-Department of Military Affairs.pdf
260K

Guam Legislature Clerks <clerks@guamlegislature.gov>
To: Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>
Cc: Rennae Meno <rennae.meno@guamlegislature.gov>

Wed, Mar 11, 2026 at 8:11 AM

Håfa Adai,

Received, and thank you.



Elijah Untalan
Clerks Office

I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910

Voice: (671) 472 3465/3460 Fax: (671) 472 3524

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Thank you

From: Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 8:00 AM
To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov <phnotice@guamlegislature.gov>
Subject: Second Notice of Oversight Hearing - Friday, March 13, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

[Quoted te t hidden]

Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>

To: Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>

Wed, Mar 11, 2026 at 8:15 AM

Hafa Adai,

Second notice updated.

[Quoted text hidden]

--



Edward S. Pocaigue, Jr.

Sergeant-at-Arms

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Guam Congress Building, 1st Floor

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910



1-671-969-3514



sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov

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OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

March 11, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: **All Senators, Stakeholders, Media**

From: **Senator Shawn Gumataotao**, Chairman, Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard 

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Second Notice of Oversight Hearing - March 13, 2026 - 2:00 p.m.

Second Notice of Oversight Hearing - March 13, 2026 - 2:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

 **Posted on:** 03/11/2026 08:00 AM

 **Posted by:** Diana Topasna

 **Public Hearing Date:** 03/13/2026 02:00 PM

 **Department(s):**
GUAM LEGISLATURE

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR SHAWN GUMATAOTAO

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC

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March 11, 2026

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OFFICE OF SENATOR SHAWN GUMATAOTAO
38TH GUAM LEGISLATURE
120 FATHER DUENAS AVE., CAPITAL PLAZA
BLDG., STE. 103
HAGATNA, GUAM 96932

Purchase Order Number: **2638PO0108**
Est. Number:
Co-Op:
Description:
Salesperson: San Agustin, Christie

Date	Day	Length		Qty	Rate	Total
03/16/2026	MON		KUAM TV PUBLIC HEARING – MARCH 13, 2026 FIRST NOTICE - AIR DATE: 03/06/26 1x :15 SECOND AD-TV8 TIME: 12:58PM 1x :15 SECOND AD-TV11 (KUAM MATCH) TIME: 1:50PM PUBLIC HEARING – MARCH 13, 2026 SECOND NOTICE - AIR DATE: 03/11/26 1x :15 SECOND AD-TV8 TIME: 1:29PM 1x :15 SECOND AD-TV11 (KUAM MATCH) TIME: 11:28AM			\$230.00

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT OF INVOICE.

Quantity	4	Total	\$230.00
Total Due			\$230.00

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OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

**Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management,
and Guam National Guard**

**Oversight Hearing • Guam National Guard-Department of Military
Affairs**

**Friday, March 13, 2026 • 2:00 p.m.
Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room**

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Chairman's Opening Statement
- III. Guam National Guard-Department of Military Affairs
Presentation:
 - a. Preparation for Performance-Based Budgeting -
Department of Military Affairs
 - b. Memorandum No. DMA26-022 dated November 13, 2025
 - c. Department of Military Affairs Federal Grants Matching
Requirements
- IV. Question & Answer Section
- V. Chairman's Closing Statement
- VI. Adjournment



Office of Senator

SENATOR EULOGIO SHAWN GUMATAOTAO

Chairman

Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard

I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 38th Guam Legislature

OVERSIGHT HEARING

Guam National Guard - Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

Friday, March 13, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.
Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

SIGN-IN SHEET

	NAME	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	Please indicate with ✓		Contact Number	Email Address
			Written	Oral		
1	Karin Watson	GUNG/DMA	X	X	315 344 1001	
2	Duane Stout	GUNG				DuaneStout.S.@gmail.com
3	PLAMIN RABINO	GUNG			315 344 1098	
4	Perez Duane	GUNG			315 344 1114	
5	Balogdick, Victor	GUNG				Victor.Balogdick@gmail.com
6	Angela Corey	GUNG				
7	Duane, Marne	GUNG			671 344 1002	



Office of Senator

SENATOR EULOGIO SHAWN GUMATAOTAO

Chairman

Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard

I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 38th Guam Legislature

OVERSIGHT HEARING

Guam National Guard - Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

Friday, March 13, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.
Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

SIGN-IN SHEET

	NAME	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	Please indicate with ✓		Contact Number	Email Address
			Written	Oral		
1	Kathleen Perez	DMA			647.9156	
2	Chris Luciani	GUNG		✓		
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

March 6, 2026

Karin L. Watson
The Adjutant General (TAG)
Guam National Guard–Department of Military Affairs
Sent via: karin.l.watson.nfg@army.mil

Subject: First Notice of Oversight Hearing – Guam National Guard–Department of Military Affairs

Håfa adai TAG Watson, *Karin*

Please be informed that the Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard (Committee) has scheduled an Oversight Hearing on the Guam National Guard–Department of Military Affairs for **Friday, March 13, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.** in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building in *Hagåtña*.

The Committee respectfully requests your attendance and participation in the upcoming Oversight Hearing, which will provide the Guam National Guard–Department of Military Affairs, with the opportunity to provide information and respond to questions from members of *I Liheslatura* regarding the following topics:

- Preparation for Performance-Based Budgeting - Department of Military Affairs
- Memorandum No. DMA26-022 dated November 13, 2025
- Department of Military Affairs Federal Grants Matching Requirements

A copy of the Notice of Oversight Hearing is attached to this letter to help guide the Guam National Guard–Department of Military Affairs in its preparation for the upcoming Oversight Hearing. **Please be informed that if you intend to include a PowerPoint presentation in your testimony during the Oversight Hearing, the file(s) should be submitted to my office via email no later than 72 hours in advance of the intended use.**

Please contact my office at the numbers provided below or via email at office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov should you have any questions.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

Shawn Gumataotao
SHAWN GUMATAOTAO
Chairman

Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard

Attachment: Notice of 3.13.26 Oversight Hearing – Guam National Guard–Department of Military Affairs



Guam National Guard



BG Karin L. Watson
The Adjutant General

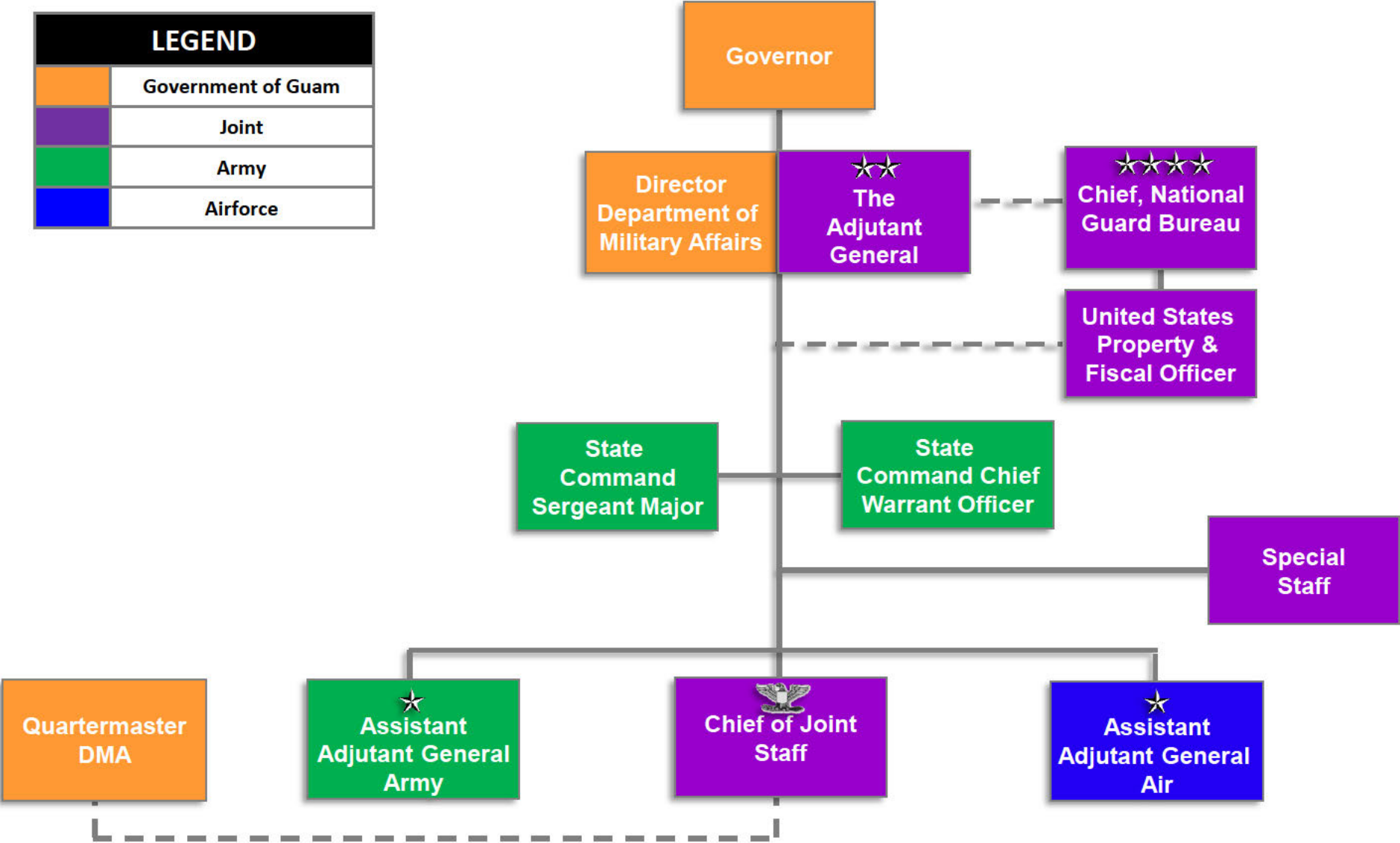


- Guam National Guard Organizational Chart
- Department of Military Affairs 2026 Organizational Chart
- DMA Staffing Levels
- Performance-based Budgeting
- Cooperative Agreement
- GUNG Economic Benefits
- DMA Memo 26-022



Guam National Guard Organizational Chart

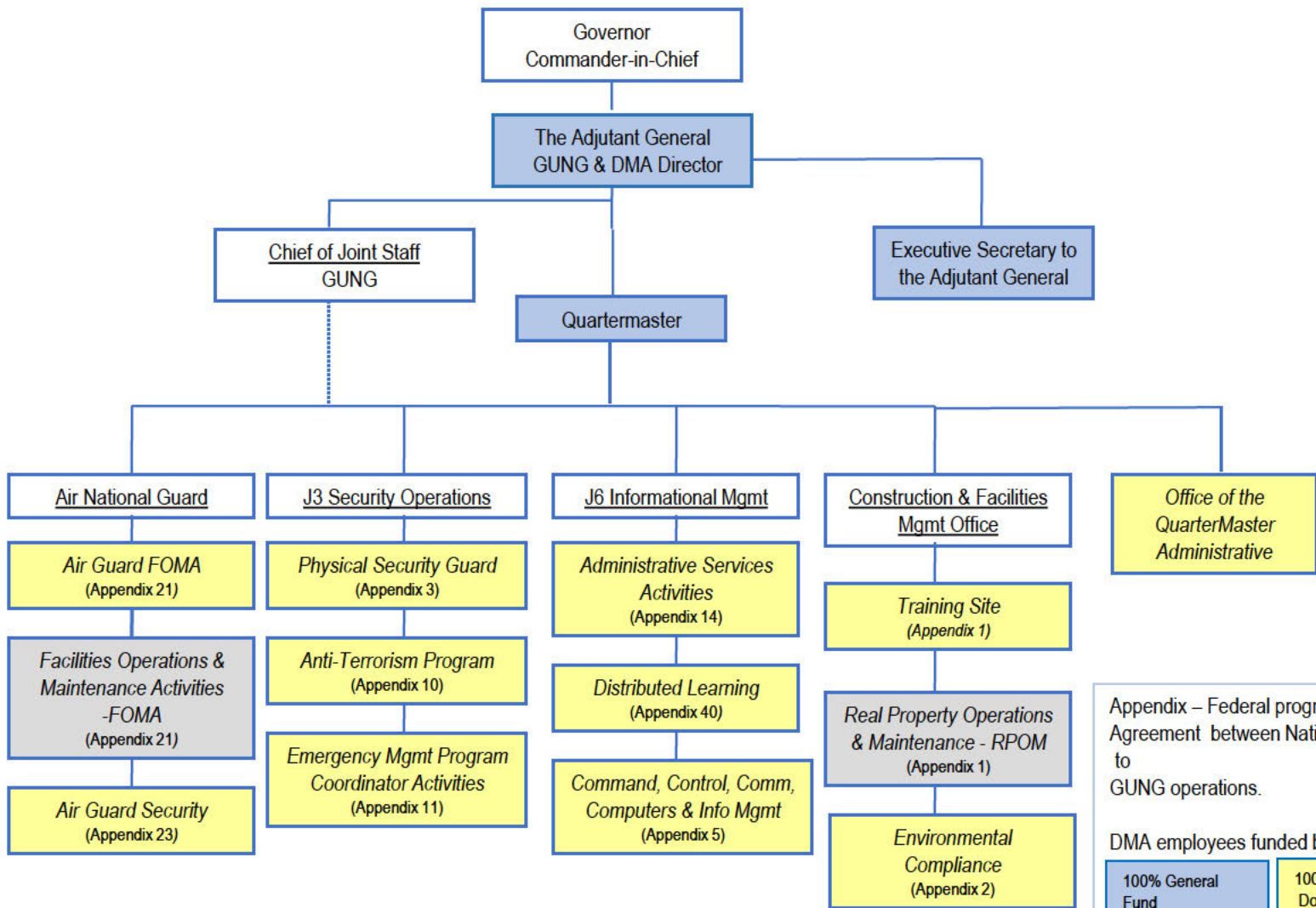
LEGEND	
	Government of Guam
	Joint
	Army
	Airforce





Department of Military Affairs

FY2026 Organizational Chart



Appendix – Federal program funded by the Master Cooperative Agreement between National Guard Bureau and DMA to provide support to GUNG operations.

DMA employees funded by:

100% General Fund	100% Federal Dollars	75% Fed, 25% GF
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DMA Staffing Levels

PROGRAM	CURRENT LEVEL	AUTHORIZED LEVEL	Match Ratio Federal / Local:	LOCAL/FEDERAL
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL	3	4	100.00%	LOCAL
ANG FOMA (OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE)	4	5	75% / 25 %	MATCHING
ARNG Real Property Operations & Maintenance (RPOM)	4	5	75% / 25 %	MATCHING
ANG FOMA (Administration)	1	1	100.00%	FEDERAL
ARNG Training Site	11	25	100.00%	FEDERAL
ARNG Environmental Compliance	2	6	100.00%	FEDERAL
ARNG Physical Security	17	22	100.00%	FEDERAL
ARNG Command, Control, Communications, Computers & Info Mngmt (C4IM Services)	4	4	100.00%	FEDERAL
ARNG Anti-Terrorism Activities	1	1	100.00%	FEDERAL
ARNG Emergency Management Program	1	1	100.00%	FEDERAL
ARNG Administrative Services Activities	3	3	100.00%	FEDERAL
ARNG Distributed Learning Program	1	2	100.00%	FEDERAL
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT CENTRALIZED PERSONNEL	5	9	100.00%	FEDERAL
AIRGUARD SECURITY	1	1	100.00%	FEDERAL



Performance-based Budgeting

- **Standardizing the "Ask":** While the Cooperative Agreement dictates the federal-state cost-share ratios (often 75/25 or 100/0), PBB provides the data-driven justification for our local match. It allows us to show that every local dollar spent unlocks significant federal investment.
- **Outcome-Driven Allocation:** Under traditional budgeting, funds are often "use it or lose it" based on categories. PBB allows us to align Cooperative Agreement funds with specific **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**, such as facility readiness ratings and troop response times.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** The Cooperative Agreement requires strict adherence to federal regulations (2 CFR 200). PBB reinforces this by creating a clear "audit trail" of performance, proving to both federal and local partners that resources are being used effectively.



Cooperative Agreement

FOUNDATION

PARTNERSHIP

FY26 Budget

Law
U.S. Code Title :
Authorizes the NGB to enter cooperative agreements & provides the legal basis for federal funding & assistance.



Policy and Regulations
CFR, NGB GT&C, NGR/CNGBI: Dictates how the program is managed, defining roles and responsibilities for everyone involved.



GUNG Cooperative Agreement
Formal Agreement signed by USPFO for Guam (representing Federal) and TAG (representing Governor of Guam).
There are 10 Appendices: 8 are 100% reimbursed & 2 are 75% Federal/25% Guam cost-share.

PROCESS

Funding
At beginning of Fiscal Year, NGB allocates funds that allows USPFO to commit federal funds against Cooperative Agreement Appendices. Appendices are open w/an Modification document showing available funds, signed by the USPFO & TAG.



Execution
DMA performs work under the Appendices such as facility maintenance, security, cyber support, etc. Once completed, request reimbursement by submitting SF-270.



In-Kind Assistance
Federal In-Kind Assistance allows the State to leverage the federal procurement system for specific goods or services when DMA is unable to execute. The IKA request is initiated by DMA and approved by USPFO.

Reimbursement
USPFO reviews reimbursement request to verify if the cost is allowable under Cooperative Agreement and process reimbursement payment.

IKA Cost Share
If there is a cost share; the required Guam contribution is calculated based on project total and is subtracted out of DMA's requested federal reimbursement

APPENDIX	FEDERAL SHARE	GUAM SHARE
1001 ARNG Facilities	\$7.989M	\$548,573*
1002 ARNG Environmental	\$197K	-
1003 ARNG Security	\$1.5860M	-
1005 Communications	\$206K	-
1010 ATFP	\$130K	-
1011 Emergency Mgt	\$90K	-
1014 Admin services	\$249K	-
1021 ANG Facilities	\$685K	\$163,102
1023 ANG Security	\$107K	-
1040 Distance Learning	\$174K	-
TOTAL	\$11.413M	\$711,675

Bottom Line for Guam: The Cooperative Agreement is a partnership between the NGB and Government of Guam that provides federal resources to train and equip the GUNG ensuring the organization is ready to execute its federal and local missions.



GUNG Economic Benefits

FY 25 FEDERAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

APPROPRIATION	GUAM ARMY NATIONAL GUARD (\$M)	GUAM AIR NATIONAL GUARD (\$M)	TOTAL (\$M)
Pay and Allowances	\$ 15.2	\$ 3.3	\$ 18.5
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 35.3	\$ 2.1	\$ 37.4
T10 Mobilizations	\$ 8.5	\$ 8.3	\$ 16.8
Active Guard & Reserve (AGR)	\$ 14.8	\$ 5.8	\$ 20.6
Military Construction	\$ 49.8	\$ 3.0	\$ 52.8
TOTAL	\$ 123.6	\$ 22.5	\$ 146.1

Other benefits of the GUNG and the CA program provide Guam:

- ~1,500 Service Members trained and ready w/various skill sets and capabilities
- 43 Facilities, 16 Maintenance Bays for humanitarian response
- 29,000 pieces of equipment (transportation, hauling, and engineer equipment)
- Employment of 89 DMA personnel (58 Assigned/31Vacant)
- Facilitating local business contracts (construction, supplies & services)
- Funeral Honors for Veterans
- Band Performances for special events
- Building partnerships with DoW active-duty units in the INDOPACOM region



DMA Memo 26-022



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard convened an Oversight Hearing regarding the Guam National Guard-Department of Military Affairs (DMA) on March 13, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building in Hagåtña.

Public Notice Requirements

Public Hearing Notices sent out via email to all Senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on March 6, 2026 (5-Day Notice) and again on March 11, 2026 (48-Hour Notice) for the Oversight hearing on March 13, 2026. All notices were also published on the Guam Public Notice Website on the aforementioned dates.

Senators Present

Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, Committee Chairperson
Senator Telo Taitague
Senator Joe T. San Agustin

Attendees

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, Guam National Guard-Department of Military Affairs
Colonel Christian Cruz, U.S. Fiscal and Property Officer (USFPO)
Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, Guam National Guard
Mr. Duane Sablan, Guam National Guard
Mr. Plamin Rabino, Guam National Guard
Mr. Duane Perez, Guam National Guard
Mr. Victor Balajadia, Guam National Guard
Mr. Corey Ayuyu, Guam National Guard
Mr. Manuel Duenas, Guam National Guard
Mr. Chris Iwashita, Guam National Guard

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

Oversight Hearing - Senator Shawn Gumataotao - March 13, 2026 2pm

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Good afternoon, everyone. This afternoon's oversight hearing of the Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and your Guam National Guard regarding the Guam National Guard-Department of Military Affairs is hereby called to order. Today is Friday, March 13, 2026, and the time is now 2 p.m. CHamoru standard Time.

For the record and in accordance with the open government law, notices for today's oversight hearing and public hearing were sent on March 6, 2026, and again on March 11, 2026. Notices for this hearing were also published on the Guam Legislature website and the Guam Public Notices website. Joining us here this afternoon are members of the Guam Legislature, to include my colleague from Yigo, Senator Joe San Agustin. Senator, thank you for being with us this afternoon, and I appreciate your attendance today. Before we proceed with the discussion, I'd first like to provide some general rules of conduct for this afternoon's oversight hearing, which shall be as follows.

Written comments or presentations shall be submitted to the committee. Lastly, please provide my legislative staff with your written comments for photocopying. Comments may be read, and lengthy presentations should be summarized to about five minutes. Those offering comments will be allowed to present written or oral testimony in the five-minute time frame allotted. I please ask that you would respect the committee's request. Once you are done, please remain in the room for questions or additional comments, as may be desired by members of the Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and your Guam National Guard and other members of the Guam Legislature. Questions and comments shall be confined to the nature of the agenda.

The agenda for this afternoon's oversight hearing concerns the Department of Military Affairs' preparation for Performance-Based Budgeting, the contents of Memorandum No. DMA 26-022 dated November 13, 2025, and DMA's federal grants matching requirements. 10 GCA Section 63100 provides that the Administrative and Executive Head of the Department of Military Affairs shall be the Adjutant General.

For the record, the Committee requested the attendance and participation of the Adjutant General, Brigadier General Karen L. Watson. On behalf of the Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and your Guam National Guard, I would like to take this moment to congratulate Brigadier General Watson on your current rank. My office was informed by the Guam National Guard late this morning that your current rank was in fact approved, and congratulations and kudos to you and to the National Guard.

At this time, the Chair requests for TAG Watson and anyone else from DMA or that TAG intends to call upon to please come forward and, again, what we would like to do before speaking, members of the panel shall be first recognized by the Chair and shall state their name for record purposes. The order of questioning will begin with the panel of Senators, so shall each have five minutes to ask their questions. The time allotted to each Senator does not include responses that are provided by those testifying. Personal inferences about the character or motive of any Senator or any individual commenting is not permitted. Any violations of this general rule of conduct will result in removal from the public hearing room for this afternoon's oversight hearing. Individuals who fail to maintain proper form or decorum may be restricted

from providing oral testimony and or may be asked to leave or be escorted and removed from the room. Proper form and decorum shall be practiced by all present here in the public hearing room. At this time, again, the Committee requests that the Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Ed Pocaigue, to swear in Brigadier General Karen L. Watson, the Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard, and anyone else who might be asked by the Adjutant General to provide comments and answer questions from Senators on the items that are outlined in today's oversight hearing agenda. I would like to turn it over to Mr. Pocaigue, please take it away, and General, please come forward if you can.

Sargeant-at-Arms Ed Pocaigue: Please raise your right hand. Under Penalty of Perjury, do you affirm that any and all information you provide today, whether it be verbally, electronically, and in writing, be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth? Mr. Chair, they are under oath. You may proceed.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you so much, Mr. Pocaigue. Please have a seat. Through Guam Public Law 2-23, from June 22, 1953, the Guam Legislature and the Governor of Guam recognized the role of the Guam Militia and its successor, the Guam National Guard, in preserving peace and safeguarding our citizens through its permanent presence, training, and 24-7 readiness and operational support for our broader United States Armed Forces apparatus. U.S. Public Law 96-600, enacted on December 24, 1980, officially authorized the establishment of the Guam National Guard.

Title 37 of the United States Code provides that in time of peace, Guam may maintain no troops other than those of its National Guard and Defense Forces. Guam may, as provided by local law, organize and maintain Defense Forces. The Guam National Guard must be combat-ready, cost-effective, experienced, and serve an important dual role both to Guam and the United States of America, like no other organization in the Government of Guam.

We all must support this important entity that delivers unparalleled operational capacity with strategic depth to support the defense of our people and the people of our great country. The Department of Military Affairs recognizes its role in support of the Guam National Guard, which includes both the Army and Air National Guard components. DMA represented through its FY 2026 budget request that the Department's goal is twofold.

One, to ensure all facilities are maintained and mission-capable for all uniformed personnel for daily operations and when activated upon, and to assist, number two, to assist in providing the island with operational units ready to protect life and property and to preserve the internal security of Guam when ordered by the Governor of Guam. Regarding DMA's preparation for performance-based budgeting, in FY 2027, the Committee is interested in establishing a clear understanding of how DMA's FY 2026 budget of \$1,197,710 from the General Fund is impacting the Department's ability to secure, maximize, and account for critical resources from the National Guard Bureau pursuant to its Master Cooperative Agreement. The Committee respectfully requests DMA to provide a copy of the Master Cooperative Agreement this afternoon if available and publicly disclosable.

The Committee will also address some of the information that is contained in Memorandum Number DMA 26-022, dated November 13, 2025, from the former Adjutant General, Brigadier General Michael W. Cruz, to the Governor of Guam regarding the process and communication surrounding the transition of the position of the Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard. The final agenda item for today's Oversight Hearing concerns DMA's federal grants matching

requirements. Based on the Executive Budget Request for FY 2027, the Government of Guam will be responsible for a 25% local share, or \$550,044, for Guam National Guard real property operations and maintenance, and a 25% local share, or \$176,146, for Air National Guard facility operations maintenance activities. This might not seem like a lot, but it is surely important to the mission of the Guam National Guard. The Committee looks forward to receiving a summary of DMA's ongoing efforts to support the estimated 70-plus full-time classified and unclassified employees and their collective work in support of our more than 1,200 soldiers and airmen. Now I would like to just add that Oversight Hearings are done by this branch to monitor and support with public policy the agencies that are under our respective Committee oversight. This activity, this Oversight Hearing, is the most fundamental means of involvement in executive affairs available to the legislative branch of the Government of Guam. The Committee appreciates the attendance and participation of Adjutant General Watson, and we do look forward to your cooperation as we put forward our questions. Again, the Committee appreciates, General Watson, your commitment to working together to strengthen the Guam National Guard and Department of Military Affairs. The soldiers and airmen of our Guam National Guard and their families, really, they're counting on you, General, the National Guard, and the Department of Military Affairs to navigate this important organization moving forward, particularly at a time of rising geopolitical and military tensions in both the Indo-Pacific and in the Middle East. With that said, thank you all for being with us this afternoon, and General, again, welcome to the Guam Congress Building, and I will go ahead and turn this Oversight Hearing over to you now. Thank you so much for being with us today.

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: Buenas, yan hafa adai, Mr. Chair, Senator San Agustin, Senator Taitague, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I am Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, the Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard and Director of the Department of Military Affairs. Joining me at the table today are members of my leadership team who support the operations, administration, and mission of the Guam National Guard. They are here to assist in answering any specific questions the committee may have during today's hearing. I have to my right Command Sergeant Major, excuse me, Duane Perez, my State Command Sergeant Major. I have newly promoted Command Chief Warrant Officer 5, Christopher Iwashita, and then I have my Director of Staff, Lieutenant Colonel, and he is also promotable, Victor Baladaja. To my left, I have Ms. Kathleen Peredo, my Quartermaster. I have Colonel Chris Cruz, sorry, who is my USPFO, United States Property and Fiscal Officer. I have Colonel Manny Duenas, who is my Chief of the Joint Staff, and I have Major Plamin Rabino, who is my J6, or basically my Joint Staff Lead for all things communications.

We do have a slide show that was prepared for you, so I don't know if we can show it, but you should have a paper copy of it in front of you. If you would, please go to the next slide, and that's the agenda slide, and so before we begin, I would like to briefly outline the structure of the presentation that has been provided to the committee.

Today's presentation will primarily address three areas of interest, the Performance-Based Budgeting, federal grant matching requirements, and the DMA Memorandum 26-022. To provide the necessary context of these topics, the presentation will begin with a brief overview of the organizational structures of the Guam National Guard and the Department of Military Affairs, including our respective roles and how the two organizations operate together. From there, we will discuss DMA staffing levels, followed by discussion on Performance-Based Budgeting, cooperative agreement framework, and the GUNG's economic impact to the island,

and the briefing will conclude with a discussion on DMA Memo 26-022, so slightly changing the order of the topics.

Before moving on, I would like to first provide some background on the Guam National Guard and the Department of Military Affairs and how these two organizations operate together in service to the people of Guam. The Guam National Guard serves under the Governor of Guam when in a Title 32 or state active duty status, and under the President of the United States when in a Title 10 status. Our soldiers and our airmen stand ready to respond to local emergencies, support community needs, and defend our nation when called upon.

The Department of Military Affairs is the civilian component of our organization that provides administrative, logistical, and operational support necessary to sustain the Guard's missions. DMA also carries out several territorial responsibilities that support Guam's emergency preparedness and resilience. Together, the Guam National Guard and the Department of Military Affairs operate as a unified team, combining military capability with civilian support to ensure that we can effectively respond to disasters, support national defense requirements, and serve the people of Guam.

With that brief overview, I would like to highlight the organizational structure of the Guam National Guard and the Department of Military Affairs. If you would please move on to the next slide, and that next slide is our organizational chart. As reflected on this slide, I serve in a dual capacity as both the Adjutant General for the Guam National Guard and the Director of Military Affairs.

The color-coded boxes represent the different components of our organization. The amber boxes reflect Government of Guam positions within the Department of Military Affairs. The purple boxes represent joint positions that support both the Army and Air National Guard. The green boxes are positions within the Army National Guard, and the blue boxes are those that would be filled by the Air National Guard personnel. You will also notice a dotted line to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau. This represents a coordinating relationship. The Chief of the National Guard Bureau serves as a principal advisor on National Guard matters to the Secretaries of the Army and Air Force, and also serves as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Through this structure, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau acts as a channel of communication between the National Guard of the states and territories and the Department of War. Subordinates to the Adjutant General are the Assistant Adjutant General for the Army and the Air Force. These leaders are responsible for the training, readiness, and operational oversight of their respective service components and subordinate units. Currently, the Assistant Adjutant General for the Army is Colonel Charles Douglas. The Assistant Adjutant General for the Air position is currently vacant. At the center of the Joint Staff structure is the Chief of the Joint Staff, again, Colonel Manuel Duenas, who is responsible for managing and coordinating the Guam National Guard's Joint Staff functions. He also maintains a coordinating relationship with the Department of Military Affairs Quartermaster, Ms. Kathleen Peredo, who oversees key logistical and support functions within the department. Please move to the next slide.

And this slide is titled our FY 2026 Organizational Chart, and what you see now is your current organizational structure of the Department of Military Affairs, or the DMA. The color-coded boxes on the slide reflect how these positions are funded, whether through local Government of Guam funding, federal funding, or a combination of both. The three blue boxes represent the only three positions fully funded by the Government of Guam.

These positions are the Director of the Department of Military Affairs, that would be me, the Quartermaster, and the Executive Assistant to the Adjutant General. The yellow boxes represent positions that are fully funded through federal resources. These include functions such as our physical security personnel, our anti-terrorism manager, which support the protection and security of Guam National Guard facilities.

Finally, our facility maintenance positions are funded through a cost-sharing agreement, and at 75% that's federally funded, and 25% that's funded locally. Collectively, these positions demonstrate how the Department of Military Affairs provides the civilian support structure necessary to sustain and enable the Guam National Guard's operations here in Guam. If you would please move on to the next slide, titled DMA Staffing Levels.

This slide reflects the current staffing levels within the Department of Military Affairs. It outlines both our authorized positions and our current staffing strength by position. The chart also illustrates how each program's personnel are funded, including the respective federal and local funding match ratios that support these positions.

DMA's manning is set by a manning model that's formulated by the Facilities Inventory and Support Plan, or the FISP, and the Installation Status Reports, the ISR. This provides a clear picture of how DMA's workforce is structured and funded across the various programs, as well as the relationship between federal support and government of Guam contributions required to sustain these requirements, or these operations. If you would please move on to the next slide, titled Performance-Based Budgeting.

DMA stands at a critical juncture in our fiscal evolution. As we manage the readiness of the Guam National Guard and our critical local programs, we are transitioning from a traditional line-item approach towards PBB. Our goal is simple but ambitious, and to shift the conversation from how much did we spend to what did we achieve for the people of Guam.

The backbone of our funding is that cooperative agreement that's between the National Guard Bureau and the territory of Guam. Understanding the synergy between PBB and this agreement is vital for our continued success. While the cooperative agreement dictates that federal-state cost-share ratios, which are often that 75-25, or completely 100% federally funded, 0% state funded, PBB provides a data-driven junction or justification for our local match.

It allows us to show that every local dollar spent unlocks significant federal investment. Under traditional budgeting, funds are often use-it-or-lose-it based on categories. PBB would allow us to align cooperative agreement funds with specific key performance indicators or KPIs, such as facility readiness, ratings, and troop response times.

The cooperative agreement also requires strict adherence to federal regulations, specifically 2 CFR 200. PBB enforces this by creating a clear audit trail of performance, proving to both federal and local partners that resources are being used effectively. By integrating PBB with our cooperative agreement obligations, we are focusing on three pillars. That's readiness excellence, which is investing in the modernization of our readiness centers to meet NGB standards. Secondly, is resource optimization, reducing the administrative overhead by consolidating cooperative agreement management tasks. And then thirdly, the community resilience, ensuring that our domestic response capabilities are funded based on measurable disaster preparedness milestones.

If you would please move on to the next slide. And this slide is titled Cooperative Agreement. At this point, I will transition to Colonel Cruz, who will discuss the cooperative agreement framework and the economic benefits that the Guam National Guard brings to the island.

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: Good afternoon, Senators. My name's Colonel Christian Cruz. I'm the United States Fiscal and Property Officer, USFPO for short, for Guam. Thank you for the opportunity to present this overview of the Guam National Guard Cooperative Agreement. This afternoon, I will be briefing you on the legal foundation, the structure, the process, and the purpose of this vital partnership between the federal government and the Government of Guam. If you look at the slide, the top left quadrant, the legal foundation, that's the authority that the federal government uses to fund the National Guard, and it's established in law and regulations.

The foundational law are Title 31 U.S. Code, Chapter 63, and Title 32 of U.S. Code, Sections 106 and 107, which authorizes the Secretary of War to enter into a cooperative agreement with the states and territories and allow federal funds to flow to Guam to ensure that the Guam is ready for their mission. This process is governed by a clear hierarchy of regulations, including two CFR, or two Code of Federal Regulations, two CFR, Part 200, which sets the government-wide standards for federal awards. The Department of War grants and agreement regulations, and most importantly, for our purposes, the National Guard's General Terms and Conditions, General Terms and Agreement, and the National Guard Regulations 5-1, which is the primary policies that guide us on these agreements.

A key point here is the difference between a federal grant and a cooperative agreement. A grant implies minimal federal involvement. However, the law requires a cooperative agreement here because there is substantial involvement from the federal government.

This is the role my office fulfills by partnering with the Guam National Guard, the Department of Military Affairs, to ensure physical stewardship and mission success. Now if you look at the top right quadrant, this details the Guam National Guard Cooperative Agreement itself. This single agreement is broken down to ten appendices, which cover specific support areas like facility maintenance, physical security, and cyber management services. Of these ten, eight are funded 100% by the federal government. Only two of the appendices requires 25% cost share from the Government of Guam. The cost share is tied specifically to facility maintenance. The requirement of this share is not arbitrary. It is dictated by policy based on the facility's category code, which determines its primary use. This 25% cost share also applies to certain salaries that work on those facilities.

Next on the bottom quadrant, we see the process, and this is how the agreement functions annually. It begins with funding from the National Guard Bureau, allocating funds, and my office officially committing them for Guam's use. This is followed by the execution where the Department of Military Affairs performs the essential work according to the appendices. During these phases, a critical tool called in-kind assistance can be used. It is crucial to understand that this process must be initiated by the state, or in this case, the Department of Military Affairs. If the DMA identifies a compelling reason to use the federal procurement system, it submits a formal request to my office, and then the USPFO's role is to approve this request but not impose it. If approved, my office procures the goods and services, which then

counts as the federal in-kind contribution. The final step is the reimbursement and verification. DMA submits its expense. The value of any IKA provided is added to the total federal contribution, and Guam's 25% share is then recalculated based on the new project value. My office verifies all the costs that they submit, and then we issue the repayment.

Finally, the bottom line, shown on the bottom there, the cooperative agreement is a dynamic partnership. It leverages federal resources, both direct funding and in-kind assistance, and combines them with the Guam's contribution. This synergy is the engine that ensures the Guam National Guard remains trained, equipped, and perpetually ready to answer the call, whether it comes from our island or our nation. Thank you for all your support, and I'll be turning it over back to the General.

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: Thank you, Colonel Cruz. And while staying on the same slide, when you look completely to the right of the slide, you see the FY26 budget, and the current federal share is around \$11.4 million. This amount was based on the continuing resolution funding level. With the DOW appropriation just passing last month, we anticipate additional funds flowing down from NGB, the National Guard Bureau. The full amount is currently in review at the national level, and currently tracking to be released at the end of March. What is depicted shows the federal share and the Government of Guam share in relation to DMA support of the Guam National Guard, as stated in the cooperative agreement. If you would please move on to the next slide. And that slide shows the economic benefit, the Guam National Guard economic benefits. In addition to the dollar amount on the previous slide, this is a total contribution of the Guam National Guard to the island of Guam. Although there is a shared cost to the Government of Guam, the Guam National Guard brings a big return on those investments. The table shows the FY25 economic impact of the Guam National Guard on the island, and as you can see, the Guam Army and Air Organization brought in \$146.1 million in salaries, projects, services, construction dollars into Guam's economy. Aside from the economic impact, the Guam National Guard also brings approximately 1,500 trained airmen and soldiers that can be activated by the governor to help with emergencies such as national disaster response, search and rescue, et cetera.

We have facilities that can be used for humanitarian or emergency response. We have 29,000 pieces of equipment, such as the 1224th Engineering Support Company's heavy equipment and the 254th Red Horse Disaster Relief Bed Down Sets that are available for Title 32 typhoon recovery missions or other contingency operations. The Guam National Guard brings employment opportunities not just for its service members, but also through the DMA and the cooperative agreements. We currently have 53 positions that are in that 75 to 100 percent federally reimbursed. Our contracting office flotates contracts with local businesses, such as our catering contract that serves soldiers' foods during drill, our telephone services, and our design and construction contracts. Lastly, we also provide funeral honor services to our local veterans, band performances for local events, and we help Guam build partnerships with the Department of War and Indo-PACOM active duty personnel in the region.

Finally, if you would move on to the next slide, I would like to transition to the topic of the memorandum from Brigadier General Michael Cruz to the Honorable Lourdes Leon-Guerrero, Governor of Guam and Commander-in-Chief of the Guam National Guard, and to the Honorable Joseph Tenorio, Lieutenant Governor of Guam, and Jon Calvo, Chief of Staff, DMA 26-022, dated November 13, 2025. Regarding the formal notification of a replacement date, I would just like to emphasize that as the incoming, I do not have any authority on this matter of formal notification. That resides with the Governor. On the notification to any of the Guam

National Guard staff, the formal letter from National Guard Bureau was sent to me and the Governor. I did notify Brigadier General Cruz and the Guam National Guard staff of my approved indispensability packet. Regarding the swearing in of a new tag, I was not sworn in as the acting tag until November 17, 2025.

On October 31, 2025, the Governor swore me in back into the Army as an Army officer, a process required as a part of coming off retirement. This swearing in is similar to the swearing in of a new recruit into the Army or a newly commissioned officer into the Army. While any military officer can administer this oath, it can also be done by heads of state and in my case, I asked the Governor if she would do the honors.

Regarding an effective transition date, it was Governor Leon Guerrero's intent and direction that Brigadier General Cruz and I have a good transition. On November 14, 2025, I was notified by Chief of Staff Calvo that Brigadier General Cruz resigned and that I would assume the position in an acting capacity starting Monday, November 17, 2025. Finally, I would like to explain the administrative process with how the military manages an incoming TAG and an outgoing TAG.

In general, the administrative system for the Army places personnel against specific paragraph and line numbers. This system does not allow a double slotting, however, there are mechanisms in place when a transition is incurring, such as the use of excess personnel. Ideally, that mechanism would have been for myself as the incoming tag to be placed in excess until the transition occurred, which would then change and I would be assigned against a tagged paragraph and line number, and Brigadier General Cruz would then be assigned to another paragraph and line number based on his military occupational specialty and rank. Because Brigadier General Cruz did have a letter of intent to retire, the GUNG's administrative section would be, option would be to place him in excess slot, which would then allow him to be placed against the paragraph line number as the TAG. Also while a transition is generally desired, it is not uncommon for transitions to not occur. Military organizations are expected to continue to operate regardless. The beauty of the organization is that there is a staff and a chain of command that keeps the operations functioning, and I can validate that the talent and dedication of the Guam National Guard staff and commanders kept the organization moving during this time frame. There was no violation of any regulations in the manner in which I was brought in as the TAG, nor was there any violation or any rules or regulation. This includes our introductory commentary. I hope that this answers many of the questions the community may have had. My team and I look forward to addressing any further questions.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you so much, General. And we're going to begin, we're going to stick with the agenda, and I do appreciate the moving it around. That's not a problem. But let me go ahead and start with Performance-Based Budgeting first. For the benefit of the policymakers that are in the room and those that are following today's discussion, how does your local state appropriation of \$1,197,710 in the current fiscal year and the Governor's request of \$1,442,579 for FY 2027 support DMA's mandates across at least 14 programs, which are outlined in the executive budget request for FY 2027?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: Senator, I'm going to turn that over to my quartermaster.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Please.

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Hafa Adai, everyone. For the budget, mainly everything is 100% federally funded. However, with the 25% match, it has to go between three different divisions, which is the OTAC's office, our POM, which is our facility maintenance for the Army side, and our FOMA, which is our facility maintenance for the Air Guard. However, with this, we are short on coming up with a 25% match to fully fund the federal obligation of 75.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: So recognizing that the executive request recognizes DMA's federal programs inventory, again less than your 2026 totals, how has DMA begun incorporating performance metrics into its budget narrative and agency submission to the Guam legislature?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: So nothing formal has come up with the performance base. However, through our office, we do things similarly based on what we have like a central personnel. So we already... we already gauge our metrics, our performances through our outcomes, and everything then is tied into whatever the cooperative agreement, their regulations, and what the necessities of their outcomes. So we're guided by that regulation. So that's how we will measure our performance.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you for that. Now, the DMA reported an unexpended balance of 546,000 from its FY 2025 general fund appropriation. As of September 30, 2025, I think that number was about 1.1 million and some change. Did DMA eventually utilize its unexpended FY 2025 general fund appropriations?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: So we were allowed to carry over with our approval of the USPFO. So we are currently still in the process of expending 24 and 25. That is based on construction projects that are ongoing and with the length of time it takes to finalize a contract. So we were able to extend the performance periods for all of our, so you will see it being expended throughout these years as the projects finish.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Okay, thank you for that. I have one more question and then I'll turn it over to my colleagues. Now, the Department of Military Affairs indicated in its FY 2023 Citizen Centric Report, which was received by the Guam legislature April 16, 2025, that the financial flexibility required for non-master cooperative agreement expenses has also been diminished, impacting overall readiness and response capabilities. Recognizing that DMA submitted at least two notices of prior year obligation payments, what are some examples for the committee of non-master cooperative agreement expenses? And are there invoices that remain outstanding from FY 2025 and prior fiscal years?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: So, I came in, so the FY 2023 would have been an audit for FY 2022. Is that the centrics report that you're gauging yourself off of? So I came in after that. So of course, taking over, you have changes of staff and unfortunately the quartermaster prior to me, she's no longer there. So invoices came in and through the law, we have to request for the prior year obligations utilizing current funds. So that is what we did. But no, as of right now, there is nothing outstanding on our end that we are aware of unless there's an invoice out there that a vendor has not given over to the department.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Okay, so let me ask again. So what are examples of non-master cooperative agreement expenses?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Oh, right now, currently we transitioned contractual services that are in the quartermaster's office, which is used for our central personnel. And that would be just for internet services, telephone services, and copier machine. Everything else will be charged against the cooperative agreement.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: And so for the record, you're saying that as you're aware, there is nothing outstanding from 2025 and prior?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Not that I'm aware of.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: You're aware of?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: No, sir.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Okay. Now specific to the 294 National Guardsmen who were placed in state active duty while Guam was placed in condition of readiness two in response to Typhoon Mawar in 2023, has DMA settled all of its obligations owed to our Guam National Guard members? And were FEMA resources, including reimbursements, available for these particular activities from the storm in 2023?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: So we had very minimal reimbursements from FEMA, and that was just miscellaneous items that we needed readily available for, just like facilities, like if we had a water leak or electrical and things like that. Most of the state activation was forwarded to the Homeland Security Office, where the general expenditures were coming out for the typhoon.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: So are you saying on the record that the men and women that served, those 294 people, they've all been made whole following Mawar?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: There has been some discrepancies, but because I know of one discrepancy out there, and I want to say it has something to do with days that they were said to be on the mission. However, when the timesheets came up, they weren't clocked in. It came to our attention, I want to say maybe like two years later, and unfortunately the account is closed with Homeland Security. We, he..they did file, I hope they did. My advice to them was to start the initiation of like a government claim so that we can trigger some sort of authorization to pay.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: So, but you're only going to do a government claims for one employee of the National Guard then?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: That's the only one that I'm aware of, sir.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: One, so only one of the employees?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: That I am aware of, sir.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Okay. Thank you for that. Okay, at this time I'm going to go ahead and allow my colleagues to ask questions relative to Performance-Based Budgeting, and I'll start with, first off, I want to recognize Senator Taitague for being with us this afternoon. Thank you, Senator, for being with us. But I will begin with Senator Joseph Agustin for his questions on Performance-Based Budgeting, and Senator you have five minutes.

Senator Joe San Agustin: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to thank General Watson, thank you for being here, and with your staff. I retired from the Guam National Guard 22 years ago. After 26 years. I remember, Sergeant Major Perez, and he was here, your dad. I was with him way back then. And I'm familiar with the transition. When I look at the letter that you read, I don't worry about it. Why? Under the Office of the Adjutant General, you have competent staff. Keep the machine running, wherever it takes you. Only because I've been there for 26 years, okay? I saw the first general, and I saw, in 1984, I saw, or 2004, I saw my last general. And whenever there was a transition, we in the enlisted side, we don't, I know the officers don't really bother too much, they said, change the brass all you want, we're still going to move this machine, doesn't matter, and that's just how it works. For some others, you know, still they feel offended, life goes on, right? But you know, going back, \$146 million that it contributes, I thought it'd be more, but you know, that's okay. The Guam National Guard contributes majorly. How many folks are on AGR status throughout the whole Guam National Guard? Arm in air, total. PFO should know that. I remember that because I worked at PFO for a couple, several years. Colonel, you got the number? Okay.

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO, GUNG: Sorry, I don't have that on top of my head.

Senator Joe San Agustin: Okay, because I was going to ask how many folks are on tech duty? How many folks are employed on the technician side? And the reason why I ask that, because when you say \$146 million, in that impact, there's the AGR force, there's the technician force, and then the folks that are just on regular annual, you know, IDT, annual duty, and whenever you deploy them. So when you do those numbers, it'll answer why the \$146, and it could be more. It could possibly be more. It may not be more, but anything is possible. And on the performance base, I was advising the chairman, too easy for the Guam Guard. What is the DMA side, Quartermaster, maintenance, guard duty? What else? What else do you guys do? Because remember, I was there, okay, for 26 years, I'm well aware of what you guys do, but I wanted the people of Guam to hear this, okay? So just go to the...

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: So we have maintenance. We have constructions and facility. That is to also include the fire, pests, et cetera. We have IT section. We have administrative services that assist with the mailroom, the publications for the Guam National Guard, and also the record keeping. We have environmental, and we have distributed learning program that helps with advising the TAG on education or training suggestions for the soldiers.

Senator Joe San Agustin: So performance base should be a walk in the park.

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Yes, sir.

Senator Joe San Agustin: Right? I mean, it should be... It's too easy. One, what is it? One million, 1.4 million? Too easy. I hope for the best for the guard. I love the guard. I retired there, okay? I'm a blue server, we're the greens, Colonel Duenas knows me, knows my family. Well, Sergeant Major Perez knows me, and so does Chief Iwashita. You're the chief? CW4 or 5?

Chief Chris Iwashita, GUNG: Five.

Senator Joe San Agustin: Oh, you beat your dad. Good job. Anyway, thank you, Mr. Chairman. And good luck to the Guam Guard.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you so much, Senator San Agustin. Thank you, Senator Taitague. You can ask questions now on performance-based budgeting, and you have five minutes, and thank you again for being with us this afternoon.

Senator Telo Taitague: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good afternoon to my colleagues. Of course, good afternoon to everybody who's here and those who are watching from home. And I'm pretty sure there's quite a bit of people watching, especially when it comes to this area. I mean, considering what's going on in the world right now, you know, the... So this is something that I think everyone should be concerned about, you know, and the safety of our National Guard. I do have other questions with regards to... It connects with performance-based management, but Mr. Chair, you said performance-based management, but yet they gave a full rundown of their whole agency and what they oversee, so if I go a little bit off script, it's only because I'm trying to connect the two together. So under performance-based management, and we talked about the budget, too, that was also discussed, we noticed that, well, I noticed that there's like a \$23,000 increase, which is not very much from FY25 to FY26. But how much of that budget is staffing only? And this is only staffing, of course, under the military affairs section, right? How much just for staffing, and is any of that staffing for military affairs paid for by federal funds?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: So what you see in front of you that gets submitted to the Guam Legislature for salaries and benefits, again, the OTAC's office is 100%, and I believe we are at about \$400,000, if I'm not mistaken. Or no, I'm sorry, that's the overall budget, I'm sorry. I want to say \$200,000-something, if I'm not mistaken. Then we have the 75-25% staffing patterns that you will see, which we have four maintenance personnel in each section, our POM and FOMA. And I want to say they run about three, maybe \$300,000 for salaries and benefits.

Senator Telo Taitague: So you have \$200,000-plus for staffing that is totally general fund revenue, okay?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Yes, ma'am.

Senator Telo Taitague: And then you have about \$300,000 that is from federal funds.

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: 25% will be local, and 75% will be federal, yes, ma'am.

Senator Telo Taitague: Ok. But the share, the 25% share of government in Guam is \$300,000?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: No. So overall, I have, for 2026, we have, sorry, we have it in one of the...

Senator Telo Taitague: Well, 10%, 10, 20, 30,000, right?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Yeah, for our POM, I dedicate \$548,000, and that is to also include SRM projects, salaries and benefits, and anything in relations to that needs to get done per that cooperative agreement. For FOMA, I have \$163,000, and that also is salaries, benefits, and maintenance as well, SRM.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay. Okay. Your name is... Kathy? Is that right?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Yes, ma'am.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay. So, Kathy, what you're saying to me is that from the general fund,

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Yes ma'am,

Senator Telo Taitague: The total general fund money, including the 25% matching fund, is how much?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: For fiscal year...

Senator Telo Taitague: 2026.

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: 2026, we were appropriated 1.1.

Senator Telo Taitague: And that is all salaries and benefits?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: No, ma'am.

Senator Telo Taitague: Well, that's why I'm asking. I just want to know salaries and benefits.

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Oh, I don't have the current staffing pattern in front of me, and again, I want to say the breakdown is about... I know for the OTAGS office, it's about 200 and some, and for FOMA and our POM, the total amount is 300 and some for salaries and benefits...

Senator Telo Taitague: but you don't know how much the federal...

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: but only 25.

Senator Telo Taitague: Yeah, but you don't know how much the... Okay, so we just do the math right now,

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: I don't have the staffing pattern...

Senator Telo Taitague: it's about 300,000, right? So if you can pause on my calendar while we do the math. So 300 times 25% of 300,000 is what? 75,000, right? That we have to come with the general fund?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: For the FOMA and our POM, yes.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay. So we're looking close to about 300,000 total, because you're looking at 200,000 plus for... Okay, so of that, how much is federal funded? How many salaries do you have at the military affairs that are federally funded, fully federally funded?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Fully federally funded, we have 53 personnel right now, eight of them are at the 75-25 match, so 53 minus eight, yes.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, got it.

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: So all the rest will be 100%, yes.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, so about 40, that is all under the general fund?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: 100% federally funded, ma'am.

Senator Telo Taitague: 100% federally funded, okay. Okay. Is your position federally funded or from the general fund?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: General fund.

Senator Telo Taitague: So you're general fund money, okay. Is any of the funding in jeopardy at all, at your office, for any reason at all?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: I wouldn't use the word jeopardy, but we are, because of the CR, there's times where there's a lag in the appropriation.

Senator Telo Taitague: I'm sorry, can you just take the mic? I know the echo in here is so bad, so if you can talk directly into it, yes.

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: I wouldn't say jeopardy, but because of the continuing resolution, there's times where there's a lag in the appropriation from the federal side, but most of the part, it comes in and they will be funded, but again, how much is going to be funded won't be determined until after the continuing resolution.

Senator Telo Taitague: Continuing, right, when is that?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: Yes.

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: Ma'am, that's on the federal side, the continuing resolution is if they don't sign a budget bill on the federal side, they sign a continuing resolution, so the funding is basically determined by the previous year funding, so there's a percentage in there.

Senator Telo Taitague: So you do a guesstimate, and you're giving that guesstimate to the legislature and saying how much money you need for your budget, correct?

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: It's not a guesstimate, it's a, they're telling us that's what we're authorized to use for the year.

Senator Telo Taitague: So you kind of gauge it from the prior year?

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: Yes, ma'am.

Senator Telo Taitague: That's why it doesn't.

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: If it's a continuing resolution, yes.

Senator Telo Taitague: So do you see any jeopardy, again, considering what's going on? And we're seeing a lot of areas that federal funds have been pulled, so I don't see any reason why you would be exempt.

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: Yes, ma'am, so historically I've never seen it as far as I, historically, but I can't tell you. So in my role, I basically just receive the money, so it happens on a national level.

Senator Telo Taitague: So historically, that's a good sign.

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: But historically we've never had any issues.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, so that's, now how are you going to, have you spoken with OFB regarding performance, what really is performance-based management, or budgeting, I'm sorry, performance-based management? Have you spoken to OFB?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: No, ma'am, we're not one of the agencies that are being trained at the moment.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, do you have an appointment to see what they're, because, you know, everyone's going down, all the agencies are going to be going down this new, you know, type of budgeting.

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: I haven't been, I haven't received notice of any meeting yet.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, because it actually might change at that point. So you don't see anything jeopardizing. You're fully funded by the general fund. Okay, general, so, you know, congratulations again for your position. My concern is the jeopardy of federal funds, and the concern of having a quartermaster who's actually been indicted right now is a concern that...that I have, and this may cause some jeopardy to the funding. So I just want to know, and so that we're all at ease, you know, that her position is not going to jeopardize any federal funding, or to give the authority to move forward with handling federal funds, or, you know, anything that may jeopardize, can you talk to that?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG: Thank you, Senator, and I can appreciate the concern, however, Ms. Peredo's performance as a DMA.

Senator Telo Taitague: Just speak up a little bit, please, sorry.

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG: Okay. Sorry, I've also lost my voice.

Senator Telo Taitague: I know you have a cold. Okay, just speak closer.

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: I've got Halls in my mouth as I'm trying to make sure that I can speak clearly. As far as I'm concerned, to put your mind at rest, I've had no issues with Ms. Peredo's performance as my Quartermaster, and as was explained in the briefing, there are federal mandates and there are processes on how we request for the funding, and it is really driven, I mean, the process goes through the USPFO office. So there, you know, and I'm trying to figure out how to say this clearly. Go ahead, Colonel Cruz.

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: Ma'am, there's checks and balances, so everything that gets submitted is reviewed by multiple people, so as far as the reimbursement, so there is...

Senator Telo Taitague: On the federal side?

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: On the federal and on the state side, ma'am.

Senator Telo Taitague: So they're aware of the situation and there's no issues with it that she can continue in this position and handle these federal funds and handle any kind of other grants that are out there?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: Senator, coming into the position, I have not been made aware of any concerns.

Senator Telo Taitague: And it has been asked, according to Mr. Cruz, right?

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: Ma'am, normally the federal does not get involved in a lot of the state issues, so that's not really a federal.

Senator Telo Taitague: Yeah, but you're dealing with federal funds. You have to comply to federal funds.

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: Yes, ma'am.

Senator Telo Taitague: You have to answer to them.

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: Yes, ma'am. So we do our check. I'm on the federal side, so I do the checks on our side, too.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, and you have. So we have no issues with military affairs having a problem having somebody that's been indicted to sit in this position, handle federal funds, it would not jeopardize it, and we can continue to move forward. And...but the thing is, you have asked.

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: So I haven't asked personally. Again, as I was saying, coming into the position, there was never a concern that was brought up to me from on the federal side.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, well, if I could, Adjutant General, just to make sure so that, you know, her name is cleared or whatever issues that may happen for funds, that you do seek that question, either through legal, a legal source, or, you know, your federal counterparts, just to make sure, because I don't want to see us losing any federal funding. Okay?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: Yes, I understand, Senator.

Senator Telo Taitague: I appreciate that. I greatly appreciate it. And it clears up the sky, too, so everybody knows, you know, that question. Okay, other than that, Mr. Chair, thank you.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you so much. Moving on now, we are going to go right to the end of your presentation and to the, I guess we'll call it to the middle of this one, talking about Memorandum Number DMA 26-022 that's dated November 13, 2025. Now you've been at the helm of the Guam National Guard for a few weeks. This memorandum preceded you. For the record, have you had a chance to review this particular document, Memorandum Number DMA 26-022, dated November 13, 2025?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: Yes, Senator, I have reviewed it.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you so much. In the document, your predecessor lodges a differing opinion of transition of the change of command. I think many who have observed the Guam National Guard since 1975 would agree that there were instances that matched the situation that you came into, in all fairness. You met the requirements to serve in your role under Guam law, even the laws that were changed in the lead-up. The governor appointed. We held a confirmation hearing, took yours and others' testimony. My committee completed the report. We sent it to the Rules Committee here in the Guam Legislature. We voted. You were confirmed. The first five points of that memorandum, in my opinion, are now in the rearview mirror. And the only one that could have anything further on this matter, simply, is the Commander-in-Chief of the Guam National Guard. On to item six, institutional and federal risks. Are you seeing any, quote, ambiguity in command authority since being confirmed and soon to be given the, well, the ceremonial part of it all, as Adjutant General this weekend?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: No, Senator. There has been no ambiguity.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you so much. Have you heard, in your short time, any, quote, erosion of federal trust in your engagements with the National Guard Bureau, U.S. Army Pacific Command, or Joint Region Marianas?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: No, there has not been any.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you for that. I attended a function with you around the holidays, with your command staff and the Guam National Guard. Can you assess, for the committee today, can you assess the Airmen and Soldiers' morale and organizational cohesion at this time?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: Senator, just in, as I...as I stated in my confirmation hearing, that I was going to give 100% to the Guam National Guard, and I believe thus far I have. And I have been at training events, I've been at their drills, whether it's Army or Air, and I've engaged with the Soldiers, and I can say that morale is high in the organization, and that our units are ready to do their mission, whether on island, or a state mission, or anywhere else on a federal mission.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you. Any risks to our strategic importance in the Indo-Pacific?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: From a command perspective, no.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you. On item 7, what was clear to me was a process that my office and the committee completed. You were here, even after a change of public policy. We will not entertain number 8, for the record, as you have in your role today. On number 9, requests for corrective action, can you give me your take on this particular part of the memo to the Governor of Guam? And I would probably take this based on your experience, the input from the National Guard Bureau, was the transition, turnover, and continuity of operations at any time with your appointment compromised as laid out by your predecessor?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: Senator, I don't believe so. Again, the beauty of the organization is the staff and the chain of command, so even in times of a transition, they are the continuity, the civilian staff that we have, as well as the uniformed personnel.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you so much for your presentation on that this afternoon. I'll go ahead and turn it over to my colleagues now. Senator San Agustin, you have five minutes on the memorandum number DMA 26-022, dated November 13, 2025.

Senator Joe T. San Agustin: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have any questions on that one. And General, I'll see you in the morning. Okay. Thank you.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you. Thank you, Senator. Senator Taitague, you have five minutes on the memorandum number DMA 26-022, dated November 13, 2025.

Senator Telo Taitague: Thank you, Mr. Chair and Senator San Agustin, I'll see you there, too, as well. I'll be there. Hopefully, it doesn't rain so hard, but with this DMA 26-022, it stated that information like identifying eligible match sources, ensuring match is properly documented, avoided double counting across grants, maintaining compliance during staff turnover, et cetera, that's part of it? Is that part of the agreement?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: Senator, so how I was explaining how personnel would either be brought in or taken out, it's managed very carefully through the IPSEI system. And that's where I was covering that the only way that you could have had two TAGs in, you really can't have two TAGs in. That's not possible. So one would have to be in an excess position or assigned to another paragraph and line number. And there were options for this case, because I could have come in in excess, done a transition, and then been assigned to the paragraph and line number as the tag. But also because General Cruz did have a letter of intent to retire and was well within that window for his retirement date, that he could have been

placed in excess himself and still allowed for a transition to occur. So we would not have had an issue with double slotting, any kind of confusion within the organization, anything of that matter.

Senator Telo Taitague: I'm under the impression the DMA's obligation for matching was regarding matching funds. Is this not the case? This has to do with reporting, you know, requirements and situation. Is that another section of the DMA?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: I'm sorry, Senator, I'm a little confused with the matching?

Senator Telo Taitague: Well, if I'm not mistaken, the memo for the DMA 26-022, it has to do with the DMA's obligation for matching funds. Also DMA must document, track, and report certain requirements. Maybe I'm looking at another documentation.

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: Senator, I'm not aware of that.

Senator Telo Taitague: So the whole purpose in layman's terms, very simple, is what is this memorandum DMA 26-022 all about? Just very simple.

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: I think it was a, for lack of a better word, grievance in how the process took place for the transition between General Michael Cruz and myself.

Senator Telo Taitague: Yeah, so it lacked reporting or something. People were complaining that some of the issues on it. It was lacking some audit findings, were..loss of federal funds, repayment liabilities, program interruptions. Nothing was incorporated into that?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: No.

Senator Telo Taitague: it was just a transition...

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG: It's not related to a transition of the TAG.

Senator Telo Taitague: It was just a transition then?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: It's just a transition of the personnel. It does not affect the audit findings or anything.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, I see...so I was maybe looking at another documentation. Are you familiar with anything like that where there's a question into reporting requirements as well as audit findings for military affairs? Are you familiar with anything like that?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG-DMA: I'm familiar with it, but not as how it would pertain to the transition between myself and General Cruz.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, I see.

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG: I don't, they don't.

Senator Telo Taitague: But you're not familiar with anything else like that? Maybe Kathy, is it? Hey, Kathy. Is there anything, any documentation on any audits showing kind of, what is it, loss of federal funding, repayment liabilities, or program interruptions, or anything like that?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, DMA/Quartermaster, GUNG: No, ma'am.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, so there's nothing.

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, Quartermaster, GUNG: So we're a reimbursable state, so everything goes to the USPFO for reimbursement.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay. And you are audited, right?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, Quartermaster, GUNG: We are audited three times, yes.

Senator Telo Taitague: Three times? *Yes*. When you say three times, is that three times in a year?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, Quartermaster, GUNG: We have an internal audit on the Guam National Guard side, which they have their internal audit. Then we also have the GovGuam audit, and then, yeah, so we're about three times, *three* yes, because there's two audits that Guam sometimes comes out, the public auditor, then the third party auditor, and then we have an internal auditor at the Guam National Guard.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, and how is your audit so far? Are you clean, or?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, Quartermaster, GUNG: So there are audits that we're still reviewing over for 2021, and I believe 2022 before my time, that we are in corrective actions now, yes.

Senator Telo Taitague: You're in corrective action, and how far are you on those?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, Quartermaster, GUNG: We're still in meetings, and so everything transpired prior to me. So as I came in, we started doing corrective measures and identifying the problems, yes, ma'am.

Senator Telo Taitague: Okay, I stand corrected. Maybe I'm kind of confusing the two between the DM 26, they actually have it as audit issues, so okay. Well, looking forward to hearing the outcome of those audits, or the corrective actions that you plan on putting in place, because that'll probably be the next one, Mr. Chair, to find out how those corrective actions have been resolved for the audit. Okay, other than that, thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you so much, Senator Taitague. We're going to move on to Department of Military Affairs federal grants matching requirements, and can you tell the committee for the record how many grants is the DMA overseeing at this time in support of our airmen and soldiers?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, Quartermaster, GUNG: So currently we have 10.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you. Can you help me and the committee understand why is there a difference between the federal programs total for FY 2025 of \$10,571,313, which is \$6.5 million less than the \$17.1 million in federal programs total, which BBMR reported as of September 30, 2025, and did any portion of the \$6.5 million in additional federal funds in FY 2025 require additional local match funds?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, Quartermaster, GUNG: Yes, sir, there is a difference because toward the middle of FY 2025, we got additional grant, what's called an active nature, and that covers some of the projects for things that happened in Typhoon Mawar. So that is the difference between the beginning of the year and the middle of the year.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Colonel, please.

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: Sir, the active nature funds were actually 100% reimbursable because it was the damages during the Typhoon Mawar and we didn't get funding until like last year.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Was that damage to the readiness center or other National Guard assets?

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: It was various buildings throughout the installation, sir.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Buildings but not vehicles, just primarily brick and mortar type of projects?

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: Yes, sir. As far as I was tracking, it was only like real property, which are brick and mortar.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you. Are you experiencing any issues in meeting your match requirements during the current fiscal year? If you can explain for the committee.

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, Quartermaster, GUNG: Yes, sir, we are. Tracking for the past three years, we haven't been able to fully match the 75%, and a lot has to do with the aligning of how the Guam National Guard gets their funding and when GovGuam approves ours. So often at times we're already at approved level, and then they get additional funds, and we are unable to match that.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Yeah, and it would be absolutely silly to not take another mission on. And but there's no response from the, I guess from BBMR to help assist or DOA to help assist with a match. At least if you're having challenges, that sounds like you're going forward as opposed to maybe pressing back. Colonel, any insights into that or?

Colonel Christian Cruz, USPFO: No, sir, I have no visibility on the Guam side, I only have the federal side, sir.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Okay. General, you have any, I mean, have you had any discussion with your team about that, seeing the this idea of meeting match requirements?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG: No, but I'll look into it. I do need to have a conversation with BBMR.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Yeah, no, I think so, too, and I think it, and it doesn't hurt, to be honest with you. I think that the bill would have that engagement with them, especially when it comes to the match. Let me ask, what issues, if any, have been identified by your federal grantors, Department of Administration, and or the Office of Public Accountability regarding DMA's expenditures of federal funds? And where does the department stand with respect to completion of your corrective actions? I know you mentioned just a few minutes ago, so you are looking at a couple of audits that preceded you, and the corrective actions are in play?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, Quartermaster, GUNG: Yes, sir, a lot of it had to do with just reconciliation between us, the Guam National Guard and DOA, because we are a reimbursable state. So a lot of it had to do with just ensuring that we can credit the right accounts.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: So it sounds like you also got to get a meeting with DOA at some point, too?

Ms. Kathleen Peredo, Quartermaster, GUNG: We have, and we've, again, one of the corrective measures is that we are now all communicating and in sync. I even brought the previous USPFO with me with the grants officer representative from their office to meet with DOA, and then we can all understand how each of the accounting systems work on each end.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: All right. Thank you so much for that. Okay. I'm going to move the questions now over to my colleague, Senator San Agustin. Do you have any questions on the federal grant matching requirements?

Senator Joe T. San Agustin: Well, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: You have five minutes, by the way.

Senator Joe T. San Agustin: Oh, good. I won't need five. I'm a lot more simpler than five.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: I figured. Let me just interject.

Senator Joe T. San Agustin: Matching grants. One of the things we did before when I was handling the finance was we advised the guard and the PFO rep, tell us what could come down the tubes. If there's a possibility, say it, ask for the matching, and let us figure it out, how we can provide the funds. Because sometimes I know the PFO will be sitting there saying, God, we got another program. And then DMA is like, we don't got the money. But you know what? There's a lot of things written on the walls. It's a matter of you now taking it off the wall and putting it on a projection or anticipation so that you can ask. The worst response you get from legislation is, we don't got the money. There is money. When you're contributing \$146 million to the, hello? When you guys ask for money, you're not even asking a million. Lockheed even asked \$300,000. So it's a matter of just project fan. General Watson, you have a nice day, and just project. Sergeant Major, Chief, two colonels, you know what you need to do. If you anticipate it, I'd rather you request. You know what they say, right? Ask fan for permission, you know, our forgiveness before you ask for permission, just ask. The worst thing that happens is that you get it, and then you say you don't need it. Legislation can go back in and says, okay, we're going to reroute that money somewhere else. If you don't ask, I'd be sitting here saying, shame on you because I made it clear. And the chairman would be like, Joe told you, just do it. Okay, but anyway, you have a nice day, General and your staff, and thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: Thank you so much, Senator San Agustin. I just, I'm going to sneak in one question, the committee had asked me to ask this of you. It was a memo that was sent to the Colonel on November 21st from DOA. This is regarding key and essential employees of government at Guam agencies. Very relevant when we think about trying to get cost share. I think that the gist of the memo to you, Colonel, was can you identify, we have these priority people that work in the government, across the government, when times are, when they get called up, they get called up and creates a gap in the operations of the Government of Guam. I know you probably weren't prepared for the question, and it was going to be presented by at least one member of the committee. I'm hoping you've seen the memo, but what's your general take about especially the pulling of essential employees away into, I guess in this case, to help support critical missions? And I'm sure it's not isolated to Guam only, right?

Brigadier General Karin L. Watson, TAG, GUNG: No, it's not, and I think you, sir ah, pretty much answers that, right? But I think it is also my responsibility to work with other agency directors because we shouldn't be punishing our guardsmen who are both working in and around our island, but who also are serving. So it's just that very relationship that we have to have with all the different directors, making sure that, you know, they're able to accomplish their mission, but we're also able to accomplish ours.

Chairman Shawn Gumataotao: All right. Thank you so much for that, General. With that said, I want to thank you all for participating in today's oversight hearing. Today's discussion was scheduled by the committee to provide the Guam National Guard Department of Military Affairs an opportunity to put on the record this government's support or lack thereof for these organizations. General Watson, the senior leadership of the Guam National Guard, and the hundreds of soldiers and airmen under their command are counting on the important work that is carried out every day by the men and women of the Department of Military Affairs and your Guam National Guard.

Our soldiers and airmen must remain focused on supporting our national security objectives. Their collective work and 24-7 readiness impacts the safety and security of all Americans, including those citizens of this westernmost U.S. territory here in the Pacific. The committee appreciates the attendance and participation of Adjutant General Watson and her command staff. We will work with you and your team to build up our Guam National Guard in the weeks and months ahead, and we remain confident that each of you will continue to prioritize local and federal resources to address the needs, challenges, and expectations of our soldiers and airmen, and perhaps most importantly, their families. In closing, the committee joins our community in extending our gratitude to the Guam National Guard and the Department of Military Affairs for your service to our island and to our great country. So thank you all very much.

The Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and the Guam National Guard appreciates the attendance and participation of all senators in this oversight hearing regarding the Guam National Guard Department of Military Affairs. The committee will review the information received during today's oversight hearing and will communicate further with relevant government and non-government entities if necessary. With that, this oversight hearing regarding the Guam National Guard is hereby adjourned. The time is now 3:17 p.m. CHamoru standard time. Thank you all for being with us today.

III. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard (Committee) finds that through P.L. 2-23 from 1953, the Government of Guam recognized the role of the Guam Militia and its successor, the Guam National Guard (GUNG), in preserving peace and safeguarding our citizens through its permanent presence, training and 24/7 readiness, and operational support for our broader Armed Forces apparatus.

U.S. Public Law 96-600 enacted in December 1980 authorized the establishment of the Guam National Guard. Title 37 of the United States Code provides that in time of peace, Guam may maintain no troops other than those of its National Guard and defense forces. Guam may, as provided by local law, organize and maintain defense forces. 10 GCA § 63100 provides that the administrative and executive head of the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) shall be the Adjutant General.

Through the March 13, 2026 Oversight Hearing regarding GUNG and the Department of Military Affairs, the Committee finds that the organizations collectively are limited by its local appropriation level in accessing additional federal funds. According to the organizations, leadership has not been able to access additional federal resources after a local appropriation is approved by the Guam Legislature. At least for the last three (3) years GUNG and DMA were unable to put forward a 25% local match for federal funding opportunities reportedly due to a misalignment in timing.

For reference, the Committee finds that GUNG and DMA's local/state appropriation totals \$1,197,710 in FY 2026 and the Governor through her FY 2027 Executive Budget Request is requesting \$1,442,579 for FY 2027. DMA's Federal Programs Inventory totals \$9,079,296 or \$5,672,442 less than its FY 2026 total of \$14,751,738 and \$1,492,017 less than DMA's FY 2025 total of \$10,571,313.

In preparation for the FY 2027 Budget Session, the Committee recommends that the Guam Legislature confirm GUNG and DMA's use of a reported unexpended balance of \$546,837 from its FY 2025 General Fund appropriation of \$1,174,410 as of September 30, 2025. Additionally, through the FY 2027 Budget process, the Committee will ensure these organizations have the financial resources and flexibility to support our soldiers and airmen during times of both peace and military conflict. The Guam National Guard must be combat ready, cost-effective, experienced and serve an important dual role-both to Guam and the United States of America-like no other organization in the Government of Guam.