

AMERICAN SAMOA COUNTRY REPORT WRITTEN SUBMISSION:

1. Major Law and Justice Sector Developments and Achievements

- Construction of the new Court House building in the village of Fagatogo began in January 2022.
- The Digitization Program (the Program) for the American Samoa Government Department of Legal Affairs (the Department), which includes the Office of the Attorney General, officially began in July 2022. The Program was made possible by grant funding from the U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Insular Affairs' Technical Assistance Program. Digitization efforts have been implemented to digitize and preserve important legal documents. Funding also supports computer upgrades and record digitization within the Department.

2. Significant Court Decisions

None of note.

3. PILON Strategic Priorities

- a. Cybercrime** – Currently, American Samoa does not have any laws relating to Cybercrime. However, the American Samoa Government is looking into introducing Cybercrime legislation in the future.
- b. Corruption** – There have not been any significant changes or updates to the previously-established statutes in American Samoa that criminalize corruption.

On December 13, 2021, Governor Lemanu P.S. Mauga issued an Executive Order (EO) to establish a Code of Ethics (the Code) for the Executive Branch of the American Samoa Government. The Code emphasizes the priorities of leadership and accountability, integrity, and each government employee's commitment to diligently performing their duties in accordance with the Code and the law. The EO remains in effect until January 2, 2025.

- c. Sexual and Gender-based Violence** – American Samoa has not had any updates with regard to new criminal statutes in this important area. However, with the assistance of the United States Department of Justice, the Office of the Attorney General continues to locally administer the American Samoa Sex Offender Registry. The Registry is designated to uphold the law and to improve the safety and security of our children and community. It does so by registering and tracking sex offenders who reside, attend school, or are employed in American Samoa.

4. Technical Legal Assistance

It continues to be the goal of the Office of the Attorney General to acquire an up-to-date case management system that fits the specific needs of each division.

5. Contact Information for Key Law and Justice Agencies

AGENCY	KEY RESPONSIBILITIES	CONTACT PERSON & POSITION	PHONE # & E-MAIL
American Samoa Office of the Attorney General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and advance the safety, interests, and quality of life of the People of American Samoa by ensuring the fair and impartial administration of justice. • Enforce the laws of American Samoa. • Prosecute criminal offenses within the Territory. 	<p>Fainu’ulelei Ala’ilima-Utu, Attorney General</p> <p>Angela Drummond, Assistant Attorney General – Criminal Division</p>	<p>(684) 633-4163 fatuautu@la.as.gov</p> <p>(684) 633-4163 angelad@la.as.gov</p>