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**Guam gets \$2.3M in Interior Grants**

*TAP Funding to Improve Technology, Address COFA Impacts, Enhance Conservation Projects  
& Train Future Accountants*

Hagåtña, Guam – The Government of Guam has been awarded \$1.9 million by the Department of the Interior (DOI) for projects under the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) Technical Assistance program (TAP). In addition, DOI also awarded two non-profit organizations \$361,815 in TAP funding.

The Government of Guam was awarded the following TAP grants:

- \$207,743 to the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) for the modernization of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner;
- \$300,500 to the Bureau of Statistics and Plans (BSP) for the needs assessment of the Government of Guam Executive Branch Information Technology;
- \$280,000 to the BSP to conduct a cost-benefit analysis and develop a methodology to address the impacts of the Compacts of Free Association;
- \$87,000 to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor for a new Grants Management System for the Guam State Clearinghouse;
- \$498,999 to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor for the Guam Education Telecommunications Corporation (PBS Guam) broadcast equipment upgrade;
- \$76,000 to the Office of Public Accountability for the Internship and Training Program;
- \$375,000 to the OAG for the Digital Archiving System; and
- \$133,289 to the Guam Department of Agriculture for the Enhancing Conservation Communications project

The following non-profit organizations were also awarded TAP funding:

- \$267,014 to the Mañelu for the Micronesian Resource One Stop Shop; and
- \$94,801 to the Guam Preservation Trust for the Pacific Preservation Technology Project

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**“I am pleased that we now have funds to address longstanding Federal funding issues. Government of Guam data collected over the last 15 years indicates we have over \$1 billion in unreimbursed Compact-Impact Government expenditures. This funding will help us meet our goal of complying with the Federal Government’s methodology in calculating the impact of the Compacts of Free Association on our island, and it will strengthen our position when we seek Compact-Impact reimbursement. Guam will also take the lead in conducting a Cost-Benefit Analysis and developing a methodology that we will share with the Governments of the Northern Mariana Islands and Hawaii as they, too, seek to address Compact-Impact matters in their jurisdictions,”** said Governor Lou Leon Guerrero.

Lieutenant Governor Joshua Tenorio added: **“These funds will go a long way in addressing our technological needs, especially as we move toward efficiencies in government. Many of our computer and technical systems are outdated or obsolete and in this information age, we should have technology that will allow us to maximize our benefits.”**

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