



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 003 – 2024**

**AN ORDER CREATING THE AMERICAN SAMOA TERRITORIAL PHYSICAL  
ADDRESSING INITIATIVE**

**Section 1: Authority**

This Executive Order is hereby issued under the authority granted to the Governor in Article IV, Section 6 and Section 7 of the American Samoa Revised Constitution and the American Samoa Code Annotated, §4.0111 (b).

**Section 2: Preamble**

**WHEREAS,** American Samoa is one of the few remaining U.S. Territories and States without official physical addresses or location identifiers for streets, households, businesses, and government or private facilities, limiting access to vital services and opportunities available to other U.S. citizens residing in states and territories with established physical addressing systems; and

**WHEREAS,** alignment with Federal Guideline Data Standard STD-016-2011 is essential to improving data interoperability, accuracy, and uniformity across American Samoa's departments, agencies, and systems, and providing opportunities for federal coordination and exchange; and

**WHEREAS,** the absence of a standardized physical addressing system in American Samoa has led to substantial disparities, limiting residents' and businesses' access to federal programs, financial and banking services, essential services, business opportunities, and effective disaster response capabilities; and

**WHEREAS,** the Governor desires to establish the American Samoa Territorial Physical Addressing Initiative due to the importance of enhancing quality of life, fostering economic growth, and facilitating expedient service delivery.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA,** Governor of American Samoa, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Revised Constitution of American Samoa and the American Samoa Code Annotated, hereby execute this order.

### **Section 3. Establishing the American Samoa Territorial Physical Addressing Initiative**

(a) The American Samoa Territorial Physical Addressing Initiative (the "Initiative") is hereby constituted with the responsibility of developing and implementing a comprehensive and standardized physical addressing system for American Samoa.

(b) The Initiative shall be guided by the Territorial Physical Addressing Working Group (the "Working Group"), which is charged with advising the Governor on all matters essential to the development and successful implementation of the Territorial Physical Addressing System.

(c) The Governor shall appoint the Working Group's members, who shall have experience with Geospatial Information Systems and mapping.

(d) The Governor shall appoint a chairperson to lead the Working Group.

(e) The American Samoa Government Treasury shall establish a designated account within the supervision of the Governor's Office to assure its efficacy in advancing the goals and objectives of the physical addressing initiative. This account will serve as a vital mechanism for the coordination and collaboration of funding among our public, private, federal, and territorial entities. For innovation and sustainable growth in the development of the physical addressing for American Samoa, we must streamline financing procedures and promote resource sharing.

### **Section 4: Responsibilities of the Working Group**

(a) The Working Group should actively carry out the following obligations in order to give suggestions on the establishment and advancement of American Samoa's comprehensive physical addressing system:

1) Coordinating resources with relevant local departments and agencies, community leaders, and local legislators to devise a comprehensive plan for implementing a standardized and robust physical addressing system for the American Samoa. The plan must address the requirements of day-to-day business, government services, disaster response, and other essential functions.

2) Collaborating with traditional local governments and community stakeholders to ensure the coordinated delineation of village boundaries, streets, and structures, which must be appropriately addressed and incorporated into the territory-wide physical addressing system.

3) Evaluating, increasing capacity, and leveraging existing Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) resources and mapping technologies or services to enhance the physical addressing system's accuracy, efficiency, and accessibility.



4) Identifying and allocating the necessary funding and resources to support the development, establishment and ongoing maintenance of the physical addressing system, while also investigating public-private partnership opportunities to maximize efficiency.

5) Compiling and carrying out initial fact-finding research of any existing legislative rules, regulations, or regulating bodies that are pertinent to the physical addressing and considering its implications towards the development of the physical addressing system.

### **Section 5: Public Participation and Openness**

(a) The Working Group shall engage actively with the public, businesses, community organizations, and relevant stakeholders in order to solicit input, collect feedback, and ensure that the physical addressing system reflects the requirements and aspirations of the American Samoan population.

(b) The Working Group shall hold public consultations, town hall meetings, and public hearings to promote openness and participation in the decision-making process.

### **Section 6: Implementation and Monitoring**

(a) The Working Group shall establish a detailed implementation plan for the development and launch of the Territorial Physical Addressing system, including timelines, milestones, and responsible entities.

(b) The Working Group shall establish a system for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the physical addressing system to assure its efficacy and precision. Regular evaluations will be performed, and adjustments will be made as necessary to maximize the system's benefits.

### **Section 7: Disclosure**

(a) The Working Group shall submit quarterly progress reports to the Governor's Office delineating accomplishments, obstacles, and recommendations pertaining to the development and implementation of the Territorial Physical Addressing system.

(b) An annual comprehensive report summarizing the Initiative's accomplishments, lessons learned, and future objectives shall be submitted to the Governor.

### **Section 8: Effective Date**

This order shall take effect immediately and remain in effect until establishment of physical addresses in the Territory and submission of the group's final annual comprehensive report.



LEMANU P. S. MAUGA  
Governor of American Samoa

*April 18, 2024*  
Date