

FSM ONPA PRESS RELEASE

ONPA VISITED KOSRAE TO CONDUCT ITS OUTREACH PROGRAM:

**THEME: "IMPROVING GOVERNMENT
TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY
TOGETHER!"**

Kosrae, FSM – March 24, 2023 to March 28, 2023 the Outreach Program Committee visited Kosrae state to continue to carry out its outreach program in four municipalities of, Lelu, Malem, Tafunsak, and Utwe. The State Public Auditor and his staff played a major role in organizing and coordinating the program with municipal governments and the communities.

The Outreach Program is about sharing of information between ONPA and citizens. The program provided an overview of ONPA as the "Watch-Dog" agency of the National Government in exchange for comments, questions, concerns and suggestions from citizens.



Picture 1: Out Reach Team Committee Members



Picture 2: Out Reach Team visiting Lelu, Malem, Tafunsak, and Utwe Municipal Office

The Outreach consisted of a slideshow presentation on the duties & responsibilities and outputs of the ONPA. The most interesting part of the presentation, as obvious by attendees' reactions, relates to the audit and investigation reports covered in the presentations. In particular, the Kosrae Postal Service and other CFMS project findings in Kosrae were covered, in addition to other audit findings on CFMS projects in the other States. The investigation reports (sanitized versions) with discovery of possible theft, conspiracy, conflict of interest and other violations were shared too. These reports elicit a lot of questions, comments and lively discussions among the OP team and the audience. As by custom, promotional and awareness materials were handed out to the audience at the conclusion of each presentation

Overall, majority of the participants expressed gaining a better and deeper knowledge of ONPA and its functions. The outreach committee, on behalf of ONPA, expressed their sincere appreciation to the community members of each municipality for the warm welcome and participation. The committee is looking forward to conduct the next outreach program in the States of Chuuk and Yap.