



**Republic of Palau**  
*Office of the President*

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*President*

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**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 398**

*To create a National Search and Rescue Committee for the Republic of Palau*

**WHEREAS**, the Palau National Search and Rescue Plan, signed on July 21, 2016, was developed to support the Palau National Disaster Risk Management Framework; and

**WHEREAS**, the Palau National Search and Rescue Plan calls for the establishment of a National Search and Rescue Committee to coordinate and provide guidance for the implementation of the Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Search and Rescue Committee will ensure effective leadership and operational oversight for, and efficient coordination between, the various search and rescue organizations that play a critical role in the delivery of search and rescue services in the Republic of Palau;

**NOW THEREFORE**, by virtue of the authority vested in the President of the Republic of Palau, pursuant to the Constitution and applicable laws of the Republic, it is hereby ordered that the National Search and Rescue Committee is created as follows:

**Section 1. Duties and Functions.** The National Search and Rescue Committee shall have the following duties and functions:

- 1) To create a robust and integrated search and rescue system;
- 2) To sustain efficient and sustainable search and rescue organizations;
- 3) To build capable search and rescue professionals; and
- 4) To reduce demand for search and rescue services.

**Section 2. Membership.** The National Search and Rescue Committee shall include the following agency representation:

- Minister of Justice, Republic of Palau
- 1 Representative from the Office of the President (Chief of Staff or Alternate Designee)



- 1 Representative from the Palau National Marine Sanctuary Office (Executive Director or Alternate Designee)
- 1 Representative from the Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Industry and Commerce (Minister or Alternate Designee)
- 1 Representative from the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism (Minister or Alternate Designee)
- 1 Representative from the Ministry of Health (Minister or Alternate Designee)
- 1 Representative from the Bureau of Public Safety (Director or Alternate Designee)
- 1 Representative from the Bureau of Aviation (Director or Alternate Designee)
- 1 Representative from the Bureau of Maritime Security and Fish & Wildlife Protection (Director or Alternate Designee)
- 1 Representative from the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO Coordinator)
- 1 Representative from Rescue Sub-Center Guam (USCG Sector Guam)
- 3 Representatives from Private Sector/Tour Operators
  - Sam's Tours (Operations Manager or Equivalent Designee)
  - Neco Marine (Operations Manager or Equivalent Designee)
  - Fish 'n Fins (Operations Manager or Equivalent Designee)

Additional members may be added by resolution of the Committee.

**Section 3. Chair and Vice-Chair.** The National Search and Rescue Committee shall be chaired by the National Search and Rescue authority, the Minister of Justice. The members shall elect a Vice-Chair to oversee and manage the functions of the Committee.

**Section 4. Working Groups.** Working Groups may be established to address specific tasks or issues within the Committee.

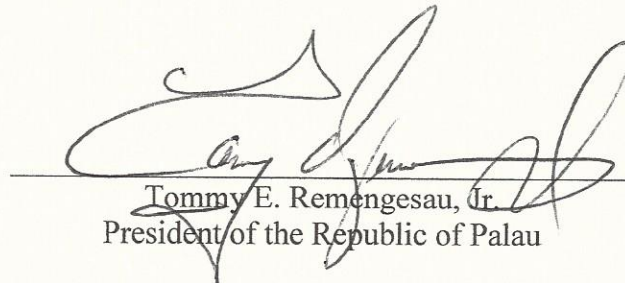
**Section 5. Meetings.** There shall be, at a minimum, 2 meetings held by the National Search and Rescue Committee during the calendar year. Meetings will follow an agenda which is to be circulated in draft to members for their consideration and comment in advance of the relevant meeting. Additionally, documents are to be circulated for members' consideration in advance of the Committee's meeting.



**Section 6. Reporting.** The National Search and Rescue Committee shall prepare and formally submit an annual report to the President no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year. This report shall be made available to all members within the National Search and Rescue Committee for individual agency reporting. The annual report shall include, at a minimum, the following Committee items:

- Current National Search and Rescue Committee Membership
- Search and Rescue Case Statistics
- Significant Search and Rescue Cases / Outcomes
- Synopsis of Search and Rescue Exercises Conducted
- Exercise Key Lessons Learned / Lessons Applied
- Additions to Palau's Search and Rescue Equipment Inventory
- Committee Objectives for the Upcoming Year

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal  
this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2017:



Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.  
President of the Republic of Palau