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Office of the President

### **Republic of Palau Remembers the Heroes and Victims of 9/11**

H.E. President Tommy Remengesau, Jr. offered the Republic of Palau's continued support and commitment to its strongest ally and development partner, United States, in remembrance of the heroes and victims who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

“September 11, 2001 was not just a tragedy for the people of the United States, but to all peace-loving people throughout the world. There is no justifications or cause that would warrant the loss of thousands of innocent lives and we must continue to condemn these terrorists acts in the most strongest way possible,” stated President Remengesau in his remarks during the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Ceremony hosted by the Palau Community College on the eve of September 11, 2017, the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11. “Palau stands with the United States and the coalition of countries in unity to combat terrorism and ensure peace and freedom to all. As we remember the victims, we also commemorate and offer our support to all the heroes who sacrificed their lives to save others – our brave men and women who helped to save and prevent more loss of lives.”

The remembrance ceremony hosted by PCC is an annual event that PCC commits to hosting every year. PCC President Dr. Patrick Tellei expressed the College's unwavering commitment to continue hosting the memorial program annually to pay respect and remember the heroes and victims of 9/11 as well as honor all servicemen and women, especially young Palauan men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for peace and freedom.

Ambassador Hyatt expressed her appreciation to the College for hosting the memorial for the past 16 years, stating, “I am honored to be here and proud to be here with Palau. This program is another demonstration of the strong ties that binds our countries.”

The program was attended by elected leaders, representatives from the U.S. Embassy in Koror, members of the Civil Action Team, families of fallen Palauan U.S. servicemen, PCC Board of Trustees, staff and students among others. The 17<sup>th</sup> memorial ceremony was held at PCC's Assembly Hall.