



## OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR

### OPA Attends Annual APIPA Conference and Workshops

August 24, 2012

The Public Auditor and OPA staff attended the 23rd annual conference of the Association of Pacific Island Public Auditors (APIPA) held in Palau. The conference and workshops were hosted by the Republic of Palau (ROP) Public Auditor's office.

More than 300 individuals attended, including those from American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas (CNMI), Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Inspector General. The conference provided a crucial opportunity for auditors and finance professionals to exchange ideas, share common experiences, and discuss the challenges faced in promoting accountability and transparency in government.

This year's conference continued the APIPA tradition of conducting workshops to provide continuing professional education. Instructors and subject-matter experts were selected by the Pacific Island Training Institute (PITI), formerly known as U.S. Graduate School. These included APIPA consultant Charles Hester, CPA, Hawaii State Auditor Marion M. Higa, Deborah Milks, CPA and former partner with Deloitte in Guam and Micronesia, Pamela Tumler, formerly with the Government Accountability Office (GAO), Dr. Jeanne Yamamura, licensed CPA and professor at the University of Nevada, and Stephen Morgan, the former city auditor of Austin, Texas. Workshop sessions covered such topics as auditing, finance, government accounting, grants management, and fraud.

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