



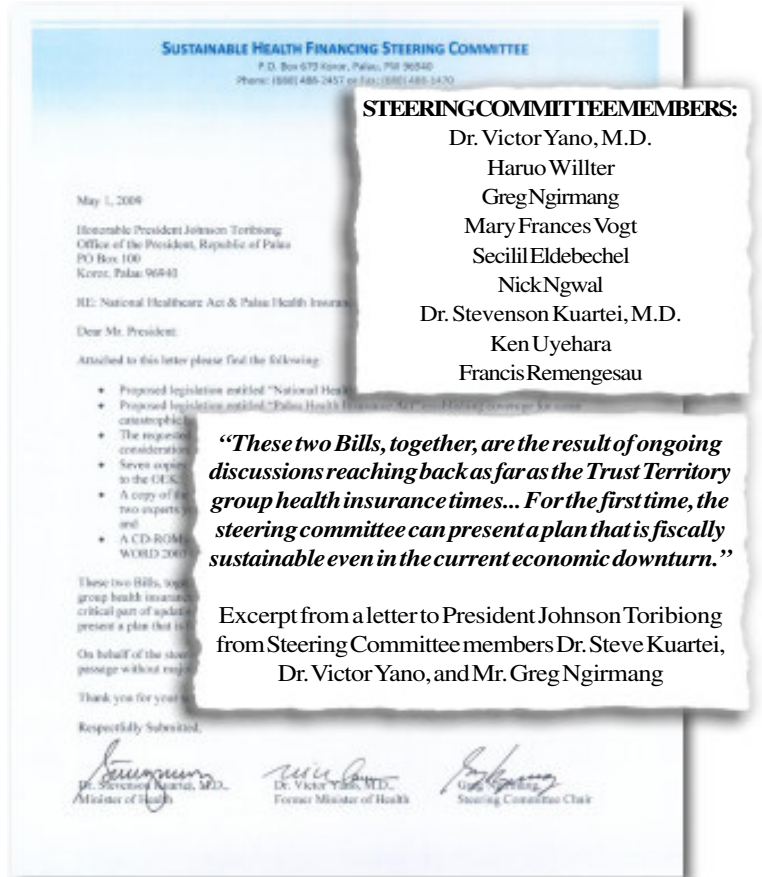
NATIONAL HEALTH CARE ACT AND PALAU HEALTH INSURANCE ACT

In May 2009, two bills entitled the “National Healthcare Act” and the “Palau Health Insurance Act” were submitted to President Johnson Toribiong, signifying a major step towards establishing a sustainable health care financing system.

Spearheaded by the Sustainable Health Financing Steering Committee - made up of representatives from the Social Security Administration, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Finance, and the private health insurance sector – a two-phase project was carried out to carefully research and develop a health-financing system to meet Palau’s health care needs and costs. With support by a grant through the Government of Japan and the Asian Development Bank, the result was the successful drafting of two health-financing bills.

The first bill, the “National Healthcare Act” would create medical savings accounts for Palau’s working population to finance routine health care costs, while the “Palau Health Insurance Act” would establish an insurance plan to cover catastrophic health care costs.

Also, in order to minimize administrative cost and avoid having to create another system to manage the plans, the two bills call for using the services of the Social Security Administration to collect and invest the funds collected. With these significant changes, our Administration will continue to update the public regarding the development of these two bills. We certainly look forward to another opportunity to extend our services to assist the people of Palau.



CHISEL A OUTREACH PROGRAM



Aki mlo oldingel ra rechad ra Ngarchelong State ra June 16, 2009 e aikakid a cheldechedechal a tal rubak er tial beluu el kmal ungil orensesall. Aki dirrek el kmal oureng a sulel ra ungil cheldechedechal el kirel tial Social Security program er kid el chad ra Belau. Ngkal rubak a kiei ra beluu ra Ngarchelong. Ng milngedecheduch el kmo:

“Ng mocha okai a rekik e dirk melemolem el melai a retirement er ngak ra Social Security. Tial program ra Social Security a kmal ungil program leng mla ngosukak er ser ak kot el mo melai a udoud ra 1989 el mer chelechang. Ak kmal oldubech er sel llechul a program el mlo stob ra chad el melai a teblong el udoud ra Social Security meng mlo sebechek el nguu a ngesecheklel a retirement er ngak. Ser ak kot el mo melai a udoud ra 1989, eng dimlak a chad el melai a teblong el udoud e kirel melemolem el uaisei e leng soad el omes er tial program a lolemolem. Ak kmal di mereng a saul el kirel tial program e le ikel udoud el ble kharau el mora Social Security a kuk mekesai ra aikel bla kngai, e di melemolem el melai. E sel kmad e a bechik a sebechel el mo melai a ngeseu el okiu aikel kerrekerengek (taxable wages) el ble kharau el mora program.”

OUTREACH PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Ngulemuchel er sera ongerul kebesengil a Ongelolem el Buil er chelecha el rak e a Outreach Program ra Social Security luueta el kuk mocha melemolem el merael aikal bek el el state el lolngeseu e olisechakl er tirkel ngariou a rekrir ra okolem (60) e oureor el chad ra makit, omenged ma sers. Ngkmal klou a techall lekor kemiu a domuchel el mereched. Aki mla odngelii a beluu ra Ngaraard, Ngarchelong ma Ngardmau. Aki lmuut el mo melemolem er ngii ra August 2009.

A sbedel a temel a miting lekong ra rekebelumiu a di mo tuobed el okiu a rasio. A tokubets el okedong a mo er a remekekere el chad el sechal ma redil el diak a urerir (regular employment). Mei me kimsodii a teletael ma rael el bomokiu ngii eng sebechemiu el momesuk a udoud era Social Security era tara klebesei.

Ngdirrek el ngar ngii a Statement Letter e loltobed er ngii a obis ra Social Security el mora rechad el mla tal loureor ma ruureor er chelechal taem e sorir el mo medengei a temir ma rak er tir ra ureor. Ngdirrek el sebechiu el oak tial statement letter e sumecheklii a cherellem ma ngklem (spelling) alsekum eng ngarngii a cheleuid er ngii.



Florah Tewid, Outreach Program Coordinator, a ullengeseu el onger er a kerrir a rechad er a Ngardmau er sera June 11, 2009.

BANK DIRECT DEPOSIT SERVICE FOR YOUR MONTHLY SS CHECKS

We are urging benefit recipients to join our Bank Direct Deposit Service. The service allows your monthly benefit payments to be directly deposited to your account to any banks who are members of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), such as Bank of Hawaii, Bank of Guam and Bank Pacific.

To sign up for our direct deposit service, you must bring a copy of your bankbook, bank statement or a checking account deposit slip which contains your name, account number, account type (must be either checking or savings) and bank routing number to our office. Once again we are inviting our beneficiaries to take advantage of this service so you may receive your monthly payments electronically instead of picking it up at the Post Office. This also applies to Prior Service beneficiaries.

You may stop by at our office and Member representatives are available to assist you during business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Forms are also available at our website: www.ropssa.org).

Ngar ngii a tara teletael el lorrael a ududem el mora account er kau ra bengkem. Ng sebechel a ududem el di melemalt el mora aikel FDIC banks. A FDIC bank el ngar Belau a Bank of Hawaii, Bank of Guam ma Bank Pacific.

Ng kirel ngar ngii a babilengel a bank el mobang, el olecholt ra ngklem, ma lambang ra account er kau. A bank account a kirel “savings” malechub eng “checking”. Maluaisei, e aki mesubed er tirkel mesuk a udoud el kmo, mousbech er tial teletael me bol sebechem el ngu u a ududem er a bengkem e lak bo molai er ngii ra post. Tia dirrek el mor tirkel mesuk a udoud ra Prior Service.

Mei ra obis e tirkel lonjerachel er tial ureor a mo ngosukau ra temel a ureor ra Kot el Ureor el mora Ongeim el Ureor, ra eai klok ra tutau el mo eim el klok ra kebesengei. (Ngdirrek el ngarngii a “forms” el ngara website er kemam el www.ropssa.org).



RETROACTIVE BENEFIT PAYMENT

In the event that a person is eligible for benefits from Social Security but does not apply for those benefits, the maximum period for which benefits shall be paid retroactively preceding the date of application for benefits shall be **twelve (12) months**.



Alsekum a chad a mo sebechel el melai a ngeseu ra Social Security eng di dimlak el ruul a babilengel el kirel a ngeseu el ngara Social Security, ea klemengetel a taem el ki bom harau er ngii a diak lengelakl ra teruich ma erung el buil el okiu sel babilengem (application).



NEW POLICY

A policy which took effect on April 21, 2009, requires the Administration to apply payments received to all underpaid/file and pay later returns first. In other words, no payments shall be applied to current quarters unless all the above mentioned returns for your business or domestic helper are paid off. This policy only applies to those returns which are not covered by an agreement.

TAX & LICENSING WORKSHOP

At the request of SBDC, the SSA Employers Section conducted a Tax & Licensing Workshop on May 14, 2009 at PCC-CE Room. There were eleven participants attending the workshop. Topics covered were:

- Requirements for obtaining EIN numbers for different business status;
- Social Security Contribution Rates;
- Social Security Contribution Reporting & Calculation;
- Payments Due Dates;
- Interest Rate and Penalty Charges;
- Penalty Waiver Eligibility;
- Record keeping for audit purposes;
- Requirements to participate in SS Program for informal employers;
- Other policies (Employer Briefing, Error Charges, Current payments applied to underpaid/file and pay later returns).

The staff successfully explained in detail on how to complete Quarterly Returns as well as tax reporting and calculations for domestic helpers and different business status, in terms of, with or without employees. In addition, Ms. Janice Mathew, Member Services Manager successfully answered questions raised in regards to Social Security benefits.

REPORTING AND PAYMENTS

Under Part VI, Sec. 601 of the Social Security Operational Rules & Procedures, the Administration assumes that an employer or business owner is aware of the legal responsibilities of operating businesses within the Republic of Palau. The Administration has no obligation to remind employers of this responsibility. A claim of ignorance by any employer or business owner failing to report shall not be a valid legal defense for not reporting or non-payment of contributions.

SOCIAL SECURITY CONTRIBUTION EXEMPTIONS

In accordance with 41 PNC Section 748 a & b as amended, a retired person receiving remuneration for performing an obligation arising automatically due to his/her traditional title of chief or state legislator shall not be subject to social security contributions on any money so earned.

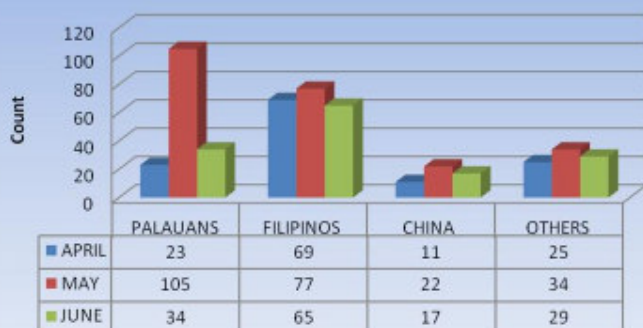
Please note that this exemption shall not apply to wages and salary received from any voluntarily assumed functions. In other words, this exemption shall not apply to wages earned from job obligations other than the above mentioned.

All subject contributions encountered shall be reimbursed. It would be much appreciated if you notify the Administration whether your office has ever filed and paid the said SS contributions to expedite the reimbursement process.

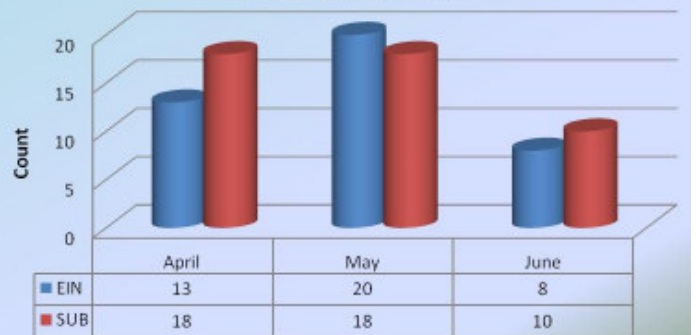


SECOND QUARTER 2009 STATISTICS

SSN FOR 2ND QUARTER 2009



EIN & SUBS Issued on April, May & June 2009



NĪ HĀO!

SSA STAFF ATTEND MANDARIN CLASS AT PCC

The junior and senior staff of Social Security Administration attended a six weeks Mandarin course at Palau Community College. The Mandarin program at Palau Community College is sponsored by Republic of China (Taiwan) and is co-sponsored by the community college. The course is designed was taught by Teacher Ginger Chen and it introduced learners at beginner capacity level of Mandarin to develop their speaking and listening ability at a basic level. The attendees were not only Social Security Administration staff but also staff from the Division of Customs. The attendees were given Mandarin names and learned how to read and write them in Mandarin. They all learned how to read, count, sing and carry out the basic conversations and greetings in Mandarin. The course was at times confusing and complicated, but still very interesting and enjoyable. All the attendees enjoyed the course and agreed that the time spent taking this course was well worth it.



XÌE XIE NĪ!

SSA Staff Melinda Mills and Shonya Kadoi taking notes during their Mandarin Class at PCC

YOUR BENEFIT CHECK

Social Security benefit checks are scheduled to be paid every **first (1st) of the month**. If the 1st of the month falls on a weekend or Palauan Holiday, your check will be issued on the preceding business day. For example, 8/01/09 falls on Saturday, therefore checks will be available on 7/31/09 which is Friday.

UDUDEM RA SOCIAL SECURITY

A temel a udoud ra Social Security a kot el kebesengil a bek el buil. Alsekum a kot el kebesengil a buil a mo tuab era Sebadong, Sandei malechub eng ulengull el sils ea udoud a mo ngeiuul ra Ongeim el Ureor er uchei era Sebadong malechub eng ngu chei ra ulengull el sils. A tara omesodel a ua tiang: Alsekum a kot el kebesengil a Ongeai el Buil a mo tuab ra Sebadong ea udoud a mo ngeiuul ra Ongeim el Ureor el Okedei ma Tal kebesengil a Ongeuid el Buil.



FALSE STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Any employer who knowingly makes a false statement or falsifies any report or record in an attempt to defraud the Social Security Administration is guilty of a misdemeanor and is liable to imprisonment for a period of twelve (12) months or fine of not more than \$2,000.00 or both.



Happy Birthday!!

APRIL

☞ Maria
☞ Rose

MAY

☞ Keke
☞ Janice

JUNE

☞ Mars ☞ Crystal
☞ Delma ☞ John

Happy Anniversary!!

DATE OF HIRE

Tomasa Rechesengel - 20 years
Greg Ngirmang - 9 years
Michele Murray - 6 years
Janice Mathews - 3 years



Reminders...



The Social Security Contributions for **2nd Quarter** is due no later than **July 31, 2009**. Quarterly Tax Returns must be completed upon entrance for payments.

Should you need assistance or have any questions in regards to completing your returns, our Representative at the front area will be happy to assist you.

Be reminded that penalty charges of \$250 or 100% of the total amount owed and interest of 1% per month shall be assessed to returns received after the due date. In addition, \$5.00 error charge shall be applied to returns filed with incorrect EIN number, Employee name and Social Security Number. Thus, you are encouraged to verify your return, file and pay on a timely basis to avoid additional charges.

ROPSSA Quarterly Newsletter

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