

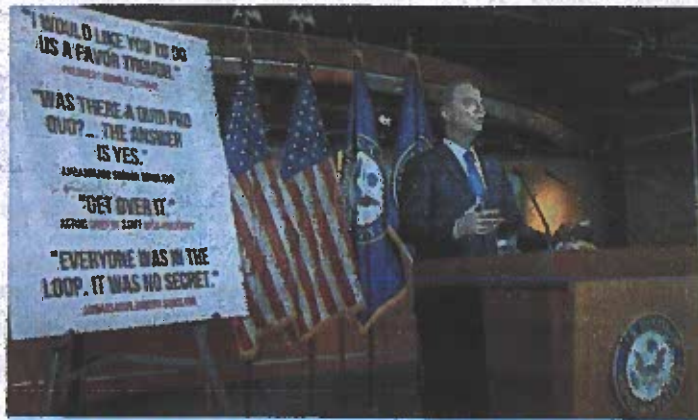
Report: Trump abused power of presidency

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Donald Trump solicited foreign interference to boost his chances of re-election next year, undermined national security and ordered "unprecedented" campaign to obstruct Congress, Democrats said in a report on Tuesday that will form the basis of any formal impeachment charges against Trump.

In a 300-page report that alleged sweeping abuse of power, the Democratic-led House of Representatives Intelligence Committee said Trump used U.S. military aid and the prospect of a White House visit to pressure his Ukrainian counterpart to undertake probes that would benefit Trump politically.

Trump has denied any wrongdoing. The Republican president "placed his own personal and political interests above the national interests of the United States, sought to undermine the integrity of the U.S. presidential election process, and endangered U.S. national security," the report said.

Democrats, who began the formal impeachment inquiry in September, also accused Trump of an "unprecedented" effort to obstruct the investigation, including refusing to provide documents and testimony from his top advisers, unsuccessful attempts to block career government officials



ABUSE OF POWER: U.S. House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff (D-CA) addresses Capitol Hill reporters ahead of a committee vote on its findings in the impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump during a news conference on Capitol Hill Dec. 3. *Jonathan Ernst/Reuters*

from testifying and intimidation of witnesses.

"The evidence of the President's misconduct is overwhelming, and so too is the evidence of his obstruction of Congress," it said, adding that the wrongdoing was "not an isolated occurrence."

In a news conference following the release of the report, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff described Trump as a "president who believes that he is beyond indictment, beyond impeachment, beyond any form of accountability

and indeed above the law."

Trump, who is in London for a NATO summit, accused Democrats of using the impeachment process to overturn the results of the 2016 presidential election. Opinion polls show Americans are bitterly divided over whether to impeach Trump.

White House spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said House Democrats had conducted a "one-sided sham process" that had failed to produce any evidence of wrongdoing by Trump.

"This report reflects nothing

more than their frustrations. Chairman Schiff's report reads like the ramblings of a basement blogger straining to prove something when there is evidence of nothing," Grisham said in a statement.

The heart of the impeachment probe is whether Trump misused the power of his office to compel Ukraine to investigate former Vice President Joe Biden, a leading contender for the Democratic nomination to face Trump in the 2020 election.

Lawmakers and the public have heard testimony from current and former officials that military aid was withheld from Ukraine and that a White House meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was conditioned on Kiev conducting the probe, as well as one into a debunked conspiracy theory about Ukrainian interference in the 2016 U.S. election.

The House Intelligence Committee is scheduled to meet at 6 p.m. EST (2300 GMT) to vote on its findings.

The matter will then go to the House Judiciary Committee, which will open its proceedings on Wednesday.

If the full House eventually votes to approve formal impeachment charges, a trial would be held in the Republican-led U.S. Senate, where a two-thirds majority of those present would be required to convict Trump and remove him from office.

GUAM HOUSING AND URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY

Board of Commissioners Meeting
12:00 P.M., Friday, December 13, 2019
GHURA Main Office
1st Floor Conference Room
117 Blen Venida Avenue, Sinajana

For special accommodation, contact Ms. Kathy Taftano Tel No. 475-1322 or TTY #472-3701

CHamoru Land Trust Commission
(Kumision Inangokkon Tano' CHamoru)

CHamoru Land Trust Commission will reconvene its Regular Meeting from Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 1:00 p.m., on December 13, 2019, 1:00 p.m., Executive Session regarding Federal Litigation, pursuant to 5GCA §8111 (c), will be held at 3:00 p.m. Land Management Conference Room, 3rd Floor, ITC Building, 590 S. Marine Corps Drive, Tamuning.

For a copy of the agenda you may email your request to tina.tainatongo@cltc.guam.gov in compliance with ADA requirements, individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids or services, may call 649-5263 Ext. 400. This ad is paid by CLTC funds.

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THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Regular Board Meeting
Friday, December 13, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.
 at the Terlaje Professional Building, 194 Herman Cortez Avenue 2nd Floor, Suite 209 Health Professional Licensing Office Board Conference Room, Hagåtña, Guam.

For more information please contact the Board office at 735-7404 thru 11. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call the ADA Coordinator at 735-7172.

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GUAM DAILY POST • WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019

\$6M transferred from 2019 'lapsed' funds

By John O'Connor
john@postguam.com

About \$6 million in lapsed funding from fiscal 2019 has been transferred out of more than a dozen agencies to pay for operations in other agencies, cancer screening and related services, and for retiree insurance.

Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero called a press conference Tuesday morning on the transfers, which are part of the authority granted to her by the fiscal 2019 budget law. She was joined by Speaker Tina Muña Barnes and Sen. Louise Muña.

The Guam Cancer Trust Fund received \$500,000 out of the funding pot.

"I also wanted to make good on my word to Sen. Louise Muña on funding the cancer trust fund that you're so very diligent about, and also reporting to my speaker here to make sure that everything is done within the regulations of the budget bill," Leon Guerrero said.

The Guam Fire Department also

received about \$432,000. The listed purpose was "operations." The Guam Daily Post requested more specific details from GFD but the department had not responded by press time.

The Department of Revenue and Taxation and Office of Veterans Affairs received about \$15,000 and \$49,000, respectively, from the transfers.

However, the majority of the transfers went to pay about \$5.2 million in retiree health, dental and life insurance which was underbudgeted.

Always underbudgeted

That shortfall was discussed during the special economic service meeting between lawmakers and government finance officials on Nov. 18.

"We actually have a \$5.2 million bill, for the lack of a better word," Bureau of Budget and Management Research Director Lester Carlson said during the meeting. "We have claims that we have to address that the premiums were insufficient to cover."

In fiscal 2018, former Gov. Eddie Calvo used his transfer authority to fill a \$5.6 million gap in retiree insurance payments, Carlson said at that time.

"Every year it's underbudgeted," he added.

Carlson was also at Tuesday's press conference. GovGuam has about \$4 million more for retiree insurance in fiscal 2020, which narrows the gap, he said.

Excess revenue planned for deficit reduction

The \$5.2 million fiscal 2019 retiree insurance liability would otherwise add to the \$83 million cumulative deficit, Leon Guerrero said on Tuesday.

There is about \$22 million in potential excess revenues for fiscal 2019. However, Leon Guerrero has cautioned against calling the amount a surplus because of the government of Guam deficit that has rolled over from past years.

GPD and DOC lapsed funding taken
From the lapsed funds, about

\$243,000 each was taken from the Guam Police Department and the Department of Corrections.

Leon Guerrero said GPD has \$1.7 million in lapsed funding and a \$3 million budgetary increase for fiscal 2020.

"So they have a total of about \$4.7 million that they can use for personnel funding," the governor said. She said her office is working very closely with Police Chief Stephen Ignacio and the Department of Administration to get the recruitment processes going for new officers.

GPD may see about 28 recruits from a current graduating cycle, Leon Guerrero said.

Carlson said DOC has \$1.5 million in appropriations that the governor has recognized would go into personnel.

"We prudently went through the lapses to ensure that the maximum amount of continuing operational capacity for DOC and GPD was secured while still being able to pay our obligations," he said.

Attorneys warned after sentencing delay in drug case

By Nick Delgado
nick@postguam.com

A Superior Court of Guam judge was not happy when a sentencing hearing for a drug defendant was delayed after the attorneys on both sides failed to follow her court order.

Sentencing was set on Tuesday for

Kevin John Crisostomo, who pleaded guilty to drug charges earlier this year. However, the hearing was delayed after both defense attorney Stephen Hattori and the Office of the Attorney General of Guam failed to file their sentencing memorandums.

Crisostomo faces six months to four years in prison, according to the plea agreement.

"You have to obey a court's order when I say prepare a sentencing order. You are just going to sit there and argue six months, Mr. Hattori?" said Judge Anita Sukola. "You were ordered! Que pasa? What's going on?

You, too, AG!"

Assistant Attorney General Steven Haderlie was the prosecutor who attended Tuesday's hearing.

"We are working on it," Haderlie said. "Give me something in writing," Sukola said. "It was due last Friday. Your office (AG) has a habit of not filing timely, and you keep riding on that."

Attorney Hattori said he would file his documents by the end of the day.

"What good is it to have rules when neither the defense nor the AG follows it, and you know who it hurts in the end: the defendant," Sukola said.

Sentencing has been scheduled for

Dec. 18.

On Jan. 26, officers with the Guam Police Department received a complaint of a vehicle stolen from a residence in Dededo. The victim told police that when he went to sleep, his Toyota Corolla was parked outside his home with the car key hidden under the driver's seat.

Police found the car when it ran out of fuel. Crisostomo was identified as the driver. During a search, police reportedly discovered "a metal mint container containing six straws with a crystallized substance that tested positive for methamphetamine."

THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Regular Board Meeting

Friday, December 13, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

at the Terlaje Professional Building, 194 Herman Cortez Avenue 2nd Floor, Suite 209 Health Professional Licensing Office Board Conference Room, Hagåtña, Guam.

For more information please contact the Board office at 735-7404 thru 11. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call the ADA Coordinator at 735-7172.

GUAM BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR DENTISTRY

Regular Meeting,
Wednesday, December 18, 2019
at 3:00 PM

at the Terlaje Professional Building, 194 Herman Cortez Avenue, 2nd Floor, Suite 209 Health Professional Licensing Office Board Conference Room, Hagåtña, Guam.

For more information, please contact the Board office at 735-7405 thru 12. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call 735-7172 or the telecommunication device for the Hearing/Speech Impaired (TDD) at 649-1801. Executive meeting may be called if necessary.



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