

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 13-83

*Honoring Fallen Hero Earlee Soaladaob Decherong and
Directing that Flags be Flown at Half-Mast in his Honor*

WHEREAS, Officer Earlee Soaladaob Decherong went missing on April 1, 2012 while on an official mission for the people of Palau; and

WHEREAS, Officer Decherong was born on November 28, 1978 to Benita and Greg Decherong and had two brothers, Landon Kodep Decherong, Lieb Gino Decherong, and two sisters, Lemau Desrella Decherong, and Elechong Kerrilyn Decherong; and

WHEREAS, Officer Decherong attended Maris Stella Elementary School and graduated from Mindszenty High School in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Officer Decherong attended the University of Guam from 1998-2000; and

WHEREAS, Officer Decherong followed his calling to be a policeman by attending and graduating from the Police Academy in 2000; and

WHEREAS, in January 2002, Officer Decherong began his life's work when he joined the Bureau of Public Safety and took the oath to Serve and Protect; and

WHEREAS, citing his discipline and initiative, Officer Decherong was promoted from the position of Police Officer I to the position of Police Officer II in 2003; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 Officer Decherong was promoted to the position of Police Officer III based on his outstanding and exceptional performance; and

WHEREAS, due to his excellent investigatory skills, Officer Decherong was transferred from the Division of Patrol to the Criminal Investigation Division; and

WHEREAS, during his career Officer Decherong received numerous commendations for exceptional performance that cited his dedication, professionalism, and willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty to protect the people of the Republic; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career Officer Decherong consistently sought to improve himself so that he could better serve the people, including completing training offered by the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Multinational Peace Support Operations Training Center in Greece, and the Australian Federal Police; and

WHEREAS, Officer Decherong selflessly answered the call to serve as a peacekeeper for the Regional Assistance to the Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI) for one year, promoting peace for our neighboring islanders and proudly representing our nation at the risk of his own safety; and

WHEREAS, Officer Decherong was the proud father to his two daughters, Kiran Omikosang Decherong, and Shanice Turkedang Decherong; and

WHEREAS, officer Decherong is greatly missed by his family and friends, who remember him as a loving father, son and brother, and as a young man who lived life to the fullest; and

WHEREAS, the loss of Officer Decherong is a loss not just to his family and friends, but to all the people of the Republic of Palau, whom he protected and served with dedication and distinction;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, 1 PNC §303, and pursuant to Executive Order No. 292, I, Tommy E. Remengesau Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, hereby proclaim that as a display of the respect that our country and our fellow citizens have for the supreme sacrifice of the late Earlee Soaladaob Decherong, all flags regularly flown within the jurisdiction of Palau, and all flags of the Republic of Palau flown at the Embassies and Consulates of Palau in other countries, shall be hoisted at half-mast for a period of three days, commencing on March 30, 2013.

SO PROCLAIMED this 28th day of March, 2013 at Koror, Republic of Palau.

/s/

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