



**BEFORE THE 2024 JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GUAM**

**RESOLUTION NO. JC24-005**

**RELATIVE TO PROCLAIMING APRIL 2024 AS SECOND CHANCE MONTH**


- WHEREAS,** the Second Chance Act, passed by Congress and signed into law by President George W. Bush on April 9, 2008 aimed to enhance public safety by breaking the cycle of criminal recidivism and improving outcomes for people returning from prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities; and
- WHEREAS,** reentry refers to the transition of offenders from prison to community supervision; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2015, the Judiciary of Guam received an award from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Second Chance Act demonstration grant to establish the Guam Adult Reentry Court in order to provide reentry services to individuals 18 years or older who are assessed as medium-to high-risk for recidivism using evidence-based tools; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2016, during the inaugural National Reentry Week, the Department of Justice sponsored events designed to raise awareness of the importance of successful reentry; and
- WHEREAS,** in April of 2018, at the recommendation of the Judicial Council of Guam, the Supreme Court of Guam established the Guam Adult Reentry Court Program as a specialized treatment program within the Superior Court of Guam through Promulgation Order 18-003-01; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2018, the Judiciary of Guam received funding through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs under the FY18 Improving Reentry for Adults with Co-occurring Substance Abuse and Mental Illness (CSAMI); and
- WHEREAS,** the Judiciary recognizes the importance of utilizing evidence-based risk assessment tools to guide the development of individualized case plans identifying the participants' risk and needs to be addressed; and
- WHEREAS,** incarcerated persons with co-occurring substance abuse and mental illness reentering the community face many challenges in obtaining adequate and effective services such as supervision, access to treatment, formal peer recovery support services, and access to wraparound services; and
- WHEREAS,** other challenges faced by formerly incarcerated individuals reentering society include, but are not limited to, the need for family support, transitional housing, government identification documentation, health care and health insurance, workforce development, employment, legal services, and transportation services; and

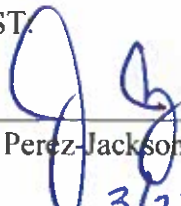
**WHEREAS,** in an effort to sustain the program and provide additional services, the Judiciary applied for funds in 2023 under the BJA FY 2023 Improving Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Outcomes for Adults in Reentry solicitation and was awarded for the enhancement of its existing Guam Adult Reentry Court Program; and

**WHEREAS,** the Guam Adult Reentry Court has and continues to partner with various government, non-profit, and private sector organizations in the delivery of services to support individuals who volunteer and participate in the program.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Judicial Council of Guam does hereby recognize the month of April 2024 as Second Chance Month, recognizing all those reentering and committed to rejoining society as positive and engaged members of our community and workplaces, and making meaningful contributions to our island. The Judicial Council of Guam, on behalf of the Judiciary of Guam, urges the people of Guam to use this occasion to reflect on the collaborative efforts of our community partners and the positive changes brought about by the Guam Adult Reentry Court Program in helping individuals rebuild their lives as they transition back into our island community, thereby building second chances.

**DULY ADOPTED** this 28th day of March 2024 at a duly noticed meeting of the Judicial Council of Guam.

  
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**ROBERT J. TORRES, Chairman**  
Dated: 3/28/24

ATTEST.  
  
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Jessica Perez-Jackson, Executive Secretary  
Dated: 3/28/24