



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GUAM

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**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GUAM
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, January 16, 2025
Justice Monessa G. Lujan Appellate Courtroom
Guam Judicial Center**

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Hon. Robert J. Torres
Chairman

Hon. Katherine A. Maraman
Member

Hon. F. Philip Carbullido
Member

Hon. Alberto C. Lamorena, III.
Member

Hon. Maria T. Cenzone
Member

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Advisory Committee Members:

Hon. Arthur R. Barcinas

Hon. Vernon P. Perez

Hon. Elyze M. Iriarte

Hon. Dana A. Gutierrez

Hon. Alberto E. Tolentino

Atty. Jacqueline T. Terlaje

Atty. Frederick J. Horecky

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Administrator of the Courts:
Danielle T. Rosete

Judicial Council Secretary:
Jessica J. Perez-Jackson

Judicial Council Asst. Secretary:
Petrina M. Ula

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Judicial Council was called to order by the Chairman, Chief Justice Robert J. Torres, at the hour of 12:28 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Chief Justice Robert J. Torres
Justice F. Philip Carbullido (absent-excused)
Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III (absent-excused)
Justice Katherine A. Maraman
Judge Maria T. Cenzone

Also present via Zoom:

Judge Elyze M. Iriarte
Linda L. Ingles, Family Court Referee
Senator Telo Taitague
Ms. Hannah Gutierrez Arroyo, Clerk of the Court, Supreme Court
Ms. Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, Regulation Counsel

Also present in the Monessa G. Lujan Appellate Courtroom:
Ms. Danielle T. Rosete, Administrator of the Courts
Ms. Sophia Santos Diaz, Deputy Administrator of the Courts
Ms. Maria Erica Eschbach, Staff Attorney, Supreme Court
Ms. Janice Camacho-Perez, Clerk of Court, Superior Court
Mr. Mardave Toledo, Deputy Finance Administrator
Mr. Leo S. Diaz, Marshal of the Court
Mr. Joseph Leon Guerrero, Deputy Chief Marshal
Ms. Grace Lapid Rosadino, Court Programs Administrator
Ms. Rosanna Villagomez-Aguon, Chief Probation Officer
Ms. Trish Suzuki, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Ms. Melissa Casil, CSFC Administrator

Mr. Robert Rabago, Management Information Systems Administrator
Ms. Suzane Santiago-Hinkle, Staff Attorney
Mr. Jesse Franquez, IFIK President
Mr. Carl Dominguez, Procurement and Facilities Management Administrator
Ms. Shelterihna Alokoa, Judicial Assistant & Supreme Court Technical Bailiff
Ms. Petrina Ula, Judicial Assistant, Judicial Council Assistant Secretary
Mr. Andrew Jay Gimenez, Special Projects Coordinator

II. PROOF OF DUE NOTICE OF MEETING

Due publication of the five-day Notices of Meeting of the Judicial Council, as required under the Open Government Law, was published in the Guam Daily Post. Acknowledgments are on file.

III. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chief Justice Torres began the roll call. Chief Justice Robert J. Torres, Associate Justice Katherine A. Maraman, and Judge Maria T. Cenzone identified themselves. Associate Justice F. Philip Carbullido and Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III were absent and excused. This meeting determined a quorum with three (3) of the five Judicial Council members present.

IV. READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES: December 19, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes

Chief Justice Torres asked for a motion to approve the December 19, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes. Judge Cenzone made a motion, Associate Justice Maraman seconded the motion. Chief Justice Torres called an oral vote. With no discussion, the three Judicial Council members voted to approve the minutes, subject to correction.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Judiciary FY24 Remittances Pursuant to Applicable Law

Mr. Mardave Toledo, Deputy Finance Administrator, addressed the Council regarding the collection of allotments for general operations as specified under Public Law 37-42, Chapter 4. A report was provided on the collection of the allotment, noting that as of today, approximately 31% (\$13.22 million) of the total appropriation has been received and bi-weekly allotments continue to be received on time, with the latest received on January 7, 2025. According to Mr. Toledo, the next allotment is scheduled for January 21, 2025.

B. Update on Capital Improvement Projects

Ms. Danielle T. Rosete, Administrator of the Courts, reported no new updates since the last Judicial Council meeting. According to Ms. Rosete, the Skylight Project continues to progress, with the notice to proceed issued. She further provided that a timeline is being developed with the vendor and contractor for the design-build process, and the contract for construction and skylight replacement has been awarded. Ms. Rosete suggested that since the project is ongoing, the item be removed from the agenda and she will address any future updates under new business if necessary.

Chief Justice Torres remarked that the Council will not include the “Update on Capital Improvement Projects” as an item in the next agenda.

C. eCourt and eSupervision Transition

Ms. Sophia Santos Diaz, Deputy Administrator of the Courts, provided an update on the transition from JustWare to E-Courts and E-Supervision:

There is continued progress on E-Supervision. The Judiciary has committed to utilizing ePayIt as an alternative online payment solution, which was approved by the Administrator of the Courts through a change request with no financial impact. A three-day kickoff was held for the eSupervision team, assembling SMEs from Probation and Client Services. The kickoff included a transition plan review and a platform demonstration, with positive feedback from participants. A site visit for the eSupervision team is anticipated in March, with final dates to be confirmed at the next Judicial Council meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution, JC24- Relative to Ratifying JC Resolution 2024-018 Commending Marcelene Cruz Santos for her Service as Public Guardian

The Judicial Council considered a resolution to ratify a previously adopted resolution commending Marcelene Santos for her service as Public Guardian. All Judicial Council members and judicial officers signed the resolution. **A motion to ratify was moved by Judge Cenzone and seconded by Justice Maraman. The motion was unanimously approved, and the resolution was officially adopted and ratified.**

B. Resolution, JC - Relative to Updating Signature Cards for Judiciary Accounts

The Judicial Council considered a resolution to update the Judiciary’s signatory cards with First Hawaiian Bank, Bank of Hawaii, Bank of Guam, and Bank Pacific. According to Chief Justice Torres, with Marcelene Santos retiring, Andrew Perez has been appointed as Public Guardian, necessitating the update. Chief Justice Torres commented that the resolution maintains the current signatories, replacing Marcy with Andrew. **A motion to approve was moved by Judge Cenzone and seconded by Justice Maraman. The motion was unanimously approved, and the resolution was adopted.**

C. Resolution, JC - Relative to Updating Law Enforcement Physical Fitness Qualification Test Standards

Administrator of the Court, Ms. Rosete, provided an update on the Judiciary’s Physical Fitness Qualification Test (PFQT) standards for law enforcement officers, including probation officers and deputy marshals:

- While a resolution is not yet ready for Council action, discussions are ongoing regarding potential modifications to the existing standards.

- Currently, each law enforcement agency develops its own standards, which are included as an appendix to the Guam Administrative Rules (GAR). The Post Commission has indicated it does not intend to establish a universal standard for all law enforcement agencies, as each department tailors its requirements to job-specific duties.
- The Judiciary is reviewing PFQT data and assessing whether adjustments are needed to better align with the demands of courthouse security, warrant execution, and fieldwork. Internal discussions are ongoing with chiefs, legal, and the Post Commission. Any proposed modifications will be brought before the Council for consideration.

Chief Justice Torres pointed out that since no resolution is ready for action, the item will be moved from New Business to Old Business for the next meeting, with continued updates as discussions progress.

D. Notice of the Next Meeting (Thursday, February 20, 2025)

Chief Justice Torres noted that the Council's next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2025 and will be a hybrid meeting.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

No Communications.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Guam Bar Association Board (GBA) – President's Report

Janice Camacho, Secretary of the Guam Bar Association, provided the following updates:

- Membership Registration – Registration for annual membership is now closed.
- CLE Certification Deadline – The deadline remains January 31, 2025.
- GBA Election – The election for the 2025–2027 term will take place via electronic voting for the first time. The only contested position is Member-at-Large, with Joseph Perez, Jay Arriola, and Jordan Pauluhn as candidates. Other positions are uncontested.
- Annual Meeting – Scheduled for April 22, 2025, as a half-day event, including the swearing-in of the new board. GBA hopes to partner with the Judiciary to offer CLEs during the meeting.
- Lawyer Assistance Program – GBA aims to formally launch the program in collaboration with the New York State Bar Association, potentially as a mandatory CLE for attorneys and judges. Resources for attorney wellness and mental health continue to be available via email communications from the New York State Bar Association.

The Council expressed appreciation for the Judiciary's recognition of attorney wellness and the efforts to establish a confidential assistance program.

B. Court Employees Association


Jesse Franquez, President of *IFIK*, provided several updates:

- **Holiday Party RSVP:** The Christmas party is scheduled for Sunday, the 19th, at 5:30 PM. The event will include a **blissing of the table at 6:00 PM**, followed by **entertainment at 6:30 PM**. Entertainment will feature a two-hour show by Cecilia, followed by another two-hour show by Pacific Pool. The night will include food, entertainment, and raffles, with no formal agenda items until after the party.
- **Election:** for new officers and representatives were held last week. While representative results are pending, the officer positions have been confirmed:
 - **President:** Jess (re-elected)
 - **Vice President:** Flora
 - **Secretary:** Gabrielle Cruz (Probation)
 - **Treasurer:** Brandon Titano
- The swearing-in of officers and representatives will be scheduled after the party.
- **Car Wash Fundraiser** – Acknowledgment was given to employees who participated in the recent car wash fundraiser. A special thank you was extended to Sophia for bringing her parents' car to support the event.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Judge Cenzone moved to adjourn until February 20, 2025. Justice Maraman seconded the motion, adjourning the meeting at 12:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of February 2025.



JESSICA J. PEREZ-JACKSON
Executive Secretary
Judicial Council of Guam

As set out above, the Minutes of the January 16, 2025 Regular Meeting were approved by the Judicial Council at the February 20, 2025 Regular Meeting.



ROBERT J. TORRES
Chair