



Judiciary of Guam

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Judiciary Holds Guam-CNMI Mock Trial Friendship Tournament

(Hagåtña, Guam) — Last Saturday, aspiring lawyers were put to the test as the Judiciary hosted its second Mock Trial Friendship Tournament, featuring Southern High School and Academy of Our Lady of Guam versus Marianas High School.

Superior Court Judges Honorable Judge Arthur R. Barcinas and Judge John C. Terlaje presided over the mock trial matches that were held in their respective courtrooms.

“The Guam-CNMI Mock Trial Friendship Tournament underscores the commitment of our legal community to our future lawyers,” said Administrator of the Courts Danielle T. Rosete, Esq. *“This is our second friendship tournament and we are looking forward to more opportunities our students can have to enrich their legal interest.”*

The mock trial features teams engaging in simulated proceedings allowing the participants to collaborate and role-play as attorneys, witnesses, and jurors in a courtroom under the guidance of judges, legal professionals, and educators. The team-building experience gives students a chance to create their opening statements, witness examinations, and closing arguments, as well as enhance their critical thinking and public speaking skills.

In addition to the mock trial tournament, the Judiciary held a certificate presentation for participating students and volunteers who served as teacher and attorney coaches and judges. Gift bags, courtesy of the Guam Visitors Bureau, were also presented to the visiting Saipan mock trial team.

“The tournament was a terrific opportunity for our Guam and CNMI teams’ bright, rising stars to engage in a friendly and fun competition, showcase their talents, and prepare them for national championship matches,” said State Coordinator Joleen F. Respicio. *“We’re so proud of them. Their hard work and dedication really shine through their performances.”*

To learn more about the Guam High School Mock Trial program, please contact Ms. Joleen Respicio at jrespicio@guamcourts.gov.

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