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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF GUAM

RE:) Supreme Court of Guam
) Administrative Order No. ADM20-265
RELATIVE TO APPROVING AND)
AUTHORIZING THE ZOOM)
VIRTUAL CONFERENCING)
PLATFORM FOR)
VIRTUAL/REMOTE COURT)
HEARINGS)

Because of the continued public health concerns arising from the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* has issued a series of executive orders to stem the spread of the virus, including: Executive Order No. 2020-03, declaring a State of Emergency; Executive Order No. 2020-04, closing non-essential government operations through March 30, 2020; Executive Order No. 2020-05, prohibiting public gatherings and mandating social isolation; Executive Order No. 2020-06, extending the closure of non-essential government operations through April 13, 2020; Executive Order No. 2020-09, extending the public health emergency and the provisions outlined in Executive Order 2020-03 until May 5, 2020, and requiring the use of face masks by employees and patrons of all essential businesses and government agencies; Executive Order No. 2020-10, extending the limited operations of the Government of Guam through May 5, 2020; Executive Order No. 2020-11, extending the public health emergency until May 30, 2020, and establishing the island's Pandemic Conditions of Readiness System; and Executive Order No. 2020-16, extending the public health emergency until June 29, 2020, lifting additional social restrictions, and ordering the recommencement of public operations for all government of Guam offices, agencies and departments effective June 1, 2020.

1 In turn, the court, under its jurisdiction to issue orders in aid of its supervisory jurisdiction
2 over the Superior Court of Guam and all other courts of the judicial branch of Guam, has issued
3 several administrative orders to protect the public health, among these are ADM20-239, which,
4 among other things, extended the court closure for all but essential services until June 5, 2020, and
5 included a provision for the reopening of the Northern Court Satellite in Dededo for a limited set
6 of transactions; and ADM20-254, which included a provision for the reopening of the Guam
7 Judicial Center in Hagåtña for a limited set of transactions beginning June 3, 2020.

8 The court recognizes that while social distancing measures imposed by *I Maga'hågan*
9 *Guåhan* have resulted in a downward trend of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Guam, the ongoing
10 threat to public health requires the continuation of measures to limit the transmission of COVID-
11 19. At the same time, the court recognizes the need to expand its services to provide greater access
12 to justice in non-essential matters, while keeping at the forefront the need to protect the health and
13 safety of court employees, patrons, and the general public.

14 With these considerations in mind, on June 3, 2020, the court issued its Second Updated
15 Order, Administrative Order No. ADM20-260, in the interest of the public health. Effective from
16 the date of this Second Updated Order, this Second Updated Order repealed and replaced
17 Administrative Order No. ADM20-239. To the extent the Second Updated Order conflicts with
18 any other existing administrative order of the court, this Second Updated Order shall prevail.

19 In furtherance of this court's Administrative Orders allowing for certain court hearings and
20 proceedings to be conducted on a virtual platform using available technologies, including
21 teleconferencing and videoconferencing, and based on the powers vested in the Chief Justice
22 through the Organic Act of Guam, including issuing administrative orders on behalf of the
23 Supreme Court of Guam as necessary for the efficient administration of the judicial branch of
24 Guam, *see* 48 USCA § 1421-1(b)(2), (3), it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

- 25 1. The Judiciary of Guam has secured a number of Zoom licenses and
26 videoconferencing and audioconferencing of court hearings and proceedings shall be
27 conducted using the Zoom platform unless otherwise indicated by the judicial officer
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