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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF GUAM

RE:) Supreme Court of Guam
TWELFTH UPDATED ORDER) Administrative Order No. ADM20-414
RELATIVE TO COURT)
OPERATIONS UNDER EXIGENT)
CIRCUMSTANCES RELATED TO)
COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS))
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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. In line with the executive orders, the court, under its jurisdiction to issue orders in aid of its supervisory jurisdiction over the Superior Court of Guam and all other courts of Guam's judicial branch, has issued several administrative orders to protect the public health.

The court recognizes that the recent downward trend in Guam's confirmed COVID-19 cases is mainly due to the island's adherence to mitigation efforts, including reducing capacity for indoor operations, restrictions on social gatherings, and social distancing and masking mandates. While such measures have negatively affected court operations since the start of the public health emergency—including the court's ability to safely hold criminal jury trials, jury selections, and grand jury proceedings—the court recognizes that the continued adherence to these measures is necessary to protect the public health. With these considerations in mind, the court issues this **TWELFTH UPDATED ORDER** regarding the suspension of certain court operations to protect the public health by reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and slowing the spread of the disease:

1 1. The time periods for a preliminary examination and for filing an indictment
2 are tolled through January 31, 2021. The preliminary examination and indictment time
3 periods tolled by this Twelfth Updated Order or any previous administrative order shall
4 be excluded from the computation of time under 8 GCA § 45.50. The running of these
5 time periods shall resume on February 1, 2021.

6 2. The continuances occasioned by this Twelfth Updated Order serve the ends of
7 justice, protect the health and safety of criminal defendants, attorneys, court employees,
8 and those called to jury service, and outweigh the best interest of the public and the
9 defendant in a speedy trial. Therefore, the time periods of such continuances shall be
10 excluded from speedy trial computations under 8 GCA § 80.60. All time periods
11 involving the speedy trial procedure in criminal proceedings are tolled through February
12 28, 2021.

13 3. The court's Eleventh Updated Order of October 9, 2020, remains in full force
14 and effect except to the extent it conflicts with this Twelfth Updated Order. This Twelfth
15 Updated Order will be revised as circumstances warrant.

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17 **SO ORDERED** this 23rd day of December 2020.

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20 _____/s/_____
21 **ROBERT J. TORRES**
22 Associate Justice

20 _____/s/_____
21 **KATHERINE A. MARAMAN**
22 Associate Justice

23
24 _____/s/_____
25 **F. PHILIP CARBULLIDO**
26 Chief Justice