

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF GUAM

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RE: RELATIVE TO RESCINDING COVID-19 VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDICIARY OF GUAM EMPLOYEES Supreme Court of Guam Administrative Order No. ADM22-001

Because of continued public health concerns arising from the COVID-19 (coronavirus) global pandemic, including the then-anticipated onset of the Delta variant of COVID-19, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* issued an executive order on August 6, 2021, requiring executive branch employees to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination by a date certain, or, alternatively, submit to weekly testing. *See* Exec. Order No. 2021-17. In line with this executive order, the Chief Justice, under his Organic Act authority as administrative head of, and having general supervisory power over the judicial branch of Guam, issued an administrative order on August 11, 2021, requiring Judiciary of Guam employees to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination by a date certain, or, alternatively, submit to weekly testing. *See* Admin. Order No. ADM21-687.

On March 11, 2022, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* issued Executive Order No. 2022-06, which rescinded the requirement of proof of vaccination or weekly testing for executive branch employees, citing new U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") metrics to monitor the transmission of COVID-19, as well as Guam's continued downward trend under these metrics, its high vaccination rate among the vaccine-eligible population, and its even higher vaccination rate among executive branch employees. With these considerations in mind,

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including the Judiciary's similarly high rate of vaccination among employees, the court **ORDERS** as follows:

1. Effective immediately, Administrative Order No. ADM21-687, which established COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for the Judiciary of Guam, is rescinded, subject to applicable Department of Public Health and Social Services guidance. Judiciary employees shall continue to comply with federal vaccination requirements where applicable.

Individuals who are not vaccinated or have not received a booster dose are at an increased risk of infection, hospitalization, and death as a result of COVID-19. The court encourages such individuals to get vaccinated or boosted immediately, especially before engaging in activities in congregate settings in which mask use is compromised.

2. Other mitigation measures remain in effect, including the mask-wearing and six-feet physical distancing requirements for individuals entering Judiciary of Guam facilities.

3. All prior administrative orders remain in full force and effect except to the extent they conflict with this Order or were previously rescinded.

4. This Order will be revised as circumstances warrant.

**SO ORDERED** this 14th day of March, 2022.

/s/ ROBERT J. TORRES Associate Justice /s/ KATHERINE A. MARAMAN Associate Justice

/s/ F. PHILIP CARBULLIDO Chief Justice

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