



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GUAM

Suite 300 Guam Judicial Center  
120 West O'Brien Drive  
Hagåtña, Guam 96910-5174  
Tel: (671) 475-3300 Fax: (671) 475-3140

★★★★

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

★★★★

Advisory Committee Members:

Hon. Arthur R. Barcinas

Hon. Vernon P. Perez

Hon. Elyze M. Iriarte

Hon. Dana A. Gutierrez

Hon. Alberto E. Tolentino

Hon. John C. Terlaje

Atty. Jacqueline T. Terlaje

Atty. Dean A. Manglona

★★★★

Administrator of the Courts:  
Danielle T. Rosete

Judicial Council Secretary:  
Jessica J. Perez-Jackson

Judicial Council Asst. Secretary:  
Petrina M. Ula

## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GUAM REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, March 18, 2025 Justice Monessa G. Lujan Appellate Courtroom Guam Judicial Center

### MINUTES

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Judicial Council, Mes CHamoru Week, was called to order by the Chairman, Chief Justice Robert J. Torres, at the hour of 12:01 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL:

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

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. Sarah Elmore-Hernandez, Director of Policy, Planning, and Community Relations  
Ms. Maria Erica Eschbach, Staff Attorney, Supreme Court  
Ms. Janice Camacho-Perez, Clerk of Court, Superior Court  
Ms. M. Dianne Gudmalin, Finance Administrator  
Mr. Leo S. Diaz, Marshal of the Court  
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  
Ms. Suzane Santiago-Hinkle, Staff Attorney  
Mr. Andrew Perez, Staff Attorney  
Mr. Carl Dominguez, Procurement and Facilities Management Administrator  
Ms. Dawn Blas, Judicial Educator  
Mr. Robert Rabago, Management Information Systems Administrator  
Mr. Jesse Franquez, IFIK President  
Ms. Shelterihna Alokoa, Judicial Assistant & Supreme Court Technical Bailiff  
Ms. Jessica Perez-Jackson, Judicial Assistant, Judicial Council 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 F. Philip Carbullido, Associate Justice Katherine A. Maraman, and Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III identified themselves. Judge Maria T. Cenzone was stuck in trial. This meeting determined a quorum with four (4) of the five Judicial Council members present.**

## **IV. READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES: February 20, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes**

**Chief Justice Torres asked for the February 20, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes to be deferred until the next meeting.**

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Judiciary FY25 Remittances Pursuant to Applicable Law**

Ms. Dianne Gudmalin, 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 the bi-weekly allotments of \$1,652,000 for general operations continue to be received on schedule. According to Ms. Gudmalin, as of today, approximately 46% of the total appropriation (about \$19.8 million) has been received. She continued that the most recent allotment was deposited on March 4 and the next allotment is expected today, March 18.

### **B. 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:

- Steady progress is being made, with Probation, Client Services, the Clerk's Office, FMD, and the Marshals divisions contributing significant time and effort to the process. While a formal go-live date has not been finalized, the target launch remains September 2025.
- All current JustWare functionalities are expected to be ready by then. However, e-filing and public access components may require additional time and may not be ready by September, though efforts are being made to include them. E-filing is a priority due to its heavy use by attorneys, and the team is working to ensure it is in place at go-live. Public access is targeted for completion by the end of the year.
- The system features built-in automation that will enhance workflow efficiency. Training for staff and judicial officers will be scheduled in preparation for the rollout. Updates to e-filing rules and a proposed fee structure will be addressed in coordination with the Supreme Court.

**C. Resolution, JC 25- Relative to Updating Law Enforcement Physical Fitness Qualifications Test**

Administrator of the Courts, Danielle Rosete provided an update on the law enforcement Physical Fitness Qualification Test (PFQT):

- A resolution is not yet ready for presentation. Since the last meeting, the Marshal of the Court and Chief Probation Officer convened a team to develop a recommendation for an updated PFQT.
- A simulated test was conducted at the Judiciary and at the Dededo Precinct, modeled in part on the Guam Police Department's current testing.
- The proposed test remains post-certification but has been tailored to better reflect job-specific duties.
- The recommendation is under review by Legal and HR, with a presentation to the Council anticipated at the April meeting.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution, JC 25- Relative to Proclaiming the Month of April as Second Chance Month 2025**

Presiding Judge Lamorena presented a resolution to proclaim April 2025 as Second Chance Month, highlighting the Adult Reentry Court, which was established through federal legislation under Presidents Obama and Trump. Presiding Judge Lamorena explained that the program is unique in that it does not involve attorneys and requires a voluntary agreement among the parolee, the Parole Board, the Department of Corrections, and the court. He continued that eligible participants undergo a rigorous two-year program, after which they may be released from parole. Presiding Judge Lamorena shared that the program has shown a high success rate in family reunification.

**Presiding Judge moved to accept the resolution and it was seconded by Justice Merriman. With no objections or discussion, the resolution passed unanimously.**

Additional resolutions for Law Month and Drug Court Month will be submitted to the Council for approval in April.

**B. Notice of the Next Meeting (Thursday, April 17, 2025)**

Chief Justice Torres noted that the Council's next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. because of the Supreme Court's Outreach Oral Argument at St. John's School, that morning.

**VII. COMMUNICATIONS**

The Administrator of the Courts (AOC) reported that the strategic focus group is exploring the possibility of expanding the Northern Court lease and suggestions for related budget proposals should be submitted to her, Sarah, and Sophia. She continued that the landlord recently notified

the Judiciary that Shop for Less has vacated a 12,000 sq. ft. space next to the current 7,500 sq. ft. Northern Court facility. According to the AOC, management and various divisions, including Marshals, Probation, Client Services, and the Clerk's Office, have begun internal discussions on utilizing the space for expanded services. She further commented that any proposal may involve negotiating both expansion and extension of the existing lease, which currently has an option to extend through 2026, and lease costs are currently funded through a combination of federal and local sources.

Ms. Rosete also announced that a joint proclamation and resolution presentation for Law Day and Law Month will take place on **April 3, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.** in the **Justice Monessa Lujan Appellate Courtroom**. This event will include representatives from all three branches of the Guam government and invited participants from neighboring island jurisdictions, including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. The event will serve as a regional kickoff to Law Month, with potential American Bar Association interest due to its alignment with the national theme on the Constitution and unity across U.S. jurisdictions.

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

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

- Because of changes in planning, the March 22, 2025 CLE event has been shortened and will no longer include a mandatory attorney wellness segment. Instead, the wellness component will feature a mindfulness and meditation presentation by Claire Calvo of Synergy. A longer, mandatory wellness CLE is being planned for later in the year.
- The March CLE will include:
  - A New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) presentation on navigating their online services and member accounts.
  - A real property and title segment led by an attorney based in Utah (name pending confirmation) who provides services on Guam.
  - An ethics segment, potentially including participation from Senior U.S. District Court Judge John C. Coughenour of the Western District of Washington, pending confirmation. Judge Coughenour is known for his ruling in a birthright citizenship case and has faced threats since that decision.
  - The event will also feature the annual meeting, including the swearing-in of new officers and a president's report.
- The CLE will be held in person, with participant interaction encouraged. Further updates, including confirmation of speakers, will be provided as the date approaches.

### **B. Court Employees Association**

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


- 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Race Judicata is scheduled for May 18, 2025, with Togi Guam selected as this year's beneficiary. Last year, Catholic Social Service received \$3,000 in proceeds from EFIC.

- EFIC's first major fundraiser for the year is planned for April 11, 2025. Details will be shared soon.
- EFIC continues to host twice-monthly bake sales, which have been well-received. Employees are encouraged to suggest new menu items via email.
- The EFIC monthly meeting for March has been rescheduled to Thursday, March 20, in the second-floor employee lounge. All interested staff are welcome to attend.

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Presiding Judge Lamorena moved to adjourn until April 17, 2025. Justice Carbullido seconded the motion, adjourning the meeting at 12:35 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

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

**As set out above, the Minutes of the March 18, 2025 Regular Meeting were approved by the Judicial Council at the May 15, 2025 Regular Meeting.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**ROBERT J. TORRES**  
Chair