



# Judiciary of Guam

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ADMINISTRATOR OF THE COURTS

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Judiciary Celebrates Treatment Court Month, Stories of Recovery**

(Hagåtña, Guam) — The Judiciary of Guam honored the achievements of twenty treatment court graduates and alumni during a special recognition ceremony held on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at the Supreme Court of Guam. The event celebrated individuals who completed the programs, demonstrating a commitment to recovery, transformation, and personal accountability.

The ceremony featured remarks from the treatment court judges, each reflecting on the obstacles overcome through the programs. Graduates were individually recognized for their accomplishments, and one graduate for each treatment court delivered a heartfelt speech reflecting on their personal journey through treatment, the obstacles overcome, and the hope they now carry forward. ***“Treatment courts represent some of the most challenging and meaningful work we do in the Judiciary. They are not easy,”*** said Chief Justice Robert J. Torres. ***“But the outcomes speak for themselves: lower recidivism, stronger families, safer communities, and lives rebuilt.”***

Guam’s treatment courts operate under the leadership of Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III, who established the first Drug Court in 2002. Since then, the Judiciary has expanded its services to include adult, juvenile, family drug courts, mental health, and veterans’ treatment courts. These specialized dockets provide alternatives to incarceration by addressing the root causes of criminal behavior and offering participants access to treatment, supervision, and support. ***“You are the beneficiaries of the treatment court programs that have been established,”*** said Presiding Judge Lamorena, addressing the graduates. ***“Treatment does help people. It helps their rehabilitation, their recovery, and sobriety.”***

The following day, on May 16, the Judiciary joined Governor Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero in officially proclaiming May 2025 as Treatment Court Month. The proclamation ceremony, held at the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor’s Complex, recognized the critical role that treatment courts play across the country in reducing recidivism, supporting long-term recovery, and transforming lives affected by substance use and mental health disorders.

***“Recognizing a model that has transformed how the justice system responds to addiction and mental health: not with incarceration alone, but with structure, support, and accountability,”*** said Chief Justice Torres. ***“We’re grateful to the Office of the Governor for once again recognizing this progress, and for supporting a justice model that delivers real, measurable change.”*** To date, Guam’s treatment courts have graduated over 1,200 participants.

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