



# Supreme Court of Guam

## COMPILER OF LAWS

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## GUIDANCE FOR FORMATTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (GAR)

The Office of the Compiler of Laws is statutorily mandated to “[u]ndertake the publication of the continuing Administrative Rules and Regulations” of Guam. 1 GCA § 1602(c). The authority for the rule-making procedures of government of Guam agencies, departments, and other entities are set forth in Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, Chapter 9, Article 3, entitled “Rule-making Procedures.” As part of this process, the rules are statutorily required to be “in a form approved by the Compiler of Laws.” 5 GCA § 9303(a).

To assist government of Guam agencies, departments, and other entities, with the process of publishing submissions for including in the Guam Administrative Rules & Regulations (GAR), the Office of the Compiler of Laws has prepared this document to give guidance in the drafting process. It is strongly encouraged that those responsible for drafting rules and regulations review the recommendations and utilize the standard format herein, which was approved by the Guam Code Advisory Commission on June 21, 2005. Compliance with the recommended format will be de facto indication that that the submission is in a format approved by the Compiler of Laws.

### **Recommendation 1**

Please compose GAR sections according to the diagram below. It is helpful to know that the GAR is divided into the following subdivisions in descending order:

**Title (mandatory)**

Division (if necessary)

Part (if necessary)

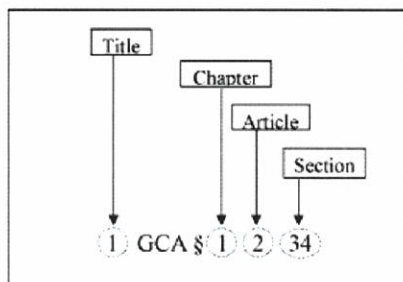
**Chapter (mandatory)**

Article (if necessary)

**Section (mandatory)**

Subsection (if necessary)

Note that Title, Chapter and Section designations are required for any codification scheme. Division, Part and Article designations are sometimes not used in particular codification schemes. We recommend that whenever possible, Article designations be used. The following diagram shows an example of the general codification scheme for the GCA, which similarly applies to the GAR:



### **Recommendation 2**

Please draft GAR sections according the example below and identify subsections in the following format.

#### **§ 1101. Name or Title of Section.**

In the section title, the first letter of each major word is capitalized. Do not capitalize minor words such as conjunctions and articles (e.g. and, but, or, the, a, etc.). The text of the section should be written as shown in this example.

(a) First subsection. The first subsection (if any) is designated with small letters in parentheses.

(1) Second subsection. The second subsection (if any) is designated by Arabic numerals in parentheses.

(A) Third subsection. The third subsection (if any) is designated by large capital letters in parentheses.

(i) Fourth subsection. The fourth subsection (if any) is designated by small Roman numerals in parentheses.

(aa) Fifth subsection. If necessary, a fifth subsection is designated by double lower case letters in parentheses and the cycle repeats as follows.

(1) Sixth subsection.

(AA) Seventh subsection.

(i) Eighth subsection.

### **Recommendation 3**

Please use Microsoft Word for creating new legislative documents. The Compiler's Office now uses Microsoft Word exclusively for processing the GAR. Legal publishers such as Lexis and West require transmittal of Word files. Use of MS Word will minimize glitches and errors caused by conversions of files created with other word processing software such as WordPerfect.

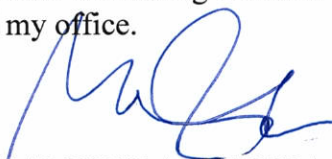
**Recommendation 4**

Please use Times New Roman font in documents. Times New Roman seems to be used universally and is a true-type font necessary for embedding in documents to be published. We use this font exclusively in all GAR documents.

**Recommendation 5**

When assigning a code section number to a new statutory addition and you are unsure of whether the desired code section number is vacant and available, please call our office.

Thank you for considering these recommendations. Please note that the suggestions herein are not necessarily hard and fast rules. There may be occasions requiring deviation from any standard formatting scheme. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call my office.



**GERALDINE A. CEPEDA**