



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GUAM

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**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GUAM  
REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, July 17, 2025  
Justice Monessa G. Lujan Appellate Courtroom  
Guam Judicial Center**

★★★★

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

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Administrator of the Courts:  
Danielle T. Rosete

Judicial Council Secretary:  
Jessica J. Perez-Jackson

Judicial Council Asst. Secretary:  
Petrina M. Ula

## MINUTES

### I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Judicial Council was called to order by the Chairman, Chief Justice Robert J. Torres, at the hour of 12:04 p.m.

### ROLL CALL:

Chief Justice Robert J. Torres (VIA ZOOM)  
Justice F. Philip Carbullido  
Justice Katherine A. Maraman (excused)  
Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III  
Judge Maria T. Cenzone (excused; court)

Present in the Monessa G. Lujan Appellate Courtroom:  
Ms. Danielle T. Rosete, Administrator of the Courts  
Ms. Dianne Gudmalin, Finance Administrator  
Ms. Barbara Jean Perez, Human Resources Administrator  
Ms. Hannah G. Arroyo, Clerk of Court, Supreme  
Ms. Sarah Elmore-Hernandez, Director of Policy, Planning, and Community Relations  
Ms. Erica Eschbach, Staff Attorney  
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. Suzane Santiago-Hinkle, Staff Attorney  
Mr. Nathan Tennyson, Staff Attorney  
Ms. Geraldine Cepeda, Complier of Laws  
Ms. Melissa Casil, Deputy CSFC Administrator  
Ms. Dawn Blas, Judicial Educator  
Ms. Elaine Naputi, Program Coordinator, Marshals  
Mr. Robert John Rabago, Management Information Systems Administrator  
Ms. Joleen Respicio, Management Information Systems  
Mr. Andrew Perez, Public Guardian  
Ms. Shelterihna Alokoa, Judicial Assistant & Supreme Court Technical Bailiff  
Mr. Andrew Jay Gimenez, Special Projects Coordinator  
Ms. Jessica Perez-Jackson, Judicial Council Executive Secretary

Also present in the Monessa G. Lujan Appellate Courtroom:

Ms. Angel Samaniego, Mock Trial Resolution  
Ms. Myka Imbat, Mock Trial Resolution  
Ms. Abigale Alvarez, Mock Trial Resolution  
Ms. Baegha Bass, Mock Trial Resolution

## **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, Justice F. Philip Carbullido, and Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III identified themselves. Justice Katherine A. Maraman and Judge Maria T. Cenzone were excused. This meeting determined a quorum with three (3) of the five Judicial Council members present during roll call.**

## **IV. READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES: June 19, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes.**

**Chief Justice Torres asked for a motion to approve the June 19, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes. Presiding Judge Lamorena made a motion to approve the minutes, Justice Carbullido seconded the motion. Chief Justice Torres called an oral vote. With no discussion, the Judicial Council members voted to approve the minutes, subject to correction.**

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

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

Ms. Dianne Gudmalin, Finance Administrator, reported that the Judiciary continues to receive its scheduled biweekly allotment of \$1,652,000 for general operations under the FY2025 appropriation. According to Ms. Gudmalin, to date, approximately 81% of the total appropriated amount has been received with the most recent allotment deposited on July 1, and the next allotment expected on July 22.

### **B. eCourt and eSupervision Transition**

Administrator of the Courts, Danielle T. Rosete, reported that the Judiciary continues to meet regularly with Journal Technologies and staff on the migration process. She shared that the first phase of the production data conversion is tentatively scheduled for the first week of August. Ms. Rosete explained that the subject matter experts will conduct data testing during this phase, with three total conversion phases planned. She added that once all phases are completed and approved, training for staff and judicial officers will be scheduled, followed by the system's official go-live.

**Chief Justice Torres asked the Council to temporarily skip over Old Business Item C and move on to New Business Item C to recognize the mock trial representatives for their participation and achievements in the 2025 National High School Mock Trial Championship. With no objections, the Council agreed to proceed with New Business Item C.**

**C. Resolution, JC25 – Relative to Adopting a Training Program for Special Deputy Marshals**

Ms. Rosete reported on the proposed training program for special deputy marshals, noting that school attendance officers (DOE) and tax officers (Rev & Tax) are limited to duties tied to their positions. She provided an example explaining that attendance officers may execute pickup orders in truancy cases but lack arrest powers and cannot execute criminal warrants and the training program complies with POST Commission requirements for Category 2 officers.

Council members discussed the possibility of pursuing legislation to expand the authority of special deputy marshals to assist with warrant execution under the supervision of the Court Marshal. It was agreed that the Chief Marshal, Chief Probation Officer, and Legal Counsel would review the proposal and report back within 60 days on its feasibility, statutory considerations, and potential parameters.

**Justice Carbullido moved to adopt the resolution; Presiding Judge Lamorena seconded the motion. The Council unanimously adopted the resolution approving the training program for special deputy marshals.**

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution, JC25-012 – Relative to Commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Guam Public Defender Service Corporation**

The Council ratified Resolution JC 25-12, which had been previously signed and presented to the Public Defender Service Corporation in recognition of its 50th anniversary during the celebration held at the Dusit Thani.

**B. Resolution, JC25- Relative to Ratifying Resolution No. JC25-012 Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Guam Public Defender Service Corporation**

**Presiding Judge Lamorena moved to approve the resolution to ratify JC25-12; Justice Carbullido seconded the motion. The resolution was unanimously approved.**

**C. Resolution, JC25- Relative to recognizing Mock trial Representatives for their participation and Achievements in the 2025 National High School Mock Trial Championship**

Ms. Rosete presented a resolution recognizing Guam's 2025 High School Mock Trial participants for their accomplishments. Honorees included courtroom journalist Giada Meno,

courtroom artist Angel Samaniego, and the Okkodo High School Mock Trial Team. Chief Justice Torres pointed out that Samaniego placed third in the People's Choice category of the National Courtroom Artist Competition, and the Okkodo team earned the prestigious Larry Bakko Award for Professionalism and Civility, awarded by peers for integrity and fair play. Council members commended the students for their professionalism, skill, and representation of Guam, while Presiding Judge Lamorena emphasized the long-standing influence of the island's mock trial program, which has inspired many alumni to pursue law and leadership roles.

**Justice Carbullido moved to approve the resolution; Presiding Judge Lamorena seconded the motion. The resolution was unanimously approved,** followed by a photo session with the students, Council members, and program leaders.

**D. Resolution, JC25- Relative to Proclaiming the Week of July 20-26, 2025 as Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week**

Chief Probation Officer Rossanna Villagomez-Aguon spoke on the resolution in recognition of the national observance of Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week, scheduled for July 20–26, 2025. Following clarification on the resolution's wording, **Presiding Judge Lamorena moved to approve the resolution; Justice Carbullido seconded the motion, and the resolution was unanimously approved.**

**E. Resolution, JC25- Relative to Commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Organic Act of Guam and Recognizing Its Foundational role in the Establishment of Guam's Justice System**

Chief Justice Torres explained that the resolution before Council will be presented during the 75th Anniversary of the Organic Act commemoration events beginning August 1, 2025. Chief Justice Torres indicated that an invitation to the anniversary activities, including a flag raising at Adelup and a naturalization ceremony, will be circulated to all judges. **The chief justice entertained a motion to approve the resolution. Presiding Judge Lamorena made a motion and Justice Carbullido seconded the motion. The Council approved the resolution recognizing the Organic Act's foundational role in establishing Guam's justice system.**

**F. Notice of the Next Meeting (Thursday, August 21, 2025)**

Chief Justice Torres noted that the Council's next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 21, 2025.

## **VII. COMMUNICATIONS**

The Council received notice of events for the 75th Anniversary of the Organic Act of Guam, including flag raisings, ceremonies, exhibits, and festivities throughout August, with invitations to be circulated to all judicial officers.

## VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Mr. Phillip Tydingco appeared on behalf of the Guam Bar Association (GBA) Board of Governors to share announcements and updates. He thanked the Judiciary leadership for the opportunity to report and highlighted several upcoming events, a national convention, and survey results of GBA membership regarding pending legislation.

#### Upcoming Events & Announcements:

- **Virtual CLE Series – “Insular Cases, Island Consequences”**
  - July 24, 2025 | 12:00–1:00 PM | Zoom
  - Speaker: Neil Weir, Co-founder and Co-director, Right to Democracy
  - Partnership with NMI Bar Association
- **2025 POWER Act Event (District Court) – Pro bono services & legal contacts for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence**
  - August 6, 2025 | 8:30–9:30 AM | District Court, 4th Floor Courtroom
  - Speaker: Atty. Carol Hinkle Sanchez, Civil Law Center
- **2025 Annual District Court Conference – “75 Years of the District Court of Guam: Honoring Our Legacy”**
  - September 22, 2025 | Hilton Guam Resort & Spa
  - Conference: 8:00 AM–4:45 PM | Reception: 5:00–7:00 PM
  - Notable speakers include Chief Judge Mary Murguia (9th Circuit), Chief Judge Jeffrey Sutton (6th Circuit), Senior Circuit Judge Margaret McEwen (9th Circuit), Judge Rallison (9th Circuit), and others.
  - Topics: AI updates, best practices in presenting motions, evidentiary foundations, evolving federal law, and conversations with chief judges.
- **NAPABA Convention (Denver, CO) – CLE on Birthright Citizenship and AAPI Belonging**
  - November 8, 2025
  - Co-hosted by GBA
  - Speakers include GBA President Jackie Terlahi, Prof. Rose Villazor (Rutgers Law, originally from Saipan), and Atty. SangJoon Kim (ACLU, New Hampshire).

#### Survey Results – Bill 61-38 (Public Prosecutor Bill):

- 87 active members responded (~30% of membership).
- **69%** favored returning the Attorney General to a governor-appointed position with an elected Public Prosecutor.
- **81%** opposed maintaining the current status quo of an elected Attorney General.
- Respondents were divided on whether both AG and Public Prosecutor should be elected:
  - 54% opposed dual elections.
  - 45% supported dual elections.

Mr. Tydingco concluded his report by thanking the Judiciary for the opportunity to present on behalf of the GBA.


**B. Court Employees Association**

IFIK President Jesse Franquez was excused due to military duty. No report was provided; a report will be given at the next meeting.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**Presiding Judge Lamorena moved to adjourn until Thursday, August 21, 2025; Justice Carbullido seconded the motion, and with no objections the meeting adjourned at 12:46 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 2025.

  
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JESSICA V. PEREZ-JACKSON  
Executive Secretary  
Judicial Council of Guam

**As set out above, the Minutes of the July 17, 2025 Regular Meeting were approved by the Judicial Council at the August 21, 2025 Regular Meeting.**

  
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**ROBERT J. TORRES**  
Chair