



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GUAM

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**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GUAM
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, November 20, 2025
Justice Monessa G. Lujan Appellate Courtroom
Guam Judicial Center**

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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

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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 12:11 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

Also present via Zoom:

Ms. Danielle T. Rosete, Administrator of the Courts
Mr. Dean Manglona, Guam Bar Association
Judge John C. Terlaje
Ms. Barbara Jean Perez, Human Resources Administrator
Mr. Mardave Toledo, Deputy Administrator, Financial Affairs

Present in the Monessa G. Lujan Appellate Courtroom:

Ms. Sophia Santos Diaz, Deputy Administrator of the Courts
Ms. Janice Camacho-Perez, Clerk of Court, Superior Court
Ms. Sarah Elmore-Hernandez, Director of Policy, Planning, and Community Relations
Ms. Dianne O. Gudmalin, Finance Administrator
Ms. Geraldine Cepeda, Compiler of Laws/GLL Executive Director
Mr. Leo S. Diaz, Marshal of the Court
Ms. Rossanna Villagomez-Aguon, Chief Probation Officer
Ms. Grace Lapid Rosadino, Court Programs Administrator
Ms. Suzane Santiago-Hinkle, Staff Attorney
Mr. Nathan Tennyson, Staff Attorney
Mr. Jesse Franquez, IFIK President
Mr. Carl V. Dominguez, Procurement & Facilities Maintenance Administrator
Mr. Andrew Perez, Public Guardian
Ms. Melissa M. Casil, Client Services & Family Counseling Administrator
Mr. Baldwin Quibuyen, MIS Planning & System Design Supervisor
Ms. Shelterihna Alokoa, Judicial Assistant & Supreme Court Technical Bailiff
Ms. Jessica Perez-Jackson, Judicial Council Executive Secretary
Ms. Petrina Ula, Judicial Council Assistant Secretary

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, Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III, and Judge Maria T. Cenon identified themselves. Justice F. Philip Carbullido and Justice Katherine A. Maraman were traveling and excused. This meeting determined a quorum with (3) of the five (5) Judicial Council members present during roll call.

IV. READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES: October 16, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes.

Chief Justice Torres asked for a motion to approve the October 16, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes. Presiding Judge Lamorena moved to approve the minutes, Judge Cenon seconded the motion. Chief Justice Torres called for an oral vote. With no discussion, the Judicial Council members voted to approve the Regular Meeting minutes, subject to correction.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. eCourt and eSupervision Transition

Deputy Administrator of the Courts, Sophia Santos Diaz, reported that implementation remains on schedule, with a projected go-live date of January 2026. She explained that coordination is underway with Chamber staff to arrange online training for peer court and Supreme Court judicial officers in collaboration with the vendor, Journal Technologies. Ms. Santos Diaz shared that the training will allow judicial officers to log in using their individual credentials to become familiar with the platform and their unique dashboards. She added that chamber staff are also encouraged to attend to understand what judicial officers will see. According to Ms. Santos Diaz, target dates for the online training are December 22 or 23, pending confirmation of availability.

Ms. Santos Diaz further noted that implementation continues to progress, with the first iteration nearly complete and the second iteration delivery expected next week. The Council acknowledged that the project is nearing completion and emphasized the need to continue pushing forward.

B. Judiciary FY 2026 Remittances Pursuant to Applicable Law

Under the FY2026 budget update, Ms. Gudmalin reported that the Judiciary has been receiving its biweekly allotments of \$1,683,000 for general operations for Fiscal Year 2026. To date, approximately 12% of the total appropriation—about \$5,049,000—has been received, with the most recent deposit made on November 10 and the next allotment anticipated on November 25. She further reported that, on November 17, the Judiciary received the full allotments for below-the-line items, including funding for the electronic monitoring program, the Guam Criminal Law and Procedure Review, and Safe Streets funding for the Family Visitation Center.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Marshal Reserve Program Stipend Study (For Informational purposes only)

Administrator of the Courts Danielle Rosete explained that the Marshal Reserve Program Stipend Study report followed an inquiry raised by Justice Maraman at the prior meeting regarding the Marshal Reserve Program during discussions on training deputized marshals with the Department of Education and the Department of Revenue and Taxation. Ms. Rosete reported that the Judiciary currently has 10 active Marshal Reservists, although the program was originally budgeted for approximately 25 and currently funds about 20 positions in the FY 2026 budget. She noted ongoing recruitment challenges similar to those faced by other law enforcement agencies and clarified that the current \$500 stipend remains consistent with other reserve programs and that no increase is being requested. Ms. Rosete explained that instead, the Judiciary is exploring alternative recruitment and retention strategies in coordination with the Marshal of the Court, Human Resources, Finance, and the POST Commission. She further reported that a recent VDMR academy resulted in five new applicants and emphasized that the program helps support court security operations and provides limited-term staffing support during long-term military absences.

B. Notice of the Next Meeting (Thursday, December 18, 2025)

Chief Justice Torres noted that the Council's next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 18, 2025.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications came after the IFIK President's report:

- Ms. Santos Diaz informed the Council of the passing of Attorney Maria Fitzpatrick and noted that her photograph and a wreath are placed on the first floor in her honor.
- Ms. Santos Diaz noted that Ms. Fitzpatrick previously served the Judiciary as a Justice and Judge Pro Tem and as an Administrative Hearing Officer, and was a respected and valued member of the Guam Bar.
- Chief Justice Robert J. Torres expressed condolences and stated that Ms. Fitzpatrick's service and support of the Judiciary would be missed.

Motion: Presiding Judge Lamorena moved to issue a Resolution of Condolence to Ms. Fitzpatrick's family. The motion was seconded by Judge Cenzone and adopted without objection.

Staff was directed to prepare a resolution honoring Ms. Fitzpatrick's service and a certificate of condolence on behalf of the Judicial Council will be presented at next meeting.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

GBA Secretary Janice Camacho Perez provided a brief report:

- 2026 annual registration is open and must be completed online.
- Key deadlines:
 - Registration deadline: January 1

- CLE certification deadline of January 31, noting that CLE hours must be completed by the end of the current year.
- Chief Justice Torres additionally announced that the Guam Bar Justice Foundation's inaugural nonprofit event is scheduled for January 9, encouraging judicial officers to attend and support the event.
- Justice Foundation event: ticket prices are anticipated to be in the \$200–\$250 range; the event will be formal and will replace the Guam Bar Christmas party this year.
- The purpose of the Justice Foundation is to support and fund future lawyers in the jurisdiction and to promote the rule of law. Further details about the event will be released at a later date.

B. Court Employees Association


IFIK President Jesse Franquez reported the following:

- IFIK bake sale scheduled for the following day and encouraged staff participation.
- RSVPs for the IFIK holiday party have been sent out and requested timely responses for headcount purposes.
- Holiday party details:
 - Date: January 10
 - Venue: Hyatt
 - IFIK members receive one free ticket; Non-members/guests: \$65; Children ages 6–12: \$35
 - Hotel room reservations are the responsibility of individual attendees, referencing issues from the prior year.
 - RSVP deadline remains open for now, with a firm date to be set and communicated, likely in mid-December.
- Chief Justice Torres commended IFIK for consistently successful events and encouraged strong judicial officer attendance.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Presiding Judge Lamorena moved to adjourn until Thursday, January 15, 2026, and with no objections the meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 18th day of December 2025.



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

As set out above, the Minutes of the November 20, 2025 Regular Meeting were approved by the Judicial Council at the December 18, 2025 Regular Meeting.



ROBERT J. TORRES
Chair