



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

Atty. Jacqueline T. Terlaje

Atty. Frederick J. Horecky

★★★★

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 THURSDAY, February 20, 2025 Justice Monessa G. Lujan Appellate Courtroom Guam Judicial Center

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
Justice F. Philip Carbullido
Justice Katherine A. Maraman
Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III (Zoom)
Judge Maria T. Cenzone

Also present via Zoom:

Judge Elyze M. Iriarte
Judge Dana A. Gutierrez
Magistrate Judge Sean E. Brown
Linda L. Ingles, Family Court Referee
Ms. Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, Regulation Counsel

Also present in the Monessa G. Lujan Appellate Courtroom:

Ms. Danielle T. Rosete, Administrator of the Courts
Ms. Hannah Gutierrez Arroyo, Clerk of Court, Supreme Court
Ms. Maria Erica Eschbach, Staff Attorney, Supreme Court
Ms. Janice Camacho-Perez, Clerk of Court, Superior Court
Ms. Barbara Perez, Human Resources Administrator
Ms. Dianne Gudmalin, Finance Administrator
Ms. Sarah Elmore-Hernandez, Director of Policy, Planning, and Community Relations
Mr. Leo S. Diaz, Marshal of the Court
Mr. Joseph Leon Guerrero, Deputy Chief Marshal
Ms. Grace Lapid Rosadino, Court Programs Administrator
Ms. Rosanna Villagomez-Aguon, Chief Probation Officer
Ms. Trish Suzuki, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Ms. Dawn Blas, Judicial Educator
Ms. Melissa Casil, CSFC Administrator

Mr. Robert Rabago, Management Information Systems Administrator
Ms. Suzane Santiago-Hinkle, Staff Attorney
Mr. Carl Dominguez, Procurement and Facilities Management Administrator
Ms. Shelterihna Alooka, Judicial Assistant & Supreme Court Technical Bailiff
Ms. Jessica Perez-Jackson, Administrative Services Officer, 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, and Judge Maria T. Cenzone identified themselves. Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III was logged on via Zoom, but did not respond during roll, Justice Katherine A. Maramba joined the meeting at 12:07 p.m. and Chief Justice Torres acknowledged that both Justice Maramba and Presiding Judge Lamorena were present while the eCourt/eSupervision report was being delivered. This meeting determined a quorum with three (3) of the five Judicial Council members present.

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

Chief Justice Torres asked for a motion to approve the January 16, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes. Judge Cenzone made a motion, Associate Justice Carbullido seconded the motion. Chief Justice Torres called an oral vote. With no discussion, the three Judicial Council members voted to approve the minutes, subject to correction.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Judiciary FY24 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 Judiciary continues to receive the scheduled biweekly allotment of \$1,652,000 appropriated for general operations for the fiscal year. Ms. Gudmalin shared that to date, approximately 42% of the total appropriated amount has been received, the most recent allotment was deposited yesterday, and the next is scheduled for March 4, 2025.

B. eCourt and eSupervision Transition

Ms. Danielle Rosete, Administrator of the Courts, provided an update on the transition from JustWare to eCourt and eSupervision:

An update was provided on the ongoing migration efforts for both the eCourt and eSupervision systems. According to the report:

- Weekly meetings have commenced with the eSupervision team, Probation, and Client Services, similar to the regular meetings held with the eCourt migration team and MIS project team.
- Progress has begun on interfacing with vendors such as Tyler (Logos) and DataMax for VCCH testing, as well as integration efforts with Infax for digital calendars.
- The digital display calendars in the courthouse atrium and outside courtrooms have been updated, with design and layout improvements aimed at enhancing user-friendliness for courthouse visitors.
- Early discussions have started with Journal Technologies for the eSupervision migration. Once eCourt configuration is complete, focus will shift to implementing the E-filing and public access components.
- Work also continues on the financial module of eCourt to ensure compliance with recent statutory changes regarding fee distribution.
- The MIS Division, particularly Shaun Perez and Renato Alviedo, were thanked for their support.

C. Resolution, JC – Relative to Updating law Enforcement Physical Fitness Qualifications Test

Administrator of the Court, Ms. Rosete, provided an update on the Judiciary's Physical Fitness Qualification Test (PFQT) standards for Judiciary law enforcement personnel:

- Meetings have been held with the chiefs of the Marshals Division and Probation Services Division following a request at the previous Judicial Council meeting to revisit the current Physical Fitness Qualification Test (PFQT) standards.
- Several probation officers and deputy marshals have been selected to evaluate the existing PFQT and compare it with standards used by other law enforcement agencies, many of which include obstacle course components not currently part of the Judiciary's testing.
- The goal is to develop recommendations for revised standards that better align with the duties performed by Judiciary law enforcement officers. A proposal is expected to be presented at the March Judicial Council meeting for Council review and adoption.
- This initiative will also consider the comprehensive physical fitness framework outlined in 17 GCA Chapter 51, which includes a physical fitness program, a health and nutrition component, and an annual PFQT.
- Gathering input from those who must complete the testing is intended to ensure the standards are both realistic and job-relevant.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Workplace Wellness

Ms. Rosete was also called to present on workplace wellness initiatives, that align with ongoing efforts to revise the Judiciary's Physical Fitness Qualification Test (PFQT) and incorporate a broader health and nutrition program. Ms. Rosete emphasized the benefits of a healthy workforce—such as improved morale, reduced absenteeism, and enhanced performance—and she reviewed past and current wellness-related programs, including:

- The launch of the Employee Assistance Program in January 2019.
- The relaunch of physical fitness activities under the Employee Recognition Program in 2023.
- The Judiciary's participation in the 2012 *Active for Life* wellness campaign in partnership with the American Cancer Society.

According to Ms. Rosete, as part of Strategic Plan Pillar 4—*Promoting a Wellness-Driven Court Culture and Workforce*—the Judiciary aims to improve morale through wellness services and team-building programs. She further explained that recent wellness commitments by the Executive Branch, including an executive order allowing weekly time for employee fitness activities, have prompted employee inquiries about similar opportunities within the Judiciary.

Ms. Rosete requested Council's consideration for adopting a wellness policy and indicated a desire to work with managers to provide interim opportunities for employees to engage in physical and health-related activities during the workweek.

Justice Carbullido, Chair of Strategic Pillar 4, affirmed that wellness is one part of a broader action plan being finalized, and highlighted that management lead, Barbara Jean Perez, is currently revising a draft report for subcommittee review. Key themes from the employee survey—such as competitive compensation, recognition, flexible work schedules, mental health support, wellness leave, workplace cafeteria options, training, and career advancement—will inform the final recommendations.

Justice Carbullido emphasized that the upcoming Pillar 4 Action Plan—which addresses retention concerns and competitiveness with federal and private employers—will soon be finalized and submitted to the Chief Justice and the AOC following the conclusion of appellate arguments. Justice Carbullido explained that this plan aligns with ongoing efforts to enhance employee wellness.

Ms. Rosete then introduced the Judiciary's upcoming Health Fair, inviting the HR Administrator, Barbara Jean Perez, to provide an update. Ms. Perez shared the key highlights of the March 14th event at the Judicial Education Center (JEC):

- Confirmed Providers & Services:
 - TakeCare: Health screenings, benefits table, and wellness games.
 - SelectCare: Guam Cancer Care participation and resource information.
 - IHP (Island Health Partners): Biometric screenings.
 - FHP Wellness, Calvo's Insurance, Pacific Life Chiropractic, and Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness
 - Paradise Fitness: Wellness promotion and engagement.
- Nutrition-Focused Food Vendors:
 - Confirmed: Mighty Purple Café, Boka Box (including their nutritionist), with outreach to Asiga, Ignite Juice, Brown Bag, and Health Bistro in progress.
- The Health Fair will run from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, with the possibility of extending to a full-day event to provide employees flexibility in attending.
- Flu shots are also being considered as part of the offerings.

Ms. Perez reaffirmed that the event supports an holistic wellness approach—addressing physical, mental, and nutritional well-being—and directly aligns with strategic goals of fostering a healthier, more competitive, and retention-friendly work environment.

The chief justice thanked Barbara for the report and confirmed that, aside from upcoming communications, this concluded the agenda items.

B. Notice of the Next Meeting (Tuesday, March 18, 2025)

Chief Justice Torres noted that the Council's next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2025 and will be a hybrid meeting.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

Before proceeding to public comment, the Ms. Rosete made a brief announcement in recognition of Mes CHamoru (Chamoru Month):

- The Judiciary will kick off its celebrations on Monday, March 17, with the traditional merienda, coordinated by the Marshals Division. This event will mark the beginning of a week-long series of Chamoru cultural activities.
- Given that the kickoff date falls during Lent, the Marshals Division has been encouraged to explore healthier food options for the merienda, in line with both religious observance and ongoing wellness initiatives.
- The AOC expressed confidence in the Marshals' creativity and enthusiasm, noting their strong showing during the Christmas season and anticipating a vibrant celebration.

Justice Maraman noted the coincidence of March 17th also being St. Patrick's Day, traditionally marked by corned beef and cabbage, adding a lighthearted note to the discussion. The Council looks forward to the CHamoru Month festivities and appreciates the Marshals Division's leadership in honoring and promoting local culture.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Janice Camacho-Perez, Guam Bar Association Secretary, provided an update, specifically focusing on the upcoming Annual Meeting and Continuing Legal Education (CLE) sessions:

- Swearing-in of the new Board of Governors
- CLE programs, with a focus on:
 - The Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP), for which the Bar is requesting the Court’s support in making attendance mandatory unless good cause is shown
 - A session on criminal procedure, to be delivered by a former president of the New York State Bar Association, who will cover both LAP and criminal procedure topics.
- The Bar is still finalizing details related to:
 - The venue (several hotel locations are being considered)
 - A potential second half of the CLE agenda, with topics still under discussion.

In response to the Court’s inquiries, Ms. Camacho-Perez acknowledged the need to submit a formal written request detailing:

- The importance of the LAP CLE
- The specific speaker information
- The proposed date and time
- The rationale for mandating attorney attendance

The Chief Justice emphasized that such written documentation is necessary for the Supreme Court to issue a directive mandating CLE attendance. Ms. Camacho-Perez confirmed that the Bar will follow up in writing as requested.

B. Court Employees Association

Ms. Rosete presented highlights from a written report submitted by IFIK President Jesse Franquez. Key updates include:

- New IFIK Officers:
 - President: Jesse Franquez (continuing)
 - Vice President: Flora Fagan
 - Secretary: Gabrielle Cruz
 - Treasurer: Brandon Taitano
- The new leadership team and board of directors are actively planning upcoming activities and have hit the ground running.
- Planned Fundraisers:
 - A bake sale on February 28 – employees are welcome to donate or participate by contacting their IFIK reps.
- Law Month Collaboration:


- IFIK is working with the Law Month Committee on the upcoming 2025 Race Judicata.
- Financial Reporting:
 - IFIK has closed out their financial records for 2024 and plans to submit them to the Department of Revenue and Taxation next week.
- First Meeting:
 - The new board held their first official meeting on February 20.

Ms. Rosete encouraged anyone interested in supporting IFIK's efforts—particularly the bake sale—to reach out to their respective IFIK representatives.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Judge Cenzon moved to adjourn until Thursday, March 20, 2025. Justice Carbullido seconded the motion, adjourning the meeting at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 17th day of April 2025.



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

As set out above, the Minutes of the February 20, 2025 Regular Meeting were approved by the Judicial Council at the April 17, 2025 Regular Meeting.



ROBERT J. TORRES
Chair