



# Judiciary of Guam

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

### **OPA Finds No Fraud, Lowest Questioned Costs in Judiciary Audit**

(Hagåtña, Guam) Reaffirming the courts' commitment to transparency, accountability, and responsible financial management, a recent audit conducted by the Office of Public Accountability (OPA) found **no instances of fraud or abuse** at the Judiciary of Guam and reported that only **3% of the Judiciary's debit card expenditures** were identified as questioned costs — the **lowest percentage among all audited entities**.

The audit is part of the OPA's series on government credit and debit card use. Despite covering a **four-year period (FY 2020–FY 2024)**—twice the length of audits for other government entities—the report confirmed that nearly all reviewed purchases were properly documented and complied with applicable regulations.

*“These results reaffirm the Judiciary's record of fiscal responsibility and the rigor we apply to every financial decision,”* said Administrator of the Courts Danielle T. Rosete. *“Most of the questioned costs were clerical in nature and have since been corrected. We've already strengthened our review procedures and added additional verification steps to reinforce our internal controls.”*

Although the Judiciary's questioned costs were minimal, the OPA also included several “other matters” in its report concerning procurement records, fund certification, and the travel mileage program. These matters were **not classified as questioned costs**, and the Judiciary addressed them in its formal management response to clarify how court systems function in practice (**attached**).

In its response, the Judiciary explained that its procurement record confirms purchases were made at the lowest available prices, that all fund certifications were valid and supported by sufficient appropriations, and that the Government Travel Law does not require their debit cards to accrue airline mileage.

*“We appreciated the opportunity to walk the OPA through the court's processes and explain how our financial systems operate,”* concluded Administrator Rosete. *“The audit process was conducted professionally, and we remain focused on strengthening our operations to uphold the integrity of the Judiciary.”*

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