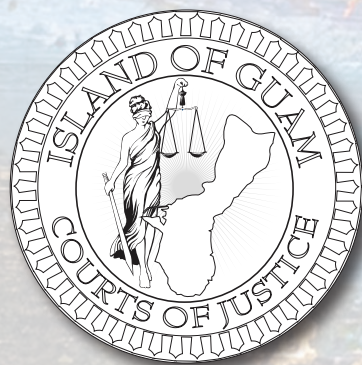




JUDICIARY OF
GUAM

**Annual
Report
2025**



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FROM YOUR **Chief Justice & Administrator of the Courts**



Håfa Adai!

We are honored to share the Judiciary of Guam's 2025 Annual Report. This year's report reflects the progress we have made together as a community and continuing our commitment to delivering justice fairly and efficiently through transparent, inclusive, and accessible court services.

This year, we focused on strengthening the services our community relies on most. We continued expanding digital and language access, ensuring court users can obtain information and services with greater ease. We strengthened treatment and counseling programs, broadened evidence-based practices, and invested in updated tools that help individuals and families move toward stability and recovery.



Our efforts to improve court operations and public safety included enhancing security measures and facility readiness, supporting smart supervision strategies, and advancing reforms rooted in data, accountability, and community-focused outcomes. These developments reinforce our commitment to a justice system that is both responsive and resilient.

As you review this report, we extend our gratitude to our judicial officers, employees, and justice partners. Your dedication and support make our work possible. Together, we look forward to continuing to strengthen the administration of justice in the year ahead.

Katherine A. Maraman
Chief Justice of Guam

Danielle T. Rosete, Esq.
Administrator of the Courts

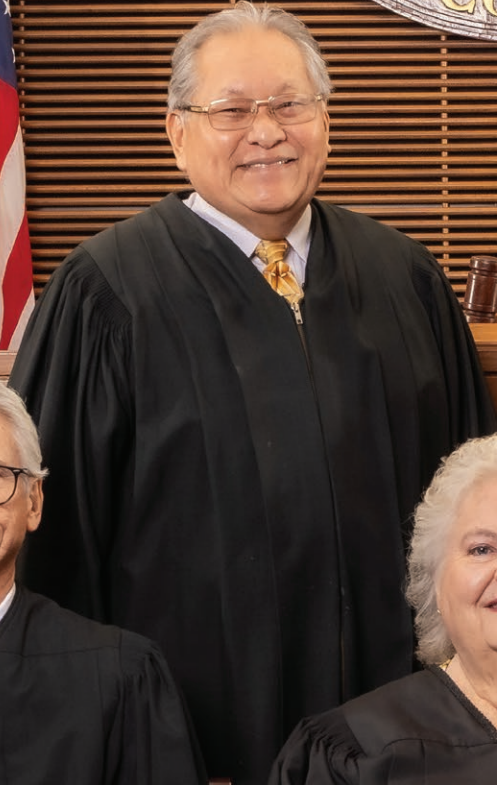


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SUPREME COURT OF GUAM



Court Governance

Judicial Council

The Judicial Council of Guam is the governing body of the Judiciary of Guam. By law, it is composed of all full-time justices of the Supreme Court, the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, and a delegated Superior Court Judge.

The Judicial Council recommends policies for the administration of the judicial branch and administers the merit system for the branch, including hearing all classified employee appeals. With the advice of the Judicial Council, the Chief Justice governs the divisions of the Judiciary.

The Judicial Council meets once a month for its regular meeting; public notice is provided for each meeting and the public is welcome to attend. Beginning in March 2020, the option to hold Judicial Council meetings remotely was initiated and beginning in May 2020, meetings were live streamed on the Judiciary of Guam's YouTube channel.

Decisions made by the council, known as resolutions, are available on the Judiciary of Guam website. In 2025, the Judicial Council adopted 25 resolutions relating to court operations and activities including:

- The approval of the Judiciary of Guam Budget for Fiscal Year 2026,
- The approval of revisions to fiscal management roles and creating the position of Chief Financial Officer,
- The approval of a training program for special deputy marshals,
- The approval of an amended law enforcement physical fitness qualifications test,
- The celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Organic Act of Guam and Recognizing its Foundational Role in the Establishment of Guam's Justice System, and
- The declaration of Law Day and Law Month.

Current Judicial Council Members:

Chief Justice Katherine A. Maraman, Chair

Justice F. Philip Carbullido

Justice Robert J. Torres

Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III

Judge Maria T. Cenzone

The image is a painting of a courtroom interior. The central focus is a wooden bench with the words "SUPREME COURT OF GUAM" inscribed on it in gold, raised letters. The bench is set against a wall with a herringbone pattern, created with thick, textured brushstrokes in shades of cream, yellow, and light blue. The floor is also painted with a similar herringbone pattern. In the background, dark wooden columns support a white ceiling. The overall style is expressive and textured, with visible brushwork throughout.

Supreme Court of Guam

Justices



Katherine A. Maraman

CHIEF JUSTICE

Appointed

2008

Education

Colorado College

Univeristy of New Mexico



F. Philip Carbullido

JUSTICE

Appointed

2000

Education

University of Oregon

Univeristy of California, Davis



Robert J. Torres

JUSTICE

Appointed

2004

Education

University of Notre Dame

Harvard Law School

SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court of Guam has jurisdiction to hear appeals over any case decided by the Superior Court of Guam or other courts created by Guam law. Additionally, the Supreme Court has supervisory jurisdiction over the Superior Court and all other courts created by Guam law, and it has original jurisdiction over proceedings necessary to protect its appellate jurisdiction and supervisory authority. The Supreme Court also has the authority to make and promulgate rules governing the practice and procedure in the courts of Guam.

The Supreme Court’s authority extends to attorney and judicial discipline and the practice of law in Guam, including admission to practice law and the conduct and discipline of persons admitted to practice law. The Board of Law Examiners (BOLE) is comprised of the Chief Justice of Guam (chairperson), the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court (members), and the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court and the President of the Guam Bar Association (ex-officio members). The Supreme Court Clerk of Court serves as the ex-officio secretary-treasurer of the Board. The Board administers the Guam bar examination and manages the review of the character and fitness of all applicants for admission.

The Supreme Court saw a marked increase in case filings in 2025, with an over 40% increase from 2024. The court had an over 100% increase in civil appeals compared to 2024, and criminal appeals more than doubled in the last 2 years alone. The court also saw a 73% increase in the number of orders issued in 2025 compared to 2024, with just under 300 orders issued throughout various case types.

The Supreme Court devoted significant efforts throughout 2025 toward the transition to eCourt, our new court-wide case management system,

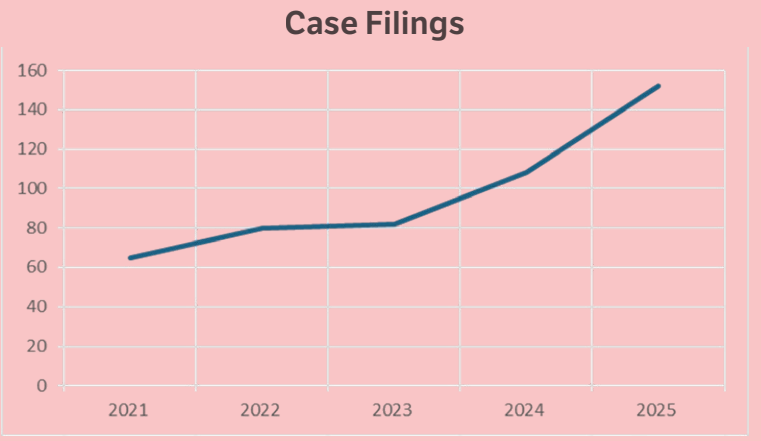
which launched in March 2026. And with the launch of the NextGen bar examination in July 2026, the Supreme Court adopted sweeping amendments to its Rules Governing Admission to the Practice of Law. We also entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Supreme Court of Palau to begin administering the Palau bar exam in conjunction with our own, starting with the July 2026 bar exam.

CASE TYPE	TOTAL ORDERS ISSUED	
	2024	2025
Administrative Order	10	6
Administrative Rules	3	0
Appellate Procedure	0	0
Attorney Discipline	3	6
Certified Question	15	2
Civil Case	44	110
Criminal Case	78	144
Pro Hac Vice	1	0
Promulgation Order	5	4
Special Proceedings	2	0
Writ of Certiorari	0	0
Writ of Habeas Corpus	5	16
Writ of Mandamus	3	6
Writ of Prohibition	3	4
GRAND TOTAL	172	298

SUPREME COURT

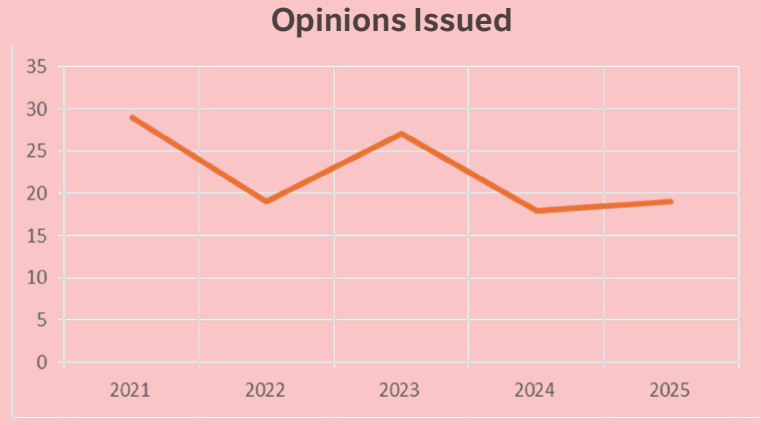
Total Case Filings – Five-Year Trend

CASE TYPE	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Appellate Procedure	0	0	0	0	0
Attorney Discipline	4	2	3	1	4
Certified Question	0	0	1	1	1
Civil Case	11	18	17	13	27
Criminal Case	15	13	15	27	34
Pro Hac Vice	0	0	0	1	0
Promulgation Order	1	0	2	0	2
Writ of Habeas Corpus	0	3	0	4	5
Writ of Mandamus	0	0	1	5	1
Writ of Prohibition	1	3	2	2	2
Writ of Certiorari	1	1	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL	33	40	41	54	76



Total Opinions Issued – Five-Year Trend

CASE TYPE	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil	17	6	10	6	6
Criminal	11	13	16	9	13
Certified Question	1	0	1	1	0
Writ / Other Original Jurisdiction	0	0	0	2	0
GRAND TOTAL	29	19	27	18	19





Superior Court of Guam

Judges



Alberto C. Lamorena III
PRESIDING JUDGE

Appointed
1988

Education
University of Illinois
University of Texas
Drake University



Arthur R. Barcinas
JUDGE

Appointed
2005

Education
University of Hawaii, Manoa
Gonzaga University School of Law



Vernon P. Perez
JUDGE

Appointed
2008

Education
University of California, San Diego
University of Hawaii
William S. Richardson School of Law



Maria T. Cenzone
JUDGE

Appointed
2012

Education
Marquette University
Loyola University Chicago School of Law

Superior Court of Guam

Judges



Elyze M. Iriarte

JUDGE

Appointed
2016

Education

University of Chicago
University of Southern California
School of Law



Dana A. Gutierrez

JUDGE

Appointed
2020

Education

University of Southern California
University of Southern California
School of Law



Albert E. Tolentino

JUDGE

Appointed
2021

Education

University of San Francisco
University of the Pacific
McGeorge School of Law



John C. Terlaje

JUDGE

Appointed
2023

Education

University of Guam
Thomas Cooley Law School

Superior Court of Guam

Judicial Officers



Jonathan R. Quan

MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Appointed
2018

Education

University of Pennsylvania
Loyola Law School



Sean Edward Brown

MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Appointed
2024

Education

University of California, Riverside
California Western School of Law



Linda L. Ingles

FAMILY COURT REFEREE

Appointed
1993

Education

University of Oregon
Whittier College School of Law



Benjamin C. Sison, Jr.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS OFFICER

Appointed
2016

Education

University of Hawaii, Manoa
Boston College Law School

SUPERIOR COURT

The Superior Court of Guam is the island’s court of general jurisdiction. It is composed of eight judges, two magistrates, a Family Court Referee, and an Administrative Hearings Officer. The eight judges preside over a variety of cases at the Hagåtña Court and the Northern Court Satellite, from felony and misdemeanor cases, juvenile matters, civil matters, divorce and custody cases, to probate and special proceedings. The magistrates have jurisdiction over certain proceedings in criminal and civil cases, uncontested divorces, and

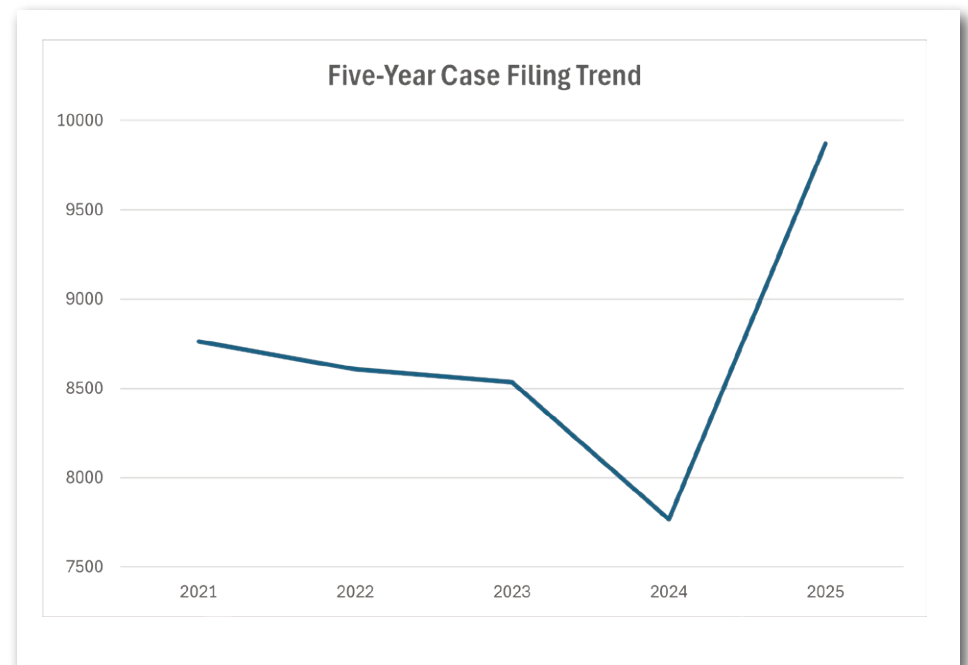
matters heard before the Small Claims Court and Traffic Court. The Family Court Referee presides over juvenile, domestic custody, and child support matters.

The Administrative Hearings Officer presides over child support cases. Juvenile Proceedings cases include juvenile guardianship matters, truancy, status offenses, and juvenile abuse and neglect cases. Domestic cases include divorce actions, custody, paternity, and child support matters.

Five-Year Comparative Cases Filed

CASE TYPE	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Adoption	30	21	24	14	12
Child Support	138	112	144	90	131
Civil	929	723	751	696	848
Criminal Felony	674	754	847	888	954
Criminal Misdemeanor	511	469	444	427	506
Domestic	534	459	437	449	466
Foreign Orders	2	1	2	2	0
Juvenile Delinquency	88	173	182	86	119
Juvenile Special Proceedings	305	328	310	331	396
Land Registration	4	3	4	1	4
Probate	240	239	228	214	211
Special Proceedings	210	176	163	179	213
Protection Orders	138	109	119	76	116
Restitution (Collections)	187	116	95	117	126
Small Claims	765	709	711	741	684
Traffic	4,008	4,214	4,073	3,456	5,084
TOTAL	8,763	8,606	8,534	7,767	9,870

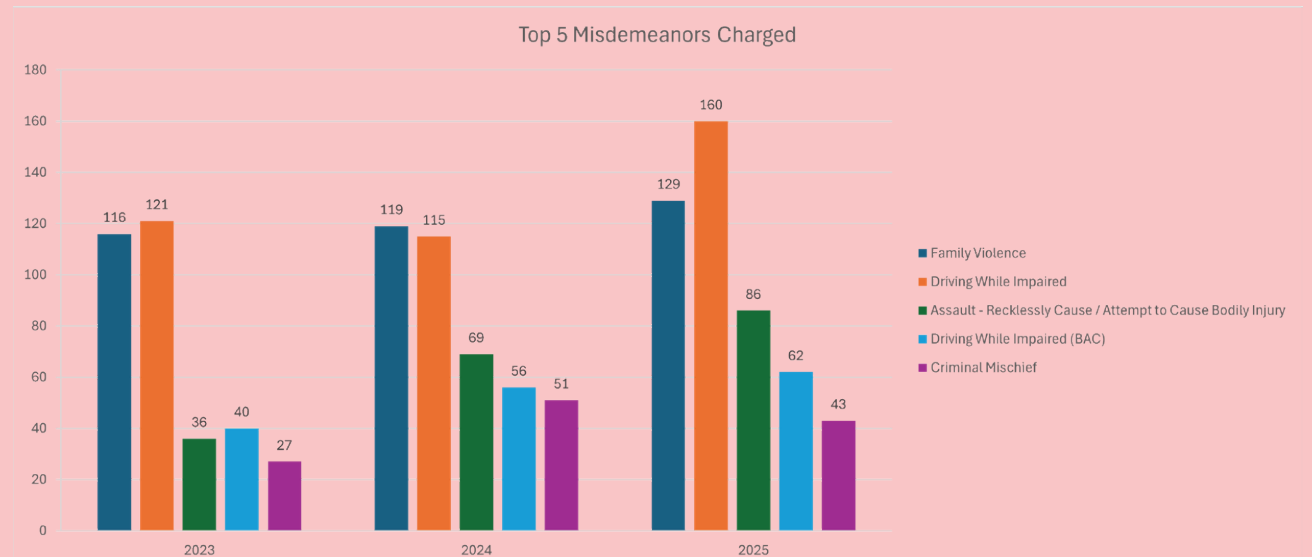
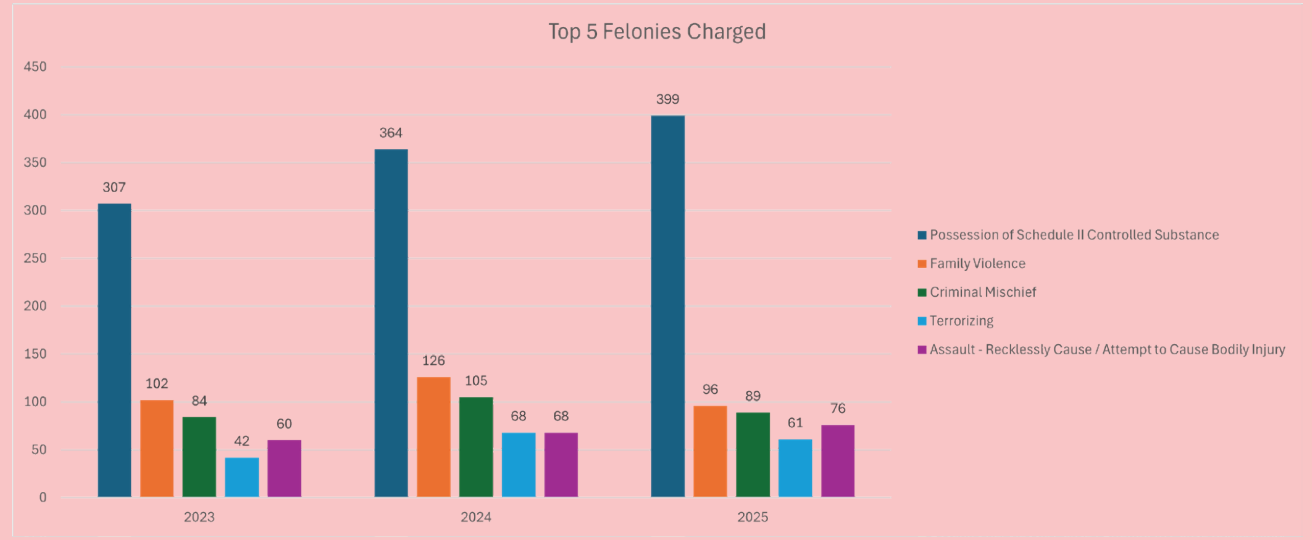
In 2025, overall case filings increased from 7,767 in 2024 to 9,870 in 2025, including increases in criminal felony and traffic case filings. Criminal felony case filings rose from 888 to 954 (7.4%) and traffic case filings increased from 3,456 to 5,086 (47.2%), reflecting rising demand on court resources.



SUPERIOR COURT

Causes of Action for Civil Cases

Appeal	1
Automobile Tort	23
Breach of Contract	5
Civil Other	32
Civil Restraining Order	8
Contract Other	6
Dissolution of Judgment	1
Foreclosure Lien	4
International Tort	3
Landlord/Tenant Other	2
Medical	2
Mortgage Foreclosure	3
Premises Liability	20
Procurement Appeal	1
Quiet Title/Partition	16
Real Property Other	2
Seller Plaintiff (Debt Collection)	676
Slander/Libel/Defamation	2
Tort Other	6
Unlawful Detainer	34
Wrongful Death	1



848

Civil Cases
Filed



116

Protection
Order
Cases



466

Total
Domestic
Cases

Treatment Courts

Adult Drug Court

The Adult Drug Court (ADC) provides intensive treatment and counseling services to help participants with their substance misuse disorders. Eligible participants must undergo intensive supervision, frequent random drug and alcohol testing, and agree to sanctions for failure to comply with program guidelines. The treatment court is divided into two tracks—ADC I for first-time possession offenders and ADC II for repeat offenders whose offenses were related to drug or alcohol use. In 2025, the Adult Drug Court served 232 participants.

Judge Alberto E. Tolentino presides over the Adult Drug Court I and Judge Maria T. Cenzone presides over the Adult Drug Court II.

Juvenile Drug Court

The Juvenile Drug Court involves juvenile cases with a drug or alcohol offense. Eligible juveniles participate in group counseling sessions, life skills workshops, and recreational therapy sessions and are subject to drug treatment services and random drug testing throughout the program. In 2025, the Juvenile Drug Court served 17 individuals. Two graduations took place in 2025, acknowledging and celebrating our youth participants on their successful completion of the program.

Judge John C. Terlaje presides over the Juvenile Drug Court.

Family Violence Court

The Family Violence Court addresses all criminal felony and misdemeanor cases with a family violence charge. Because of the high-volume docket, the cases are assigned equally to two judges. Participants in the program attend individual and group counseling supervised by treatment court staff.

Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III and Judge Maria T. Cenzone preside over the Family Violence Court docket.

Mental Health Court

The Mental Health Court strives to provide sustainable and adequate treatment for adult defendants who are mentally impaired or developmentally disabled—a segment of our population that is often misunderstood and under-served. The court ensures qualified individuals are appropriately screened, evaluated, and treated. Wraparound community-based treatment and services are provided to participants diagnosed with mental illness or developmental disability. In 2025, the Mental Health Court served 36 individuals.

Judge Arthur R. Barcinas presides over the Mental Health Court.

SUPERIOR COURT TREATMENT COURTS

Veterans Treatment Court

The Veterans Treatment Court assists justice-involved veterans, diverting them from incarceration into treatment, judicial monitoring, and supervision. Eligible participants receive specialized services and support through a network of service providers, including the Guam Community-Based Outpatient Clinic, Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, Guam VET Center, and the Guam Veterans Affairs Office. In 2025, the treatment court served 39 veterans.

Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III presides over the Veterans Treatment Court.

Driving While Impaired Treatment Court

The Driving While Impaired Treatment Court serves eligible defendants charged with Driving While Impaired and Driving Under the Influence offenses. The treatment program aims to improve the quality of life of participants by providing supervised holistic treatment to reduce recidivism and increase public safety. In 2025, the treatment court served 57 individuals.

Judge Vernon P. Perez presides over the DWI Treatment Court.

Guam Adult Reentry Court Program

The Guam Adult Reentry Court Program strives to provide the necessary tools and skills to individuals transitioning from incarceration or parole into the community, aiming to reduce recidivism rates and increase public safety. In 2025, the program served 32 individuals.

Judge Elyze M. Iriarte presides over the Guam Adult Reentry Court Program.

Guam Family Recovery Program

The Guam Family Recovery Program aims to promote the health, safety, and welfare of children from abuse and neglect where parental substance misuse is a factor. The program seeks to strengthen families by providing collaborative, culturally respectful, and family-centered treatment and services through increased judicial oversight. In 2025, the program served 39 participants.

Family Court Referee Linda L. Ingles presides over the Guam Family Recovery Program.

JANUARY 1, 2025 - DECEMBER 31, 2025

Year in Review

January 19: I Familian I Kotte (IFIK), the Judiciary's employee organization, hosted its annual Christmas Party. The event gave Judiciary employees and their families a chance to connect outside the courthouse, enjoy time together, and celebrate the holidays. The event also celebrated the accomplishments of the past year and supported IFIK's ongoing mission to foster a positive and uplifting workplace culture.

January 25: Then-Chief Justice Robert J. Torres participated in national judicial education efforts by chairing the planning committee for the Appellate Judges Education Institute (AJEI) Summit. His involvement helped shape programming for one of the country's leading appellate education conferences, bringing national attention to Guam's judicial branch and reinforcing the importance of ongoing professional development within appellate courts.

February to March: Ten participants from various treatment courts participated and completed training in the Peer Recovery Support Specialist Certification Training, which was facilitated by Transforming Ourselves through Healing Growth and Enrichment (TOHGE). These participants, who have lived experience with the criminal justice system, recovery from substance use disorders, and/or co-occurring mental health disorders, gained the skills to support future treatment and will be better able to assist future treatment court participants and support their recovery.

April 13 (right): The Judiciary's longest-running treatment court, the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court (JDTC), held a graduation ceremony that was well-attended by both government and community leaders. The JDTC reduces substance abuse and criminal behavior among youth and empowers them and their families to support a positive lifestyle by providing strength-based intensive intervention within the juvenile justice system and rehabilitation services tailored to the needs of families and each participant. Governor Lourdes LeonGuerrero; Judiciary Oversight Chair Senator Telo T. Taitague; Monty McDowell, CEO of Advanced Management; and Catherine Castro, President of the Guam Chamber of Commerce, were among those in attendance.



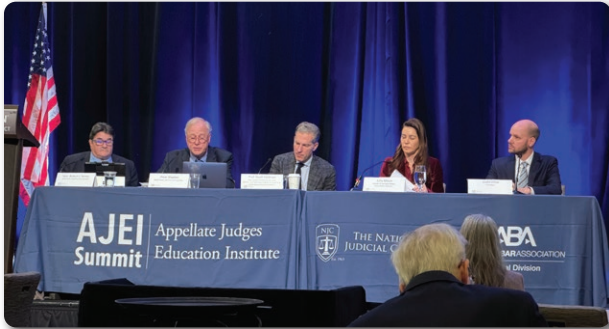
January 7: Presiding Judge Lamorena administers oath for Mayor's Council of Guam leadership.



January 17: Employees celebrate their win at the Employee Recognition Program (ERP) Championship Basketball Game.



YEAR IN REVIEW



January 25: Then-Chief Justice Robert J. Torres chairs planning committee for Appellate Judges Education Institute (AJEI) Summit.



March: In festive flair, employees celebrate Mes CHamoru at the annual merienda.



April 7-11: Employees showed up in full force for the ERP Pickleball Tournament.

April 16: The Judiciary, through its Court Programs Office, coordinated the Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training in partnership with the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC) for twenty-five (25) participants, including mayoral staff, probation officers, and deputy marshals. The participants gained valuable training that strengthened the frontline capacity to recognize and respond to behavioral health crises, thereby supporting early intervention and diversion.

April 17: The Supreme Court remains committed to civics education and expanded its outreach efforts in 2025, including an outreach appellate argument at St. John's School. The students observed oral arguments in a real case and learned more about the appellate process.

April 23-30: The Judiciary held its annual Fairy Tale Mock Trials with students from Guam's public and private schools. Through these interactive sessions, children step into courtroom roles, explore ideas of fairness and due process, and gain an early appreciation for how rules and institutions shape everyday life. These activities support the Judiciary's commitment to strengthening civics education and nurturing future community members who understand and value the rule of law.

April 28-May 2: In collaboration with the Pacific Judicial Council, the Judiciary hosted a Guam Probation Training. The training was presented by the Honorable Ronald Reinstein, Honorable Dan Slayton, Christina Ralls, and Deneen Bertucci from the Arizona Supreme Court. The training covered a range of topics including criminal justice principles, case management techniques, legal procedures, and communication skills. Sixty-nine participants, including Guam's Probation Officers and representatives from Pohnpei, Kosrae, Palau, and the FSM Supreme Court, attended the training.



April 23-30: Fairy Tale Mock Trial



April 28-May 2: Pacific Judicial Council, the Judiciary hosted a Guam Probation Training

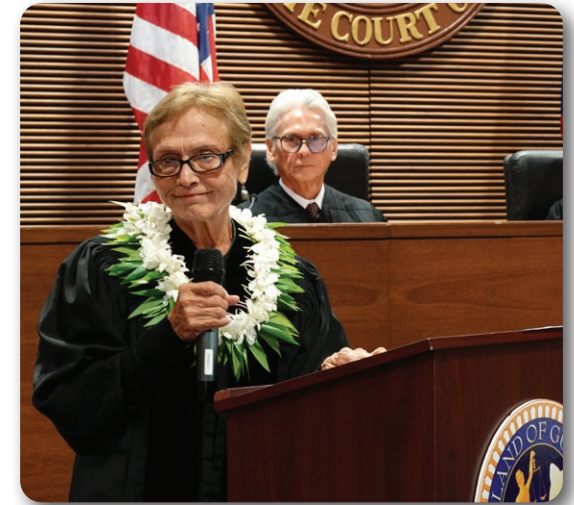
YEAR IN REVIEW



May 1: Chief Justice Torres delivered his State of the Judiciary address, emphasizing the need to support the day-to-day work of the court, from expanding public access to embracing tools, systems, and data that support programs aimed at recovery and public safety. The address included a personal story that illustrated Judiciary’s role in the criminal justice system, when Chief Justice Torres invited program participant, Valerie Reyes, to share her journey of recovery through the Guam Family Recovery Program. The judicial branch, he concluded, should respond to the desire of the people to know that justice reaches them too, and to provide justice “that doesn’t measure strength by how many it locks away – but how many it lifts up.”

May 2: The Judiciary joined community partners, including the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC), for the Mental Health and Wellness Month Proclamation Ceremony. This annual event highlights the importance of mental health awareness, early intervention, and access to supportive services across the island. By participating in the ceremony, the Judiciary reaffirmed its commitment to promoting wellness within the justice system and strengthening cross-agency collaboration to support individuals and families affected by mental health challenges.

May 15: The Judiciary honored Retired Judge Anita A. Sukola with the 2025 Hostisia Award, recognizing her long-standing commitment to advancing justice and public service in Guam. As a respected member of the legal community, she exemplifies the award’s purpose through years of leadership on the bench, dedication to improving access to justice, and service that has enhanced public understanding of the judicial system. The recognition reflects not only her professional accomplishments but also a broader legacy of mentorship and community engagement.



May 2: Mental Health and Wellness Month Proclamation Ceremony

YEAR IN REVIEW



May 16 (above): The Judiciary participated in the Treatment Court Month Proclamation Ceremony, joining the Governor's Office and community partners in recognizing the life-changing impact of Guam's treatment courts. The ceremony highlighted the Judiciary's commitment to therapeutic justice and long-term recovery for individuals with substance use and mental health disorders. This event complemented the Judiciary's many May activities honoring treatment court participants and program graduates, including recognition ceremonies and outreach efforts.

May 18: The Judiciary, through its employee organization I Familian I Kotte (IFIK), hosted the annual Race Judicata 5K, a long-standing community run that brings together employees, families, and members of the legal community in support of local charities. The 2025 event featured a "Comic Run" theme, encouraging participants to dress as their favorite characters. The Judiciary's involvement in Race Judicata reflects its ongoing commitment to wellness, community partnership, and service beyond the courthouse.

May 19: Judge Elyze Iriarte participated in the 2025 Conference on Crimes Against Women in Dallas, Texas in a panel presentation, "Enhancing Judicial Responses to Domestic Violence through Specialized Approaches," with Chief Judge Michael Newell, Family Court of the State of Delaware; Wendy Million, Tucson City Magistrate, Domestic Violence Court; and Darren Mitchell, Fellow at the National

Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. The Conference on Crimes Against Women is held annually, and in 2025, drew nearly 2,500 attendees from all 50 states, and six countries.



June 16–18 (above): The Judiciary of Guam joined the Pacific Judicial Council to support regional law enforcement training in Palau—the first of its kind for the Palau Judiciary. The training was led by Justice Daniel Crothers of the North Dakota Supreme Court, and from the Guam Judiciary: Chief Justice Robert Torres of the Guam Supreme Court, Administrator Danielle Rosete, Language Access Manager David Welle, Chief Marshal Leo S. Diaz, and Deputy Marshals Cameron Mantanona and Greg Cruz. The training included joint and separate



May 18: Race Judicata participants and Justice Torres grab refreshments after the race.

YEAR IN REVIEW

sessions for judges and personnel on topics such as procedural justice, court performance, ethics, leadership, communication, and court security.

June 20: Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center honors the Judiciary's Mental Health Court with the 2025 Goodwill Ambassador, honoring the program's continued efforts to support individuals living with mental health challenges and its strong record of collaboration with community service providers.



June 26: Winners of the Art, Coloring, and Essay Contests receive their awards at the Law Month Awards Ceremony.

July 11: The Judiciary joined in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Guam Public Defender Service Corporation, recognizing its longstanding role in ensuring access to justice and strengthening Guam's justice system.

August 1: The Judiciary joined the government-wide celebration commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Organic Act of Guam, recognizing its foundational role in shaping Guam's justice system and self-governance. During the opening ceremony, three Judiciary employees were honored for their years of service: Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III, Deputy Clerk of Court Valerie D. Tenorio, and Deputy Clerk Supervisor Galo L. Perez. We thank them for their continued dedication and commitment to public service. From July 1 to August 1, the Judiciary also participated in Lumåla' i Estoria-Ta (History Comes Alive) by opening the historic courthouse to the community for guided tours.

August 5: The Judiciary hosted a virtual training under the FY 2023 Improve the Criminal Justice Response (ICJR) grant project. Technical Assistance (TA) providers, Esperanza United, facilitated a virtual training on trauma-informed approaches. This virtual training focused on how trauma impacts victims' memory, behavior, and their interactions with service providers and the legal system. Seventy-four participants from diverse disciplines completed the training, including staff from the



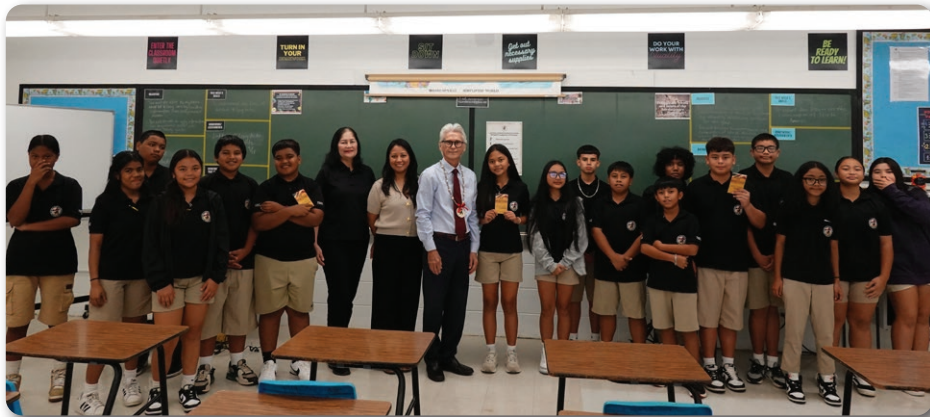
August 1: Honored for their years of service: Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III, Deputy Clerk of Court Valerie D. Tenorio, and Deputy Clerk Supervisor Galo L. Perez

YEAR IN REVIEW

Judiciary's Courts & Ministerial Division, Client Services and Family Counseling Division, Probation, Marshals, and the Court Programs Office. Representatives from external agencies and organizations also joined the virtual training, such as the Department of Public Health and Social Services, Victim Advocates Reaching Out (VARO), Guam Legal Services Corporation, and the Salvation Army.

August 18: The Judiciary joined members of the legal community in welcoming a new law establishing an independent public defender agency. The passage of Public Law 38-048 amended existing law regarding the administrative governance of the Guam Public Defender Service Corporation (PDSC). Granting of full independence for Guam's indigent defense system protects constitutional rights, ensures effective representation, and improves delivery of justice.

August to September: With the support of the Administration for Community Living U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Judiciary of Guam and Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) hosted a comprehensive "Autism in Guardianship Training" series in August and September 2025, focused on supporting individuals with autism in legal settings. Track 1 consisted of training on guardianship alternatives, communication strategies, and practical tools to improve quality of life, targeting court staff, attorneys, and community partners.



Track 2 consisted of training to empower, support, and plan for the future of individuals caring for adults or children with autism targeting community members caring for an adult or child with autism.



August 18: Then-Chief Justice Robert Torres and Lieutenant Governor Joshua Tenorio celebrate the passage of Public Law 38-048 regarding the administrative governance of the Guam Public Defender Service Corporation.

September 11: Dr. Jennifer Pealer from the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) virtually presented on "What Works - Changing Behavior to Promote Public Safety." The presentation was attended by over forty individuals to include judges, attorneys and probation officers.

September 17-23 (left): Constitution Week provides opportunity to promote public understanding and appreciation of the importance of the U.S. Constitution by engaging in community activities. In 2025, the Judiciary continued its outreach educational program, with judicial officers, attorneys, and law clerks giving nearly three dozen presentations at Guam's public and private schools.

YEAR IN REVIEW

September 24–26: The 2025 Joint Annual Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) District Court and Pacific Judicial Council (PJC) Mid-Year Conference held in Saipan brought regional judicial leaders together and featured topics on Artificial Intelligence, judicial ethics, and constitutional interpretation. This conference reinforced the Judiciary of Guam’s commitment to advancing judicial excellence across the Pacific.

October: The Family Drug Court alumni support group was launched in October 2025. The GFRP team worked with 15 alumni and held two organizational meetings in October and November to establish the inaugural group. Meetings will continue in 2026 to formalize the group’s leadership and strengthen its foundation.

October 25: Celebrated alongside family, friends, community leaders, and court employees, Justice F. Philip Carbullido was honored for 25 years of judicial excellence and dedicated service. Appointed to the Supreme Court in 2000, he served four terms as Chief Justice, recognized for his leadership, legal wisdom, and contributions across the Pacific.



November 4–8: The Pacific Judicial Council’s ACTL Trial Practice Training was held in Pohnpei, FSM, and brought together legal minds from across the region for a powerful week of learning and collaboration. With expert presenters from the American College of Trial Lawyers, participants gained hands-on insights and practical skills to elevate advocacy in even the most remote corners of the Pacific.



November 8 (above): Members of the Judiciary supported the American Cancer Society’s annual Relay for Life through both participation and creative fundraising efforts, including Jeans Day to engage court employees. From walking and running to standing in solidarity with cancer survivors, these efforts reflect the Judiciary’s continued commitment to community involvement and supporting critical health causes. After raising more than \$3,500, the Judiciary achieved Silver status in the 2025 Relay for Life, reflecting the collective efforts of its employees and their shared commitment to supporting cancer awareness.



November 4-8: Attendees of the Pacific Judicial Council’s ACTL Trial Practice Training take a break for the camera before getting back to business.

YEAR IN REVIEW

December: Guam's top four high school mock trial teams prepare to enter the final stages of the SY25-26 Guam High School Mock Trial Competition. The semifinals took place on December 2, 2025 at the District Court of Guam. The Championship followed on December 9, 2025 in the Supreme Court of Guam. Father Duenas Memorial School emerged as this school year's Champion and will represent Guam at the National High School Mock Trial Competition in Des Moines, Iowa.

December 25: Each year, we are honored to bring holiday cheers to individuals who truly look forward to these moments of connection – hosting a Christmas gift basket drive for the wards served by the Office of the Public Guardian. This meaningful tradition began in 2010, when we hosted a holiday party, and has since evolved into a season of gift-giving.



December 31: To cap off the year, our Judicial Council members added special mementos to a new time capsule! In 2024, we opened the first capsule celebrating the opening of the Guam Judicial Center in 1991, and now we're keeping the tradition alive—preserving a piece of today's commitment to justice for future generations to discover 25–50 years from now.



IN MEMORIAM

The Honorable Maria G. Fitzpatrick

The Judiciary of Guam mourns the passing of the Honorable Maria G. Fitzpatrick, who passed away on November 16, 2025.

Maria gave so much of her life to public service and to the people of Guam. After making Guam her home in 1984, she built a career defined not just by hard work, but by a genuine commitment to fairness and to doing what was right. She was a highly capable and respected government attorney, serving at the Office of the Attorney General for over two decades, and later at Public Defender Service Corporation. In both roles, she was always guided by a deep respect for the law and her clients.

Even after retiring, Maria never stepped away from the work she cared about. She accepted appointments to serve the courts in many capacities—as a Referee, Administrative Hearings Officer, Judge Pro Tempore of the Superior Court, and Justice Pro Tempore of the Supreme Court of Guam. Time and again, she answered the call, offering her experience and wisdom to further the administration of justice.

Those who worked with Maria will remember her not only for her professionalism, but for the way she carried herself—with humility, kindness, and quiet strength. She was someone people trusted and respected.

Maria was also a talented local artist, often creating pieces that reflected Guam's beauty by capturing familiar landmarks and scenes from around the island. Through her art, she shared her appreciation for the community she called home and the place that meant so much to her.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to her family and loved ones. We are grateful for her life, her service, and the many ways she made our Judiciary stronger.



Judicial Administration

Administrative Office of the Courts

The Administrative Office of the Courts has the primary responsibility of ensuring the efficient and effective operations of the Judiciary of Guam. The Office oversees the following five divisions of the Judiciary: Court Administrative Services, Client Services and Family Counseling, Probation Services, Marshal Services, and Courts and Ministerial.

The Administrator of the Courts (AOC) serves as the Judiciary's chief executive officer responsible for the management and direction of all operations and personnel under the organizational structure of the Unified Judiciary of Guam. Under direction from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the AOC provides leadership, planning, direction and supervision of court operations. The AOC is a liaison to advisory working groups and committees of justices, judges, and administrators that provide recommendations and advice for policy-making, business practice change, and service delivery. The AOC also oversees the Deputy Administrator of the Courts, the Director of Policy, Planning, and Community Relations, the Public Information Officer, and staff attorneys, and as of late 2025, the Chief Financial Officer, completing the Judiciary's leadership team.

Danielle T. Rosete • Administrator of the Courts
Sophia Santos Diaz • Deputy Administrator of the Courts
Ma. Dianne Gudmalin • Chief Financial Officer
Suzane Santiago-Hinkle • Staff Attorney
Nathan Tennyson • Staff Attorney

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

Court Administrative Services

Court Programs

Mary Grace L. Rosadino • Court Programs Administrator

The mission of the Court Programs Office is to provide grant management, program management, and coordination expertise in support of Judiciary of Guam services for the community. This includes identifying alternate funding sources such as grant programs, developing grant proposals, administering federal direct grants and local subgrants, and coordinating activities in varying areas. The Court Programs Office ensures compliance with federal and local mandates, rules, and regulations which govern the management of grants, cooperative agreements, or other funds awarded to the Judiciary of Guam. The Court Programs Office also liaises with various local and federal agencies to coordinate projects and oversees the development and submission of grant mandated reports.

Financial Management Division

Ma. Dianne Gudmalin • Finance Administrator (2019-2025)

The Financial Management Division (FMD) is responsible for effectively managing the Judiciary's financial resources and obligations. FMD oversees the financial activities of the various funds under the Judiciary's purview, including the Operational Fund, and a number of fiduciary funds such as Trust, Traffic Court, Guardianship, Land Condemnation, Jury, Judicial Client Service, Safe Streets Fund, and the Judicial Building Fund.

Human Resources Office

Barbara Jean T. Perez • Human Resources Administrator

Human Resources' primary purpose is to retain and motivate a workforce that is competent, highly skilled, and professional; create work opportunities to attract prospective employees that will have a valuable impact and align with the current workforce; and promote a work culture rooted in core values such as professionalism, integrity, and excellence within the courts. The tenets of inclusion and diversity, professional growth, and employee health and wellbeing are prioritized to maximize organizational effectiveness and efficiency.

Judicial Education Center

Dawn R.S. Blas • Judicial Educator (2019-2025)

Dr. Lisa Baza • Judicial Educator (2025-2026)

The Judicial Educator is responsible for researching, developing, implementing, and managing an interrelated system of educational and training opportunities designed to meet the professional needs of its judicial employees. In collaboration with the Human Resources team, the Judicial Educator works to administer these opportunities to employees throughout the year.

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

Procurement & Facilities Management

Carl V. Dominguez • Procurement & Facilities Management Administrator

Procurement and Facilities Management (PFM) Division has two primary responsibilities in supporting Judiciary operations. PFM has a procurement staff that administers the purchases and contracts for supplies, services, construction professional consulting services, including architectural and engineering services and group health insurance for Judiciary employees. The office is also responsible for maintenance of all Judiciary facilities and grounds. Procurement also manages capital improvement projects, including those associated with the Judicial Building Fund and negotiates and manages contracts with services provided by vendors.

Information Technology

Robert S. Rabago • Information Technology Administrator

Information Technology (IT) oversees the Judiciary's computer network and information systems at the Guam Judicial Center, Guam Historic Courthouse, San Ramon Building, Route 4 Building, Sinajana Warehouse, Northern Court Satellite, and the Office of the Compiler of Laws. The IT division stewards the enhancement of technology applications, infrastructure, and modern, agile, mobile, and data-driven court services.

Client Services and Family Counseling

Melissa N. Casil • Client Services & Family Counseling Administrator (2023-2026)
Dr. Lisa Baza • Judicial Educator (April 2026-Present)

The Client Services and Family Counseling (CSFC) Division's mission to provide clinical services to support the judicial process. CSFC's role is to evaluate all court-ordered defendants and their families and to make recommendations to the judicial officers regarding behavioral health care, needs, and additional support. In addition, CSFC provides court-involved individuals and their families with various therapeutic, psychological, consultative, and educational services. Therapists work collaboratively with each other, probation, and other agencies to provide the highest quality of care to ensure individualized, holistic, and integrated services. CSFC is committed to the importance of therapeutic outcomes for its clients and will continue to be proactive, responsive, and creative in ensuring that CSFC programs meet the needs of those served. CSFC continues to work on developing and promoting a uniform spectrum of services, case management practices, and decision-making tools to respond effectively to the needs of individuals, families and children. In addition, continuing professional education and maintaining professional ethics and standards are vital to maintaining quality services.

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

Probation Services

Rosanna Villagomez-Aguon • Chief Probation Officer

The Probation Services Division’s mission is to reduce the incidence and impact of criminal behavior of justice-involved juveniles and adults by using evidence-based practices and treatment strategies that change criminal thinking, produce positive outcomes, and ultimately increase community safety. The division is responsible for managing and monitoring court orders for justice-involved juveniles and adults placed on supervised release, both pre and post adjudicated, deferred, or regular probation placed by the Courts in lieu of detention or incarceration, as mandated by 7 Guam Code Annotated § 8110. The Judiciary of Guam is also the central repository for all Sex Offender registration, pursuant to 9 Guam Code Annotated § 89.09, which is administratively maintained by the Probation Services Division.

Courts and Ministerial

Janice M. Camacho-Perez • Clerk of Superior Court

The Superior Court of Guam’s Courts and Ministerial Division (C&M) employs more than 90 personnel in clerical, court reporter, and foreign language interpreter services. Led by the Clerk of Court, C&M staff are responsible for the processing of all Superior Court filings and the management of case records and provides support to twelve judicial officers, including Superior Court Judges, two Magistrates, an Administrative Hearings Officer, and a Referee.

Marshal Services

Leo S. Diaz • Marshal of the Court

The Marshal Services Division is responsible for safeguarding the safety and security of the judicial branch—from judicial officers and employees to attorneys, witnesses, and jurors to court patrons who need court services. The division also oversees and manages the security and safety of the judicial branch’s physical facilities in Hagåtña and Dededo. In Hagåtña, the facilities include: the Guam Judicial Center, which houses the Supreme Court, Superior Court, the Office of the Administrator of the Courts, the Clerk’s and Ministerial Division, Client Services and Family Counseling Division, and other administrative offices; the Historic Courthouse; the Judicial Education Center in the Guam Law Library Building; the San Ramon Building that houses administrative offices; and the Route 4 building, which is currently used for the Probation Services Division and Office of the Public Guardian. The division is also responsible for the Northern Court Satellite in Dededo, and Erica’s House Family Visitation Center. In addition, the statutory mandate of the Marshal Services Division includes providing security for all court hearings; serving process, writs and orders; executing warrants; and performing other duties as provided by law, rule, or Judicial Council resolution.

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

Supreme Court

Supreme Court

Hannah G. Arroyo • Clerk of Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of Guam has jurisdiction to hear appeals over any cause decided by the Superior Court of Guam or other courts created by Guam law. Additionally, the Supreme Court has supervisory jurisdiction over the Superior Court and all other courts created by Guam law, and original jurisdiction over proceedings necessary to protect its appellate jurisdiction and supervisory authority. The Supreme Court also has the authority to make and promulgate rules governing the practice and procedure in the courts of Guam.

The Supreme Court's authority extends to attorney and judicial discipline and the practice of law in Guam, including admission to practice law and the conduct and discipline of persons admitted to practice law. The Board of Law Examiners (BOLE) is comprised of the Chief Justice of Guam (chairperson), the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court (members), and the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court and the President of the Guam Bar Association (ex-officio members). The Supreme Court Clerk of Court serves as the ex-officio secretary-treasurer of the Board. The Board administers the Guam bar examination and manages the review of the character and fitness of all applicants for admission.

Compiler of Laws

Geraldine A. Cepeda • Compiler of Laws

The Office of the Compiler of Laws is responsible for publishing primary sources of Guam law, including the statutory code (Guam Code Annotated or GCA), government regulations (Guam Administrative Rules and Regulations or GAR), Supreme Court of Guam Opinions, Superior Court of Guam Decisions and Orders. These resources are published online through the Compiler of Laws website and can be accessed free of charge. The Compiler's Office website also provides access to other legal resources, including Executive Orders, Session Laws of the Guam Legislature, and Attorney General Opinions.

Office of the Public Guardian *Andrew T. Perez • Public Guardian*

The Office of the Public Guardian (OPG), created by statute and established in 2001, is entrusted with several essential duties. Its primary responsibility is to serve as guardian for elderly and disabled adults who are unable to understand or meaningfully participate in decisions regarding their care, and who have no relatives or friends both willing and able to act on their behalf. In addition, the OPG assists the Court whenever requested or directed in matters relating to guardianship. The office also advises and supports individuals serving as guardians, helping them navigate their responsibilities. Beyond formal guardianship appointments, the OPG offers guidance and counsel to individuals who seek assistance—or on whose behalf assistance is requested—with the goal of promoting self-reliance and independence to the greatest extent possible. Finally, the OPG engages in community outreach to increase awareness and understanding of guardianships and related issues.

Office of Regulation Counsel

Alicia A. G. Limtiaco • Regulation Counsel (2021 – 2026)
Joseph L.G. Taijeron, Jr. • Regulation Counsel (April 2026 – Present)

The Office of Regulation Counsel is a component of the Comprehensive Lawyer Regulatory System, established by the Guam Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement and Disability Proceedings adopted in 2021. These rules created the Commission on Lawyer Regulation, Office of Regulation Counsel, Investigative Committee, and Hearing Panel, which govern matters formerly handled by the Guam Bar Ethics Committee and Office of the Ethics Prosecutor. The duties of Regulation Counsel include, but are not limited to:

- Receiving information and complaints regarding the conduct of lawyers over whom the court has jurisdiction;
- Evaluating all information to determine whether it concerns a lawyer subject to the jurisdiction of the court;
- Determining whether the facts stated in a complaint or other information regarding the conduct of a lawyer provide grounds for further action under these rules;
- Investigating and prosecuting complaints as authorized by the Investigative Committee and the Hearing Panel;
- Coordinating and communicating with other jurisdictions in which a lawyer is admitted regarding discipline and disability matters; and
- Collaborating with the Commission on Lawyer Regulation on training programs and materials and conducting public awareness and education efforts regarding the Comprehensive Lawyer Regulatory System.

Accomplishments

Expanding Attorney Licensure Pathways

Guam's shortage of lawyers has real consequences for families, businesses, and the courts. Over the past several years, the Supreme Court of Guam has taken meaningful steps to make joining the island's legal community more practical, fair, and accessible.

In February 2024, the Supreme Court adopted the NextGen UBE Bar Examination, which will launch July 2026, replacing the legacy bar exam. This change comes with updated admission rules designed to increase the number and diversity of lawyers who can serve on Guam. A key improvement is score portability, which makes it easier for qualified attorneys to bring their skills to the island. These updates help open the door for more lawyers to practice here.

To further widen the pipeline, the Court created new pathways for foreign-educated lawyers and for graduates of non-ABA-accredited law schools who complete an ABA-approved graduate program. This gives more people with legal training a fair chance to qualify and serve the community.

The Court also updated temporary admission rules to include a dedicated military-spouse licensure pathway, allowing experienced attorneys who move to Guam with their families to contribute right away. This ensures that skilled lawyers connected to the military community can help meet local needs without unnecessary delay.

In addition, Guam and the CNMI are finalizing a reciprocity agreement that will allow lawyers licensed in one jurisdiction to be admitted in the other. This partnership will expand the pool of available attorneys and strengthen legal services in the region.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Working Together to Deliver Justice

The Criminal Justice Automation Commission (CJAC) brings together Guam's law enforcement and justice agencies to improve how criminal justice information is shared across the island. Established in 1993 and formally codified by Public Law 38-53 in 2025, CJAC now operates as a permanent body responsible for overseeing the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS)—Guam's secure, integrated network for sharing arrest data, prosecution status, court disposition data, and correctional and parole status.

CJAC is co-chaired by the Chief Justice of Guam or their designee and the Chief Technology Officer of the Executive Branch of the Government of Guam. From 2020 to 2025, the Commission was co-chaired by Chief Justice Maraman, and beginning in 2026, it is co-chaired by Justice Robert J. Torres. Its membership includes leaders from key public safety, regulatory, and social service agencies. CJAC provides structured governance to preserve data integrity and privacy, guides technology updates and strategic planning, and ensures that improvements are sustainable and aligned with FBI CJIS standards.

Following the enactment of Public Law 38-53, CJAC held its first meeting on October 15, 2025. Looking ahead, CJAC will continue strengthening interagency collaboration, expanding modern technology solutions, and improving the flow of critical information to support public safety.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Guam Criminal Law and Procedure Review Commission

Created by Public Law 36-119 in 2022, the Guam Criminal Law and Procedure Review Commission (CLRC) is conducting the first comprehensive update of Guam's criminal laws since 1976. Operating as a division of the Supreme Court of Guam with administrative support from the Judiciary, the Commission is responsible for reviewing the Guam Criminal Procedure Code codified in Title 8 of the Guam Code Annotated, the Criminal and Correctional Code codified in Title 9, and other criminal statutes outside of Titles 8 and 9, and to recommend enactments, amendments, and repeals as necessary to modernize Guam's criminal justice system.

The CLRC accomplished its first major milestone under its statutory mandates in June of 2025, when it submitted an Interim Report to the Guam Legislature (I Liheslaturan Guåhan), with its first round of fully approved recommendations for changes to certain chapters of Title 9. These recommendations cover more than half of the 46 chapters in Title 9.

On November 20, 2025, Bill No. 232-38 was introduced, which incorporates the recommendations in the CLRC's Interim Report. The CLRC was able to provide assistance, working with the drafters of the proposed legislation to ensure that the bill reflected the recommendations in the Interim Report.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Collaborating to Improve the Juvenile Justice System

In September 2025, the Judiciary received an award from the State Justice Institute (SJI) to support Guam's Juvenile Justice Assessment Initiative, led by the Juvenile Justice Reform Collaborative (JJRC). Originally launched in 2014, the JJRC was reconvened in January 2024 by then Chief Justice Robert J. Torres and Lieutenant Governor Joshua Tenorio to address new challenges on Guam stemming from the pandemic, including the need for improved data collection and sharing, statutory reform, greater probation involvement, and stronger partnerships with service providers. Project funds will be used to conduct a comprehensive system assessment of Guam's juvenile justice system against nationally recognized best practices and to identify opportunities for improvement.

By December 2025, the JJRC completed its Report and Recommendations, presenting a detailed evaluation of Guam's juvenile justice system. The report reflects a full year of coordinated, cross-agency effort. Five specialized subcommittees—focused on data, detention, family engagement, dual-status youth, and statutory reform—worked closely with stakeholders from schools, law enforcement, community organizations, and families.

In the same month, the Judiciary finalized a partnership with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), working alongside the Robert F. Kennedy Community Alliance's National Resource Center for the Transformation of Youth Justice. This collaboration provides national expertise to review the JJRC's work and establish key priorities for FY 2026.

Implementation of the JJRC's recommendations will move forward with continued support from the SJI grant. Guam is one of only five jurisdictions nationwide selected for this award, provided in partnership with the Effective Justice for Young People Training and Technical Assistance Collaborative. Beginning in FY 2026, the Judiciary and its partners will focus on targeted strategies to address systemic gaps, strengthen coordinated services, and promote a more effective, youth-centered juvenile justice system for the island.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Improving Access to Justice through Language and Technology

Language Access

Expanding language access is essential to ensuring justice for all. The Court Interpreters Registry Program (CIRP) supports this mission by providing qualified interpreters for individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and for those who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (DHH). Through interpreter support in attorney consultations, probation interviews, and other court-related proceedings, the Judiciary helps ensure that language barriers do not impede meaningful participation in the justice system.

The Judiciary currently offers interpreter services in 18 languages, including American Sign Language (ASL).

In June 2025, the Language Assistance Program Manager, for the first time, provided Basic Court Interpreting training to staff of the Palau Judiciary, strengthening shared standards of language access.

Locally, the Language Assistance Program Manager conducted two trainings for nine new court interpreters, covering basic interpreting skills, simultaneous interpreting, consecutive interpreting, side translation, the interpreter code of professional conduct and ethics, and interpreting in criminal sexual conduct cases.

CIRP's Language Assistance Specialist supports the Judiciary by delivering the Chuukese Driving with Care (DWC) classes for the Probation Office's Alternative Sentencing Office.



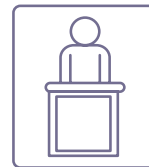
18

Languages



69

Registered Interpreters



4,687

Court Hearings



1,436

Non-courtroom Activities

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Digital Evidence Management System

Digital evidence has proved to be a critical step toward securing, enhancing, streamlining, and centralizing the management and presentation of electronic evidence in criminal and civil proceedings, specifically evidentiary hearings and trials. The Judiciary continues to offer training to judicial officers and attorneys to ensure the proper and effective use of the solution.

Online Protection Order Portal

Launched in November 2025, this online portal allows individuals to prepare and file civil protection orders from any computer or mobile device. Developed in partnership with LegalAtoms, the platform uses simple, step-by-step questions to help users complete and e-file forms for domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault cases. The project was led by Superior Court Judge Elyze M. Iriarte and reflects the first major update to Guam's protection order rules in more than a decade. As part of this, the Supreme Court also Promulgated Revisions to the Protection Order Rules upon recommendation of the Subcommittee comprised of judicial officers Judge Elyze M. Iriarte, Judge Dana A. Gutierrez, Judge John C. Terlaje, and Judge Arthur R. Barcinas, court staff, and attorneys.

Modernizing Court Operations

In 2025, our employees made major strides in modernizing court technology. They advanced the Case Management System for eCourt and eSupervision, improving how cases and supervision activities are handled digitally. The Superior Court also worked on a new web-based Jury System to simplify juror communication and scheduling. These modernized systems are scheduled for launch in 2026, supporting more efficient and accessible court operations.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Guardianship Educational Video Series

Launched in October 2025, this initiative represents the first time in the Judiciary’s history that it has produced and published a pre-recorded educational video series for public viewing directly on its website. This milestone reflects a broader commitment to accessibility and community engagement.

The series was created to demystify the guardianship process by breaking down complex legal concepts into clear, easy-to-understand explanations. Each video is designed to help viewers understand the purpose of guardianship, the responsibilities of a guardian, the rights of individuals under guardianship, and the safeguards built into the system. By offering this information in a visual, on-demand format, the Judiciary is expanding access to legal education for individuals who may not be familiar with court processes or who face barriers to attending in-person sessions.

Developed with the Office of the Public Guardian, the series was released during Guardianship Awareness Month to maximize public outreach and support ongoing community education efforts. The content is tailored for a wide audience—including prospective guardians, family members, service providers, and members of the general public seeking to better understand how guardianship works.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Investing in Treatment

In 2025, the Judiciary of Guam continued to strengthen its treatment court system—one of the most effective justice interventions for individuals with substance use disorders, mental health conditions, and co-occurring needs. Rather than perpetuating the cycle of addiction, crime, and incarceration, treatment courts provide a structured, accountable pathway to recovery. These programs combine judicial oversight with evidence-based treatment, helping participants rebuild their lives while improving public safety.

Guam's first Drug Court was established in 2002 under the leadership of Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III. Over the past two decades, the Judiciary has expanded its treatment court system to include adult, juvenile, and family drug courts, as well as mental health and veterans treatment courts. Collectively, these programs have graduated more than a thousand adults and juveniles, with hundreds more currently engaged in treatment and supervision.

In 2025, the Judiciary served 399 participants across its treatment-focused programs, reflecting continued demand for structured, therapeutic alternatives to incarceration. Of those, 65 individuals successfully completed program requirements, demonstrating significant progress toward long-term recovery and stability. Participants were supported through intensive supervision, regular court reviews, individualized case management, and coordinated referrals to community-based service providers.

In April 2025, the Supreme Court of Guam adopted the Mental Health Court Rules, a big step toward making the justice system more responsive for persons with serious mental illnesses. This achievement builds on years of work under the Judiciary's 2019 Strategic Plan and a federal grant that supported the development of a formal framework for the Mental Health Court. The Subcommittee on Rules for the Mental Health Court—chaired by Chief Justice Katherine A. Maraman and co-chaired by Judge Arthur R. Barcinas and Judge Maria T. Cenzone—led the drafting process, with contributions from Judiciary management, therapeutic-court staff, and representatives from Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center.



The impact extends beyond the courtroom. Through the Guam Family Recovery Program, children affected by parental substance use receive critical support, helping families heal and increasing the likelihood of safe reunification. These efforts reinforce a simple truth: when treatment courts succeed, entire families and communities benefit.

The Judiciary remains committed to expanding these life-changing programs. With continued support and investment, treatment courts will keep opening doors to recovery, restoring stability, and giving individuals—and their families—a brighter future.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Strengthening Court Programs and Services

The Court Programs Office (CPO) provides grant and program management in support of the Judiciary of Guam’s services to the community. The CPO ensures that the Judiciary can expand services, strengthen operations, and implement innovative programs that respond to emerging community needs.

In 2025, the CPO secured \$2,422,044 in new grant funding, supporting a wide range of initiatives aimed at:

- improving access to justice;
- strengthening treatment and intervention programs;
- and modernizing court operations.

In addition to securing new awards, the Office continued to manage 26 ongoing Judiciary projects from the previous calendar year, ensuring full compliance with all federal and local regulations, reporting requirements, and performance standards.

NEW PROGRAMS/ PROJECTS AWARDED IN 2025

Program Name	Grantor	Amount
FY 2023 SAMHSA Guam Family Recovery Program (Year 2 Award)	DHHS-SAMHSA	\$398,711
FY 2024 Improving Guam’s Guardianship System Project (Year 2 Award)	DHHS-ACL	\$432,367
FY 2025 DPR Alcohol Education Project	DPW-OHS	\$30,995
FY 2025 Guam’s Juvenile Justice Assessment Initiative	SJI	\$100,000
FY 2022-2023 Byrne SCIP – Mental Health Court Project	BSP	\$65,000
FY 2022-2023 Byrne SCIP – Veterans Treatment Court Project	BSP	\$65,000
FY 2022-2023 Byrne SCIP – Law Enforcement Enhancement Project	BSP	\$165,774
FY 2023 Edward Byrne JAG Criminal Justice Record Improvement (CJRI)	BSP	\$69,844
FY 2023 Edward Byrne JAG Video Conferencing Technology (VCT)	BSP	\$65,088
FY 2023 STOP VAW – Regular Project	BWA	\$24,388
FY 2023 STOP VAW – Sexual Assault Project	BWA	\$9,510
FY 2023 STOP VAW – Court Navigator Project	BSP	\$91,000
FY 2024 Justice for Families	BWA	\$241,177
FEMA – DR 4715 Typhoon Mawar: Judiciary of Guam Emergency / Protective Measures	FEMA	\$52,070
FEMA – DR 4715 Typhoon Mawar: Guam Judicial Center: Generator	FEMA	\$611,120
TOTAL		\$2,422,044

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Improving Counseling Services and Client Outcomes

In 2025, the Judiciary of Guam, through its Client Services and Family Counseling (CSFC) Division, continued to provide counseling and support services to address matters involving families and individuals who come before the court. Through court-connected programs and referrals, these services support family-related cases and assist with compliance with court-ordered conditions.

CSFC provides a broad range of services, including assessments, counseling, and other supportive interventions, in coordination with qualified professionals and community-based providers. These services are incorporated into case management processes where appropriate, allowing the court to monitor participation and progress as part of ongoing proceedings.

In 2025, CSFC delivered 3,642 services, an increase from 3,195 the previous year. Referrals also grew from 1,045 in 2024 to 1,141 in 2025. Of these referrals, approximately 67 percent originated from criminal felony and misdemeanor cases, 32 percent from juvenile matters, and 1 percent from domestic cases.

To strengthen service quality and expand the use of evidence-based practices, judicial therapists and therapist interns received specialized training to expand CSFC’s clinical capacity in areas such as:

ASAM CONTINUUM – All judicial therapists are now trained in this comprehensive electronic assessment tool, which evaluates substance use disorders and recommends appropriate levels of care. In 2025, all therapists are now trained and able to assist, helping to eliminate a major delay in determining eligibility for Adult Drug Court.

The Matrix Model for Adults and Adolescents – Therapists also received training in this structured, evidence-based behavioral treatment approach. The Matrix Model integrates relapse-prevention strategies, family and group therapy, psychoeducation, and self-help components. This training strengthens the Judiciary’s ability to deliver consistent, high-quality treatment for individuals with substance use disorders across age groups.

2025 CSFC Services Performance Outcome

TYPE OF SERVICE	In-Person	Telehealth	TOTAL
Co-parenting	3	0	3
Couples Counseling	5	0	5
Drug & Alcohol Assessment	194	1	195
Family Counseling	152	0	152
Family Violence Women's Group	74	66	111
Forensic Evaluation	120	1	121
Individual Counseling	1456	85	1541
Intake and Assessment	743	8	751
Matrix-Youth	55	0	55
MRT Anger Management Group	44	0	44
MRT-DV Group	189	11	200
MRT-DV Group (Non-English)	187	0	187
Nurturing Parenting Program	194	7	201
Parent Education and Support Group (Non-English)	27	0	27
Psychological Evaluation	9	0	9
Psychosexual Evaluation	3	0	3
SASSI-Adult	44	0	44
SASSI-Youth	57	0	57
Treatment Team	4	0	4
Wrap Meeting	12	0	12
TOTAL	3,529	113	3,642

Referrals by Case Type

CASE TYPE	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Criminal Felony	375	369	332	383	541
Criminal Misdemeanor	344	277	264	249	224
Domestic	10	6	5	21	12
Juvenile Delinquency	47	65	138	169	138
Juvenile Special Proceedings	74	66	111	212	226
Protective Order	5	3	10	11	0
TOTAL	855	786	860	1,045	1,141

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Case-Related Financial Services

The Judiciary’s Financial Management Division (FMD) plays an important role in supporting court operations and serving the public by managing everyday financial transactions, including payments, clearances, and juror compensation.

In 2025, demand for financial services increased across several key areas. FMD continued to expand access through the Northern Court Satellite, making it easier for residents in the northern part of the island to complete court-related transactions closer to home. Key highlights for 2025 include:

- 15,900 court clearances issued, an increase from 15,300 the previous year.
- 17,870 traffic clearances processed, up from 17,400 in 2024, with 53% completed at the Northern Court Satellite.
- 15,500 transactions processed for the collection of fines, fees, and restitution payments.
- 9,500 check payments issued for jurors, compared to 8,800 in 2024.

The Northern Court Satellite continues to play a growing role in improving access, with 20.4% of all receipt transactions processed at that location.

The Judiciary is also working to improve jury services by increasing the use of direct deposit, reducing the need for paper checks and allowing jurors to receive payments more quickly and conveniently.

Overall, these increases reflect the community’s continued use of court services and the Judiciary’s efforts to provide efficient, accessible, and responsive financial services.

Services	2023	2024	2025
Court Clearances	15,000	15,300	15,900
Traffic Court Clearances Processed	14,000	17,400	17,870
Payments for Jurors	8,300	8,800	9,500
Transactions for Collected Fines, Fees, and Restitution Payments	13,500	15,000	15,500

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ensuring Safe and Secure Court Operations

Pursuant to 7 GCA § 8106, the Judiciary of Guam’s Marshal Services Division serves as the law enforcement arm of the courts. The division attends all sessions of the Supreme Court and Superior Court, maintains order, ensures courtroom security, and serves and executes court process, writs, and orders.

In 2025, the division continued to support daily court operations, safeguard court facilities, and provide a secure environment for judges, employees, and the public.

In October 2025, the Judiciary received a sub-grant through the FY 2022–2023 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program – Law Enforcement Enhancement Project, administered by the Guam Bureau of Statistics and Plans. This initiative strengthens the Judiciary’s efforts to ensure that law enforcement officers are properly equipped and prepared for the diverse situations they encounter.

Grant funds will support the procurement of essential safety equipment to promote responsible firearm handling and enhance security within court facilities and during field operations. The project also invests in professional training to expand officers’ skills in crisis response, de-escalation, and management of high-risk encounters.

Security Services	2025
Adult Detainees Managed (Hagåtña/NCS)	10,963
Jurors Managed	675
Warrant & Investigative Services	
Warrants Managed	2,775
Warrants Executed	1,456
Criminal & Traffic Services	
Documents Managed	7,940
Documents Served	2,232
Civil & Small Claims Services	
Documents Managed	3,123
Documents Served	2,232
Child Support Unit Services	
Documents Managed	691
Documents Served	372
National Crime Information Center (NCIC)	
Disposition Submissions	3,814
Background Checks Performed	435
Fingerprints Captured and Submitted to FBI	220
National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Background Checks	278

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Advancing Smart Supervision and Probation Reform

The Judiciary of Guam continues to strengthen probation practices through the implementation of evidence-based supervision strategies aimed at improving outcomes and enhancing public safety. These efforts build on the Judiciary's ongoing adult probation reform initiatives and reflect a commitment to aligning supervision practices with nationally recognized standards.

In 2025, the Judiciary advanced its Smart Supervision efforts through funding awarded under the Second Chance Act Smart Supervision Program, which supports a comprehensive approach to improving probation services. The project focuses on enhancing the Division's ability to assess and respond to probationers' risks and needs, with the goal of improving outcomes and reducing recidivism. Key objectives include adopting evidence-based tools and practices, strengthening policies and procedures, enhancing technology, and supporting probation officer wellness.

To lead this work, Justice Robert J. Torres, then serving as Chief Justice, appointed a multi-disciplinary project team consisting of judicial officers, court leadership, and probation professionals. The team is led by the Honorable Arthur R. Barcinas, Magistrate Judge Sean Brown, Administrator of the Courts Danielle Rosete, Chief Probation Officer Rossanna Villagomez-Aguon, and Court Programs Administrator Mary Grace Lapid Rosadino.



Electronic Monitoring

Electronic Monitoring (EM) remains a smart, cost-effective supervision option that promotes accountability while allowing individuals to maintain stability through family, employment, and essential services. It provides the Judiciary with a flexible tool that enhances public safety and supports compliance across a wide range of case types—not only pretrial matters. Based on the cost of incarceration compared with the cost of running the program, EM saves the Department of Corrections over \$3 million.

In 2025, the EM Unit received 173 referrals, a decrease from 238 the previous year. Beginning in 2026, the Judiciary will implement mandatory eligibility screening to ensure that every candidate is evaluated fairly and uniformly, expanding access where appropriate while safeguarding the community.

Through strengthened screening practices and dedicated monitoring, the Judiciary continues to advance EM as a responsible, data-driven supervision strategy that enhances safety, reduces reliance on detention, and supports better long-term outcomes for individuals and the community.

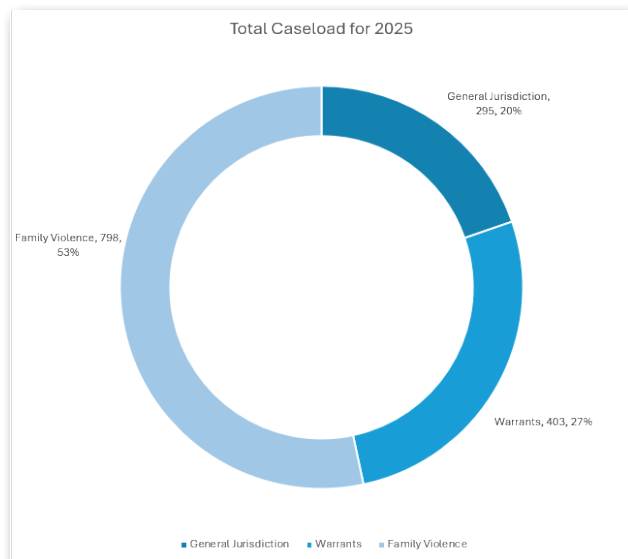
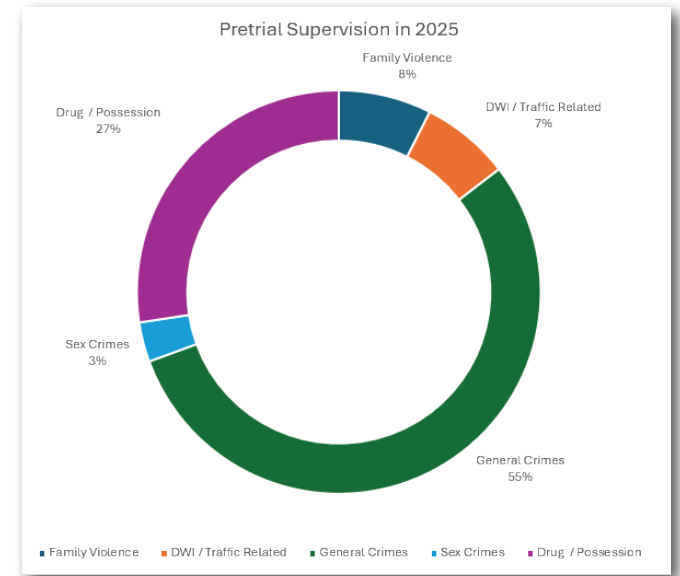
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Strengthening Community Supervision and Public Safety

The Judiciary's Probation Services Division continues to play a critical role in promoting accountability, reducing risk, and supporting rehabilitation. In 2025, key units with the Probation Division worked to advance these goals through data-driven practices and enhanced monitoring services.

Pretrial Services

In 2025, the Pretrial Services Office managed a total caseload of 3,024 cases. The section continued expanding its use of best practices to ensure fair, efficient, and effective supervision. These efforts support timely case processing while helping individuals comply with court-ordered conditions.



Adult Probation

The Adult Probation Office managed an overall caseload of 1,496 cases in 2025. While the number of new Family Violence cases decreased—from 182 in 2024 to 164 in 2025—these cases continue to represent the majority of the Division's work. Family Violence and Crimes Against Persons accounted for approximately 73% of the active caseload, with General Jurisdiction and Property Crimes comprising the remaining 27%. This distribution underscores the continued need for specialized supervision strategies, victim-centered practices, and coordinated community responses.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Promoting a Wellness Driven Court Culture and Workforce

At the heart of the Judiciary's mission is not only the pursuit of justice, but the commitment to fostering a workplace where every employee feels valued, supported, and empowered. The Judiciary recognizes that its greatest strength lies in its people—individuals who bring dedication, integrity, and compassion to their work each day. As our responsibilities grow and the demands on court services evolve, nurturing a culture of appreciation and wellness has become essential to sustaining a strong and resilient workforce.

Leadership Academy: In January 2025, the Judiciary held a Leadership Academy (LDA), a key initiative designed to strengthen our workforce and build a sustainable pipeline of capable leaders prepared to guide the organization into the future. As the Judiciary continues to expand services and modernize operations, developing strong internal leadership is essential to maintaining safe, efficient, and high-quality court operations.

The LDA provides structured professional development for emerging leaders, offering a deeper understanding of employment laws, Judiciary policies, available management tools, and best practices in leadership. Participants engaged in hands-on learning, reflection, and skills-building activities that enhanced their ability to communicate effectively, lead teams, and respond to evolving workplace needs.

Through the LDA, participants practiced real-world scenarios, strengthened their decision-making abilities, and developed strategies to support staff while upholding the Judiciary's mission. By investing in leadership development, the Judiciary is cultivating a workforce that is better equipped to manage complex operations, support employee well-being, and ensure that court services remain safe, secure, and responsive to the needs of the community.

The LDA represents a long-term commitment to organizational excellence—empowering staff, enhancing operational readiness, and preparing the Judiciary for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Mentorship Program: To further support workforce development, the Judiciary is preparing to launch the Judiciary of Guam Mentorship Program. This structured initiative is designed to help new employees acclimate to the Judiciary, understand the court system, and grow both professionally and ethically within the organization. The program pairs new hires with experienced mentors who provide guidance, support, and practical insight into Judiciary operations.



Leadership Development Academy participants smile proudly with their certificates of completion.



Supreme Court staff enjoy morning refreshments and treats during Employee Appreciation Week.

DIRECTORY



SUPREME COURT OF GUAM

Chambers of
Chief Justice Katherine A. Maraman..... (671) 475-3589
Associate Justice F. Philip Carbullido (671) 475-3413
Associate Justice Robert J. Torres (671) 475-3300

Clerk of Court (671) 475-3120/3162
Staff Attorney (671) 475-3395
Supreme Court Security Section..... (671) 475-3119
Facsimile.....(671) 475-3140
Court eMailjustice@guamcourts.gov

SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

Chambers of
Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III.....(671) 475-3410
Judge Arthur R. Barcinas (671) 475-3502
Judge Vernon P. Perez (671) 475-3223
Judge Maria T. Cenzone (671) 475-3346
Judge Elyze M. Iriarte.....(671) 475-3336
Judge Dana A. Guetierrez.....(671) 475-3384
Judge John C. Terlaje..... (671) 475-7020
Judge Alberto E. Tolentino (671) 475-3323
Magistrate Judge Jonathan R. Quan (671) 475-3142
Magistrate Judge Sean E. Brown.....(671) 635-2519
Family Court Referee Linda L. Ingles (671) 475-3183

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Administrator of the Courts (671) 475-3544
Director of Policy Planning and Community Relations (671) 475-0140
Court Programs (671) 300-3202
Judicial Educator..... (671) 475-3191
Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Office..... (671) 475-3374
Employee Assistance Program & ADA Coordinator (671) 300-7993
eMail ada@guamcourts.gov

NORTHERN COURT SATELLITE

Main/Traffic/Small Claims..... (671) 635-2510/2512
MCC..... (671) 635-2513
Child Support (671) 635-2501/2502
Facsimile..... (671) 635-0067

GUAM BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS (BOLE)

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OFFICE OF THE COMPILER OF LAWS

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eMail gll@guamlawlibrary.org

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libanez@guamcourts.gov



DIRECTORY

CLIENT SERVICES AND FAMILY COUNSELING DIVISION

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Facsimile.....(671) 472-5450

JUDICIAL HEARINGS DIVISION

Child Support Office.....(671) 475-3142/3494
Facsimile(671) 477-5023

COURTS AND MINISTERIAL DIVISION

Main (671) 475-3424/3331
Clerk of Court (671) 475-3424/3331
Facsimile..... (671) 472-0078

Jury Unit.....(671) 475-3135/3440/300-3131
eMail juryunit@guamcourts.gov

Court Interpreter Registry Program.....(671) 475-3299

Records (671) 475-3449/3370
eMail scog.records@guamcourts.org

Traffic Violations Bureau/Small Claims

Main Court..... (671) 475-3121/3274/3477/4326
Northern Court Satellite(671) 635-2504/2505/2507/2512/2515/2524
eMail traffic@guamcourts.org

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Main (671) 475-3411
Accounts Payable (671) 475-3197
Payroll (671) 472-3214

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION

Main (671) 475-3399/3329/3344
TDD..... (671) 477-6953/3239
Facsimile.....(671) 477-8520

MARSHAL SERVICES DIVISION

Marshal of the Courts.....(671) 475-3507
Deputy Marshal of the Courts (671) 475-3315
Criminal/Traffic Section (671) 475-3328
Civil/Small Claims Section.....(671) 475-3264
Child Support Unit (671) 635-2521/2523
Security Section..... (671) 475-3161/3513
Post 1 (671) 475-3576

PROBATION SERVICES DIVISION

Chief Probation Officer (671) 475-3448/3453
Intake/Drug Testing Unit (671) 475- 3388/300-6733/2174
Juvenile Probation Services(671) 475-3205/3453
Pre-Trial: Crimes Against Persons & Property (671) 475-3532/3448
Pre-Trial: Drugs & Alcohol (671) 475-3532/3457
Adult Probation Services:
Crimes Against Persons & Property (671) 475-3430
Adult Probation Services:
Drugs & Alcohol.....(671) 475-3461
Alternative Sentencing Office (671) 475-3311
Sex Offender Registry..... (671) 475-3460
Electronic Monitoring (EM) Unit..... (671) 475-3462/689-1587
Adult Drug Court (671) 475-0144
Guam Adult Reentry Court(671) 300-6739/8373
DWI Treatment Court (671) 300-6739/475-0080/3386
Guam Family Recovery Program (GFRP) ... (671) 475-4783/300-7651/7652
Mental Health Court..... (671) 475-3314/3531/300-7264
Veteran's Treatment Court (671) 475-3112/300-7267
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