

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
132-37 (COR)	Therese M. Terlaje	Relative to recognizing the Judiciary of Guam, for the development of the treatment court to provide a comprehensive system of support; and to commend them for their outstanding service to our island community and commending them for their advocacy of justice and equality.	5/16/23 9:31 a.m.	5/19/23						

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 132-37 (COR)

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje 

Relative to recognizing the Judiciary of Guam, for the development of the treatment court to provide a comprehensive system of support; and commending them for their advocacy of justice and equality and outstanding service to our island community.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I**
2 ***MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***

3 **WHEREAS**, Guam joins the Nation in recognizing the month of May 2023 as
4 “National Treatment Court Month”;

5 **WHEREAS**, in an effort to address the underlying causes and reasons of criminal
6 behavior and to reduce recidivism rates and improve public safety through the use of
7 judicial oversight, the Judiciary of Guam has developed several therapeutic courts
8 including Adult Drug Court, Juvenile Drug Court, Mental Health Court, Veterans
9 Treatment Court and the Guam Adult Re-entry Court; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in its mission, the Judiciary of Guam Adult Drug Court’s objective
11 is to hold criminal offenders accountable for their behavior, to decrease criminal activity
12 related to the abuse of alcohol and drugs, and to increase the likelihood of successful
13 rehabilitation through immediate, continuous, and intensive supervision.

14 **WHEREAS**, through a committed collaborative team approach, they work
15 diligently to aid the client’s successful recovery and reintegration into the community
16 as productive, law-abiding citizens; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in its mission, the Juvenile Drug Court (JDC) is to reduce substance
2 abuse and criminal behavior among juveniles and empower juveniles and families to
3 support a positive lifestyle by providing strength-based intensive intervention within
4 the juvenile justice system and rehabilitation services tailored to the needs of families
5 and each individual juvenile; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the Judiciary’s mission for the Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) is
7 to intersect justice-involved veterans and divert them into treatment, judicial
8 monitoring, and supervision so they can once again become productive members of the
9 community, oftentimes, their involvement in the justice system can be linked to their
10 military service and diverting our veterans from prison and into appropriate treatment
11 and services will minimize or prevent the unnecessary criminalization and extended
12 incarceration of our veterans; and

13 **WHEREAS**, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* passed Bill No. 161-32(LS) the “*Justice*
14 *for Veterans Act of 2013*” known as Public Law No. 32-082 for the establishment of a
15 veteran’s treatment court program, and Bill No. 187-34(COR) now Public Law No. 34-
16 81 for the establishment of the Guam Adult Reentry Program; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the 2023 *Hustisia* Award was awarded to Guam Behavioral Health
18 and Wellness Center (GBHWC), the Mental Health Court’s task of reintegrating these
19 individuals back into society as stable, productive, and law-abiding citizens would not
20 be possible without the work of GBHWC; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the objective in the Guam Adult Reentry Court Program is to
22 provide a comprehensive system of support in Guam for prisoners reintegrating with
23 their families and communities after incarceration; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III initiated the concept of
25 therapeutic courts in Guam. He established the Adult Drug Court, Family Violence
26 Court, Mental Health Court, and DWI Treatment Court; served as chairman of the task
27 force to create the Veterans Treatment Court; and is developing the Adult Reentry

1 Program for high and medium-risk offenders who are likely to recidivate, the Family
2 Drug Court for families in need of services, and the Hope Project for defendants with
3 multiple criminal violations; and

4 **WHEREAS**, since 2007, the Judiciary of Guam implemented its Strategic Plan
5 for long-range objectives and goals for our island court system that provides a
6 comprehensive set of organizing concepts that describe what a high-performing court
7 seeks to accomplish, demonstrates how a court’s objectives are affected by its
8 managerial culture, identifies measurable categories of performance and suggests
9 approaches on how to assemble and use performance information to ensure its
10 commitment to providing access to justice for all, the core of what the Superior and
11 Supreme Courts of Guam does in service to our community; and

12 **WHEREAS**, through the development and implementation of its mission,
13 objectives, and long-range goals in identifying strategic focus areas, reflects the work
14 by the Judiciary of Guam to better understand the performance of Guam’s trial and
15 appellate courts and what things can be done to achieve high performance; now
16 therefore, be it

17 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Siette Na*
18 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognizes the
19 Judiciary of Guam, for the development of the treatment court to provide a
20 comprehensive system of support; and to commend them for their advocacy of justice
21 and equality and outstanding service to our island community; and be it further

22 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
23 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
24 the same be thereafter transmitted to the Judiciary of Guam; and to the Honorable
25 Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY
OF MAY 2023.**

THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker

CHRIS BARNETT
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary