

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
219-37 (LS)	Therese M. Terlaje	Relative to recognizing the observance of "Family Violence Awareness Month" during the month of October 2023; and commending the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies, for their efforts in raising public awareness of sexual assault and family violence issues on Guam.	10/12/23 11:18 a.m.	10/13/23 9:00 a.m.	10/12/23 2:55 p.m.					

Resolution No. 219-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje	
Chris Barnett	William A. Parkinson
Frank Blas, Jr.	Sabina Flores Perez
Joanne Brown	Roy A. B. Quinata
Christopher M. Dueñas	Joe S. San Agustin
Thomas J. Fisher	Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas
Jesse A. Lujan	Amanda L. Shelton
Tina Rose Muña Barnes	Telo T. Taitague



Relative to recognizing the observance of “Family Violence Awareness Month” during the month of October 2023; and commending the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies, for their efforts in raising public awareness of sexual assault and family violence issues on Guam.

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

WHEREAS, Guam joins the nation in recognizing the month of October 2023 as “Family Violence Awareness Month”; and

WHEREAS, “Family Violence Awareness Month” was first introduced in 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, which aimed to not only bring awareness, but to connect and unify the millions of affected victims that had been battered due to domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is considered “family violence” under Guam law; and in Guam, any person who intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly commits an act of family violence is guilty of a misdemeanor or a third-degree felony; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, nationally, one (1) out of four (4) women and one (1) out of ten (10) men will be victims of domestic violence at some point during their lifetime; and on average, three (3) women are killed every day at the hands of a current or former intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is an abuse of power that tears apart the fabric of families and undermines the well-being of communities; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, domestic violence became a pandemic within a pandemic, with many victims facing the added pressures of increased economic insecurity, and an increased time in isolation; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Attorney General of Guam has established through Public Law 31-103, entitled the “Family Violence Registry Act,” a website designed to help ensure the safety and well-being of the public by providing any person who utilizes this website with an opportunity to obtain information relating to the criminal history records of offenders who have repeat convictions of family, domestic, or dating violence, and/or stalking; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Family Violence Registry is to ensure the public’s safety through providing a greater sense of security to the community by enhancing the community’s awareness through having information readily available in a central database system that is accessible to the public at no cost; and that the website provides the public with a foreknowledge of the offender’s criminal history records on family, domestic or dating violence, and/or stalking, and in some circumstances, criminal sexual conduct, and aggravated assault convictions which ensures that this information protects the public from repeat offenders, and the prevention of further victimization; and

WHEREAS, according to the Office of the Attorney General of Guam’s Fiscal Year 2019 Citizen-Centric Report, family violence was one of the highest reported crimes on Guam, with three hundred sixty-six (366) reported cases; and

WHEREAS, a survey conducted in September 2019 by the National Network to End Domestic Violence reported that, in a twenty-four (24) hour period, twenty-seven (27) victims of domestic violence on Guam, and their children, received life-saving services from local domestic violence organizations; and

WHEREAS, according to the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, the twenty-four (24)-hour crisis hotline was receiving between twenty-five (25) to thirty (30) calls per day during the COVID-19 pandemic, compared to the twenty-five (25) calls it usually receives per month; and

WHEREAS, the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence, sexual assault practitioners and advocates, the STOP Violence Against Women, government and non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations, and other community partners have taken steps to confront Guam’s family violence crisis directly and collectively; and

WHEREAS, these community organizations include Allied Human Resources, the Archdiocese of Agaña, Saint Anthony Catholic Church, the Association of Individual, Marriage, and Family Therapists, the *Ayuda* Foundation / Island Girl Power, the Bethel Church Association, Catholic Social Service, Erica’s House, the Healing Hearts Crisis Center - Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, Guam’s Alternative Lifestyle Association (GALA), the Guam Legal Services Corporation-Disability Law Center, *Guam’s Miami*, Inc., the Guam Sexual Assault and Abuse Resource Center Association, *Inafa maolek* Conciliation, *Mochele* Guam, the Oasis Empowerment Center, Pacific Human Resources Services, Inc., Project Foresight, Sanctuary, Inc., the Salvation Army, the University of Guam Violence Against Women Prevention Program - Victim Services, Victim Advocates Reaching Out, WestCare Pacific Islands, Andersen Air Force Base, the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities, the Department of Public Health and Social Services, the Department of Youth Affairs, the Guam Community College, the Governor’s Community Outreach – Federal Programs Office, the Guam Department of Education, the Guam National Guard Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, the Guam Police Department, the Judiciary of Guam, Joint Region Marianas, Naval Base Guam, the Office of the Attorney General of Guam, the Public Defender Service Corporation, the University of Guam, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, recognize the observance of “Family Violence Awareness Month” during the month of October 2023; and commend the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies, for their efforts in raising public awareness of sexual assault and family violence issues on Guam; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Mags’Dagom Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 12TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.

Therese M. Terlaje
 THERESE M. TERLAJE
 Speaker

Chris Barnett
 CHRIS BARNETT
 Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Amanda L. Shelton
 AMANDA L. SHELTON
 Legislative Secretary

Marie Cruz
 8:28am
 10/13/23



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

Resolution No. 219-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje
Chris Barnett
Frank Blas, Jr.
Joanne Brown
Christopher M. Dueñas
Thomas J. Fisher
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Relative to recognizing the observance of “Family Violence Awareness Month” during the month of October 2023; and commending the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies, for their efforts in raising public awareness of sexual assault and family violence issues on Guam.

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 October 2023**
4 **as “Family Violence Awareness Month”; and**

1 **WHEREAS**, “Family Violence Awareness Month” was first introduced in
2 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, which aimed to not only
3 bring awareness, but to connect and unify the millions of affected victims that had
4 been battered due to domestic violence; and

5 **WHEREAS**, domestic violence is considered “family violence” under Guam
6 law; and in Guam, any person who intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly commits an
7 act of family violence is guilty of a misdemeanor or a third-degree felony; and

8 **WHEREAS**, according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence,
9 nationally, one (1) out of four (4) women and one (1) out of ten (10) men will be
10 victims of domestic violence at some point during their lifetime; and on average, three
11 (3) women are killed every day at the hands of a current or former intimate partner;
12 and

13 **WHEREAS**, domestic violence is an abuse of power that tears apart the fabric
14 of families and undermines the well-being of communities; and

15 **WHEREAS**, during the COVID-19 pandemic, domestic violence became a
16 pandemic within a pandemic, with many victims facing the added pressures of increased
17 economic insecurity, and an increased time in isolation; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Office of the Attorney General of Guam has established through
19 Public Law 31-103, entitled the “Family Violence Registry Act,” a website designed to
20 help ensure the safety and well-being of the public by providing any person who utilizes
21 this website with an opportunity to obtain information relating to the criminal history
22 records of offenders who have repeat convictions of family, domestic, or dating
23 violence, and/or stalking; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the goal of the Family Violence Registry is to ensure the public’s
25 safety through providing a greater sense of security to the community by enhancing the
26 community’s awareness through having information readily available in a central

1 database system that is accessible to the public at no cost; and that the website provides
2 the public with a foreknowledge of the offender’s criminal history records on family,
3 domestic or dating violence, and/or stalking; and in some circumstances, criminal
4 sexual conduct, and aggravated assault convictions which ensures that this information
5 protects the public from repeat offenders, and the prevention of further victimization;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, according to the Office of the Attorney General of Guam’s Fiscal
8 Year 2019 Citizen-Centric Report, family violence was one of the highest reported
9 crimes on Guam, with three hundred sixty-six (366) reported cases; and

10 **WHEREAS**, a survey conducted in September 2019 by the National Network to
11 End Domestic Violence reported that, in a twenty-four (24) hour period, twenty-seven
12 (27) victims of domestic violence on Guam, and their children, received life-saving
13 services from local domestic violence organizations; and

14 **WHEREAS**, according to the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, the
15 twenty-four (24)-hour crisis hotline was receiving between twenty-five (25) to thirty
16 (30) calls per day during the COVID-19 pandemic, compared to the twenty-five (25)
17 calls it usually receives per month; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence,
19 sexual assault practitioners and advocates, the STOP Violence Against Women,
20 government and non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations, and other
21 community partners have taken steps to confront Guam’s family violence crisis directly
22 and collectively; and

23 **WHEREAS**, these community organizations include Allied Human Resources,
24 the Archdiocese of *Agaña*, Saint Anthony Catholic Church, the Association of
25 Individual, Marriage, and Family Therapists, the *Ayuda* Foundation / Island Girl Power,
26 the Bethel Church Association, Catholic Social Service, Erica’s House, the Healing

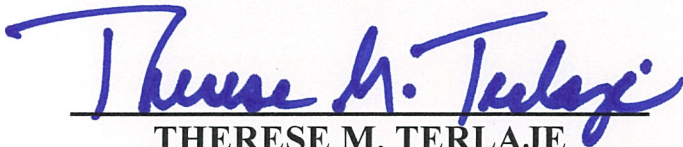
1 Hearts Crisis Center - Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, Guam’s
2 Alternative Lifestyle Association (GALA), the Guam Legal Services Corporation-
3 Disability Law Center, *Guma' Mami*, Inc., the Guam Sexual Assault and Abuse
4 Resource Center Association, *Inafa'maolek* Conciliation, *Mañelu* Guam, the Oasis
5 Empowerment Center, Pacific Human Resources Services, Inc., Project Foresight,
6 Sanctuary, Inc., the Salvation Army, the University of Guam Violence Against Women
7 Prevention Program - Victim Services, Victim Advocates Reaching Out, WestCare
8 Pacific Islands, Andersen Air Force Base, the Department of Integrated Services for
9 Individuals with Disabilities, the Department of Public Health and Social Services, the
10 Department of Youth Affairs, the Guam Community College, the Governor’s
11 Community Outreach – Federal Programs Office, the Guam Department of Education,
12 the Guam National Guard Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, the Guam
13 Police Department, the Judiciary of Guam, Joint Region Marianas, Naval Base Guam,
14 the Office of the Attorney General of Guam, the Public Defender Service Corporation,
15 the University of Guam, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the Districts of Guam and
16 the Northern Mariana Islands; now therefore, be it

17 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Siette Na*
18 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people
19 of Guam, recognize the observance of “Family Violence Awareness Month” during the
20 month of October 2023; and commend the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and
21 Family Violence, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and
22 government agencies, for their efforts in raising public awareness of sexual assault and
23 family violence issues on Guam; and be it further

24 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
25 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
26 the same be thereafter transmitted to the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and

- 1 Family Violence; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan*
- 2 *Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 12TH DAY
OF OCTOBER 2023.**



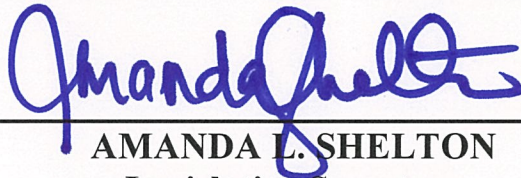
THERESE M. TERLAJE

Speaker



CHRIS BARNETT

Chairperson, Committee on Rules



AMANDA L. SHELTON

Legislative Secretary



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Chris Barnett, Chairperson, Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
 37th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Resolution No. 219-37 (LS) - Therese M. Terlaje. - "Relative to recognizing the observance of "Family Violence Awareness Month" during the month of October 2023; and commending the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies, for their efforts in raising public awareness of sexual assault and family violence issues on Guam."

	INITIAL	DATE	TO ADOPT	TO NOT ADOPT	TO ABSTAIN
Senator Chris Barnett Chairperson	E-Vote	10/12/2023	X		
Senator Sabina Flores Perez Vice Chairperson	E-Vote	10/12/2023	X		
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje Member	<i>TMT</i>	10/12/2023	X		
Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes Member					
Legislative Secretary Amanda L. Shelton Member	E-Vote	10/12/2023	X		
Senator William A. Parkinson Member					
Senator Roy A. B. Quinata Member	E-Vote	10/12/2023	X		
Senator Joe S. San Agustin Member	E-Vote	10/12/2023	X		
Senator Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas Member	E-Vote	10/12/2023	X		
Senator Joanne Brown Minority Member	E-Vote	10/12/2023	X		
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas Minority Member					
Senator Thomas J. Fisher Minority Member					
Senator Telo T. Taitague Minority Member	E-Vote	10/12/2023	X		
For Sponsor's Office Use Only					
Sponsor Signature: <i>Therese M. Terlaje</i>					
Staff Contact Person: MARIE CRUZ					
For COR/Clerk's Office Use Only					
<u>9</u> Certified _____ Returned					
Name: Mantanona, Donaven-ray					
Date: October 12, 2023 at 2:55 p.m.					
Notes:					



Office of the Speaker
THERESE M. TERLAJE

I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 37th Guam Legislature
Committee on Health, Land, Justice and Culture

October 12, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders

From: Speaker Therese M. Terlaje *TMT*

Subject: **Notice of Presentation - Resolution No. 219-37 (LS)**

Buenas yan Håfa Adai!

Please join us for the presentation of Resolution No. 219-37 (LS) - **"Relative to recognizing and commending the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, and the numerous community advocates, organizations and government agencies in their efforts to raise public awareness during October 2023 "Family Violence Awareness Month."**

Resolution No. 219-37 (LS) will be presented virtually via Zoom platform on Friday, October 13, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Please note that the Committee on Rules has waived the 24-Hour Notice of presentation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 472-3586 | Email: senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com | www.senatorterlaje.com

**For transmittal of official Messages & Communications to the Guam Legislature to be distributed to all Senators, please send to: speaker@guamlegislature.org*