

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
**BILL STATUS**

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	FISCAL NOTES	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
<b>79-37 (COR)</b> As amended on the Floor	Thomas J. Fisher Jesse A. Lujan Roy A. B. Quinata Chris Barnett Tina Rose Muña Barnes Christopher M. Dueñas Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas Frank Blas, Jr. Joanne Brown Sabina Flores Perez Joe S. San Agustin Amanda L. Shelton Telo T. Taitague Therese M. Terlaje	AN ACT TO AMEND §80.37(a)(1) OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 80, TITLE 9, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO A SPECIAL ALLEGATION OF POSSESSION AND USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY.	3/8/23 10:58 a.m.	3/9/23	Committee on Health, Land, Justice, and Culture	Request: 3/9/23  3/21/23	4/11/23 3:00 p.m.	7/10/23 4:38 p.m.	
	<b>SESSION DATE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DATE PASSED</b>	<b>TRANSMITTED</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>PUBLIC LAW NO.</b>	<b>DATE SIGNED</b>	<b>NOTES</b>	
	7/24/23	AN ACT TO AMEND § 80.37(a)(1) OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 80, TITLE 9, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO A SPECIAL ALLEGATION OF POSSESSION AND USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY.	7/28/23	7/31/23	8/11/23	37-37	8/11/23	Received: 8/11/23 Messages and Communications Doc. No. 37GL-23-0856	

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO  
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO  
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Transmitted via email to: [speaker@guamlegislature.org](mailto:speaker@guamlegislature.org)

August 11, 2023

**HONORABLE THERESE M. TERLAJE**, *Speaker*

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

37<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature  
Guam Congress Building  
163 Chalan Santo Papa  
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

37GL-23-0856  
**OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER**  
**THERESE M. TERLAJE**

-08- 11 2023

Time: 4:56pm  
Received: *[Signature]*

Re: **Bill No. 79-37 (COR) - AN ACT TO AMEND § 80.37(a)(1) OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 80, TITLE 9, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO A SPECIAL ALLEGATION OF POSSESSION AND USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY**

*Håfa Adai* Madame Speaker,

Bill No. 79-37 (COR) amends Guam's Criminal Correctional Code by mandating imprisonment of no less than ten (10) years and no more than twenty-five (25) years when a firearm is unlawfully possessed or used during the commission of a felony in addition to the punishment imposed for the commission of the felony. The current law contains a sentencing enhancement of five (5) to twenty-five (25) years for unlawfully possessing or using a deadly weapon in commission of a felony, in addition to the punishment imposed for the commission of the felony.

Our Administration supports preventing and deterring violent crimes in our community, and we recognize that firearms cause severe injury to victims of crime. For this reason, I am signing Bill No. 79-37 (COR) into law as **Public Law No. 37-37**.

*Senseramente,*

**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**

*Maga'hågan Guåhan*  
Governor of Guam

RECEIVED  
8/14/23 11:29am  
*[Signature]*

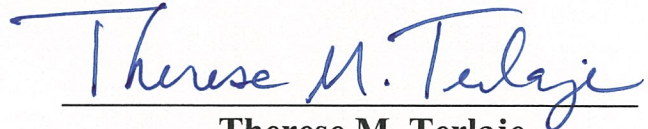
Enclosure: Bill No. 79-37 (COR) nka P.L. 37-37

cc via email: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*, Lt. Governor of Guam  
Compiler of Laws

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

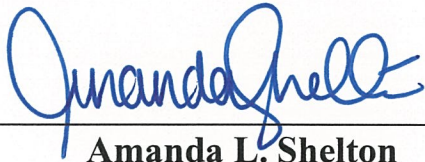
**CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN**

This is to certify that **Bill No. 79-37 (COR)**, "AN ACT TO AMEND § 80.37(a)(1) OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 80, TITLE 9, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO A SPECIAL ALLEGATION OF POSSESSION AND USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY," was on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023, duly and regularly passed.



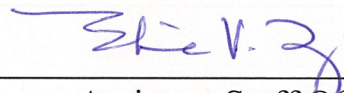
**Therese M. Terlaje**  
**Speaker**

Attested:



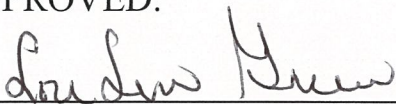
**Amanda L. Shelton**  
**Legislative Secretary**

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This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July,  
2023, at 1:09 o'clock P.M.



**Assistant Staff Officer**  
***Maga'håga's Office***

APPROVED:



**Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero**  
***I Maga'hågan Guåhan***

Date: 8/11/2023

Public Law No. 31-37

2023-19654  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
CENTRAL FILES  
Elaine Tajalle  
RECEIVED BY  
TIME 1:09 pm

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

**Bill No. 79-37 (COR)**

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

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

**AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 80.37(a)(1) OF ARTICLE 2,  
CHAPTER 80, TITLE 9, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED,  
RELATIVE TO A SPECIAL ALLEGATION OF  
POSSESSION AND USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON IN  
THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY.**

1        **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2        **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* has  
3 taken note of the increased use of firearms in the commission of felonies, as well as  
4 in crimes related to controlled substances. Within a very short time prior to the  
5 introduction of this bill, violent crimes have occurred in two (2) of our southern  
6 villages involving firearms, one (1) of which resulted in a death. *I Liheslaturan*

1 *Guåhan* further finds that those criminals who will use lethal force in the  
2 commission of a felony represent a particular danger to the people of Guam and  
3 those who would use a particularly dangerous instrument, such as a firearm, merit  
4 an increased punishment which removes them as a source of danger to Guam.

5 **Section 2.** § 80.37(a)(1) of Article 2, Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code  
6 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

7 **“§ 80.37. Deadly Weapons Used in Felonies; Sentence.**

8 (a) Whoever unlawfully possesses or uses a deadly weapon in the  
9 commission of a felony punishable under the laws of Guam shall,

10 (1) in addition to the punishment imposed for the commission  
11 of such felony, be imprisoned for a term of not less than five (5) years  
12 nor more than twenty-five (25) years; and whoever unlawfully  
13 possesses or uses a firearm, as that term is defined in Title 10 Guam  
14 Code Annotated § 60100(a), in the commission of a felony punishable  
15 under the laws of Guam shall, in addition to the punishment imposed  
16 for the commission of such felony, be imprisoned for a term of not less  
17 than ten (10) years nor more than twenty-five (25) years; and”

18 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to any  
19 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall not  
20 affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without  
21 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are  
22 severable.