## I Mina Trentai Kuättro Na Liheslaturan Guähan APPOINTMENTS

DOCUMENT NO.	APPOINTEE	POSITION	AGENCY	APPT. DATE	TERM LENGTH	CMTE REFERRED	DATE REFFERED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	CMTE REPORT FILED	DATE CONFIRMED	NOTES
35GL-19-1242	Nonito V. Blas	Member	Board of Directors Guam Environmental Protection Agency	11/19/19	Three (3) Years; November 29, 2019 to November 28, 2022 To fill the seat of Terrance M. Brooks, whose term has expired	Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement	11/22/19	1/3/20 9:00 a.m.	1/15/20 12:36 p.m.		

# 2020 JAN 15 PM 12:36/15

# THE CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACT

## OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement *I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*35<sup>TH</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

January 13, 2020

The Honorable Tina Muña Barnes

Speaker

I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: The Honorable Regine Biscoe Lee

Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RE: Committee Report on the Executive Appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas to serve as a Member of the Board of Directors Guam Environmental Protection Agency.

Håfa adai Speaker Muña Barnes,

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on the **Executive Appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas** to serve as a *Member* of the *Board of Directors Guam Environmental Protection Agency* and which was referred to the Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement.

Sabina Flores Perez

JAN 14 2020
12:09 PM.
COMMITTEE ON RULES

Revision's Rectl: 1/19/20 @ 9:34am.

## OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ



Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement *I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*35<sup>TH</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Nomination of Nonito V. Blas

To serve as a Member of the Board of Directors Guam Environmental Protection Agency

For a Term of Three (3) Years November 29, 2019 to November 28, 2022; To fill the seat of Terrance M. Brooks, whose term has expired

## OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ



Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement *I MINA TRENTAL SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*35<sup>TH</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

January 13, 2020

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

All Members

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement

From:

**Senator Sabina Flores Perez** 

Committee Chairperson &FO

Subject:

Committee Report on Appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas

Håfa Adai,

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on the appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas to serve as a *Member* of the *Board of Directors Guam Environmental Protection Agency*.

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of the Appointment
- Copy of the Appointment Letter to the Speaker
- Copy of the Appointment Packet and Supporting Documents
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Copy of Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Submitted Testimonies and Supporting Documents
- Committee Report Digest
- Committee Vote Sheet

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Senator Régine Biscoe Lee, Chair

Senator Amanda L. Shelton, Vice Chair

Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes, Member

Vice Speaker Telena Cruz Nelson, Member

Senator Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD, Member

Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Member



## **COMMITTEE ON RULES**

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 35<sup>TH</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

November 22, 2019

Senator Clynton E. Ridgell, Member

Senator Joe S. San Agustin Member

Senator Jose "Pedo" Terlaje,

Senator Therese M. Terlaje, Member

Member

Senator James C. Moylan, Member

Senator Mary Camacho Torres, Member and Chair, Subcommittee on Protocol

## **MEMO**

To:

Rennae Meno

Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Ana Won Pat-Borja Legislative Legal Counsel

From:

Senator Régine Biscoe Lee

Chair, Committee on Rules

Re:

Referral of Appointment

Buenas yan Hâfa adai.

As Chair of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding the referral of the following appointment:

Appointee:

Nonito V. Blas

Position:

Member, Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors

Term Length:

Three (3) Years; November 29, 2019 to November 28, 2022

To fill the seat of Terrance M. Brooks, whose term has expired

The appointee's nomination packet may be referenced in the Guam Legislature's website at <a href="http://guamlegislature.com/index/messages-and-communications/">http://guamlegislature.com/index/messages-and-communications/</a>. Please refer to the follow document:

"35GL-19-1242 — Office of the Governor of Guam — Appointment and Supporting Documents for Nonito V. Blas, Member, Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors."

Please ensure that the aforementioned appointment is referred to the Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement chaired by Senator Sabina Flores Perez.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mary Maravilla, Committee on Rules Director at 472-2461.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Senator Régine Biscoe Lee Chair, Committee on Rules



## I Mina Trentai Kuduro Na Liheslaturan Gudhan APPOINTMENTS

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35GL-19-1242	Nonito V. Blas	Monther	Board of Directors Guam Environmental Protection Agency		Three (3) Years: November 29, 2019 to November 28, 2022 To fill the seat of Terrance M. Brooks, whose term has expired	Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement	11/22/19			

## UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO MAGA'HÁGA . GOVERNOR JOSHUA F. TENORIO SIGUNDO MAGA'LÁHI + LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

3561-19-1242

Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

November 19, 2019

Honorable Tina Rose Muña Barnes Speaker I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Guam Congress Building 163 Chalan Santo Papa Hagatna, Guam 96932

**Board Appointment** RE:

Dear Madame Speaker:

By virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Organic Act of Guam and the local laws applicable to the following position, I am pleased to transmit the following appointment and supporting documents for:

APPOINTEE:

Nonito V. Blas

POSITION:

Member, Board of Directors

Guam Environmental Protection Agency

TERM LENGTH:

Three (3) Years; November 29, 2019 to November 28, 2022

To fill the seat of Terrance M. Brooks, whose term has expired

The appointment is subject to the consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. Please schedule a hearing at your earliest convenience.

Senseramente.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO

I Maga'hågan Guåhan Governor of Guam

cc:

Lt. Governor of Guam

## UFISINAN I MAGA HÂGA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



November 19, 2019

Nonito V. Blas

Dear Mr. Blas:

Pursuant to my authority under 10 GCA § 45103, I am appointing you to serve as a

## MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Term Length: Three (3) Years; November 29, 2019 to November 28, 2022 To fil the seat of Terrence Brooks, whose term has expired

Appointing you to this position comes with great responsibility because you will have a vital role to perform which will place many demands on your time and energy. Integrity and honesty are virtues that I prioritize for my Administration to exemplify, and I know that you will do the same while in service to the people of Guam. Your responsibilities shall be significant and consequential. I trust that you will fulfill your duties and set a standard for others to follow.

I appreciate your willingness to serve in this position, and I am confident that your time will be spent in a manner to improve the island of Guam.

This appointment is subject to the advice and consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of the Governor.

Senseramente,

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO

*I Maga'hågan Guåhan* Governor of Guam

cc:

Lt. Governor of Guam Chairman, EPA Board LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO Governor



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM Nomination and Appointment Information Sheet

The following information is required for submission to the Speaker of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* in accordance with Title 4, Guam Code Annotated Section 2103

## **NOMINEE INFORMATION**

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
BLAS	NONITO	V
Mailing Address		Apartment/Unit
City	State	Zip Code
Phone	E-mail Address	
Position to which Appointme	ent is Made	
Member, Board of Directors	s, Guam Environmental Protection	Agency
Are you a citizen of the Unite	ed States? Yes 🗸	No 🗌
If no, are you authorized to v	work in the United States? Yes	No 🗔

## **EDUCATION**

SCHOOL (Name, City and State)	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	TYPE OF DEGREE	YEAR EARNED
High School FD Memorial High School, GUAM		High School Diploma	1981
College Grantham Univerity		BS	2011
Graduate School Grantham University		МВА	2012
Other Degree Villanova University		Project Mgmt	2008

PAGE 1 OF 7

## **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Name of Present/Last Employer and Mail	ing Address	Position Title			
Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & IMF		Deputy Shipy	yard Commander		
Hawaii		Dates Held			
		2014 - 2018			
Previous Employer and Mailing Address		Position Title			
SS John C. Stennis (CVN 74)		Chief Engineer			
	Dates Held				
	2011 - 2014				
Previous Employer and Mailing Address		Position Title			
Navy Personnel Command			nnel Distribution		
		Dates Held			
		2008 - 2011			
Previous Employer and Mailing Address		Position Title			
USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76)		Reactor Mechanical Assistant			
		Dates Held			
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2005 - 2008			
Previous Employer and Mailing Address		Position Title			
USS Frank Cable (AS 40)		Production Management Assistant			
		Dates Held			
		2002 - 2005			
PRIOR GOVERNMENT OF GUAM SERV	VICE				
Agency or Department Name		Position Title			
Address	Phone	No.	Dates Held		
riumi euu	, ,,,,,,,				
Agency or Department Name	•	Position Title			
Address Phon					

PAGE 2 OF 7

Agency or Department Name		Position Title		
USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70)		l	adiological Controls Asst.	
Address	Phon	e No.	Dates Held	
			1999 - 2002	
Agency or Department Name		Position Title		
	ral Intermediate Maintenance Facility		Officer	
Address		e No.	Dates Held	
Pearl Harbor, HAWAII			1996 - 1999	
TRAINING				
INSTITUTE/SEMINARS/ON	V-THE-JOB TRAINI	NG	DATE	
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PUBLICATIONS AND PRESE	NTATIONS		
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MILITARY SERVICE (Please	attach Form DD-214)		
	DATES OF SERVICE	RANKAT	TYPE OF DISCHARGE
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BRANCH		DISCHARGE	
	7/27/1981 - 9/1/19		Honorable
	7/27/1981 - 9/1/19	Captain (O6)	Honorable
BRANCH US. NAVY	7/27/1981 - 9/1/19		Honorable
US. NAVY	7/27/1981 - 9/1/19		Honorable
US. NAVY  OTHER INFORMATION		Captain (O6)	
US. NAVY  OTHER INFORMATION		Captain (O6)	Honorable
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PAGE 4 OF 7

United S	tates?	
Yes 🔲	No 🗹	If so, please specify in detail the reasons and facts related to such declaration
Have you insanity?		found not guilty or not punishable in any criminal proceedings by reason of
-		found not guilty or not punishable in any criminal proceedings by reason of
insanity?	No 🗹	found not guilty or not punishable in any criminal proceedings by reason of confined to a mental institution for any reason?
insanity?	No 🗹	confined to a mental institution for any reason?
insanity? Yes  Have you Yes	No ☑ ever been No ☑	confined to a mental institution for any reason?
insanity? Yes  Have you Yes	No ☑ ever been No ☑	confined to a mental institution for any reason?  If so, please specify in why the appointing authority believes you that you are
insanity? Yes  Have you Yes	No ☑ ever been No ☑	confined to a mental institution for any reason?  If so, please specify in why the appointing authority believes you that you are
insanity? Yes  Have you Yes	No ☑ ever been No ☑	confined to a mental institution for any reason?  If so, please specify in why the appointing authority believes you that you are

in whole or in part in order to protect the privacy of any individual(s) whose information has been included as part of this transmittal.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO Governor



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

## **Statement of Financial Interests**

(Required by 4 G.C.A. §13104.1)

	(4,	······································
TO:	The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero Governor of Guam Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex Adelup, Guam 96910	
FROM:	Nonito V. Blas	
	I have no financial interest in any bu	siness
	☐ I do have interest(s) in the following	business(es):
NAME A	ND ADDRESS OF BUSINESS INTEREST	TYPE AND AMOUNT OF INTEREST
	Muss	u/ (>/(9
5	ignature	Date

PAGE 6 OF 7

## AFFIDAVIT / DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

I, the undersigned, do hereby depose and say that: (1) I have read and reviewed the information contained in the attached Appointment/Nomination letter from the Governor of Guam; (2) that the matters contained in the Appointment/Nomination letter, together with all attachments thereto, are true and correct and that I am competent to testify to said matters; and (3) that this Declaration is made for the purpose of complying with the requirements of 4 G.C.A. Section 2103.5.

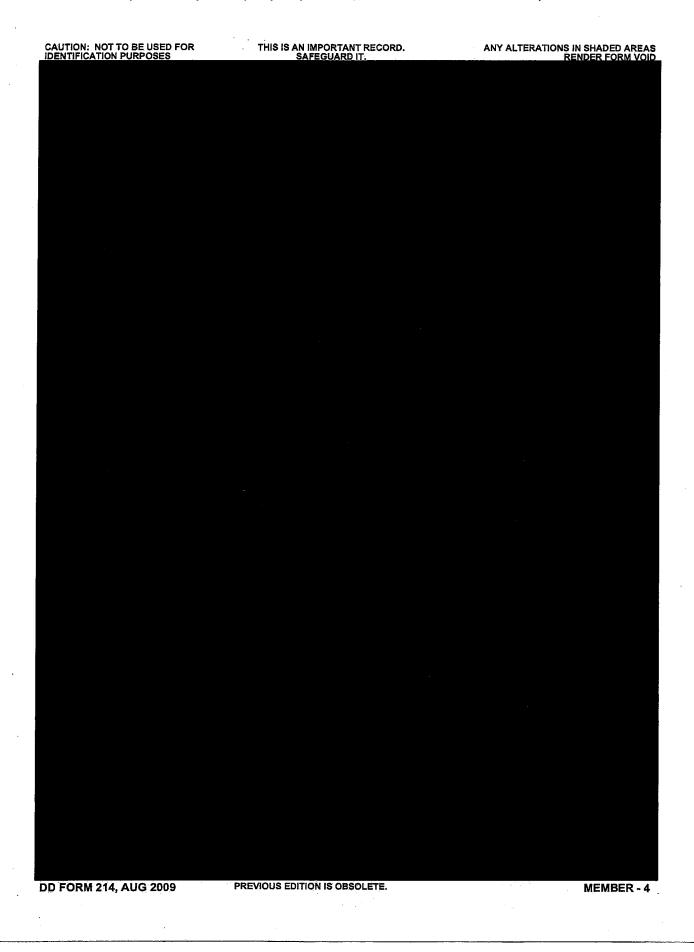
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of Guam (4 G.C.A. Section 4308) that the foregoing is true and correct.

Nonito V. Blas

Print Name and Signature

Date

PAGE 7 OF 7





## SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

Guam Judicial Center • 120 West O'Brien Drive • Hagatña, Guam 96910

Telephone (671) 475-3370/475-3449 Fax (671) 472-2856

**DANIELLE T. ROSETE**Clerk of Court

Name:	NON	TO '	VINCE	NT RI	AS
maine.			VIIVOL	111 DL	

SS#:

ID#

Date of Birth:

## **CERTIFICATE OF SEARCH**

The undersigned Clerk hereby certifies the following results of a diligent search of the records of this Court:

Crimi	nai Cas	es:	Civii	Cases:	
A.	$\bowtie$	No Case Found	A.	[]	No Case Found
B.	1.	Criminal Case No.	B.	1.	Civil Case No.
	2.	Criminal Case No.		2.	Civil Case No.
	3.	Criminal Case No.		3.	Civil Case No.
	4.	Criminal Case No.		4.	Civil Case No.
	5.	Criminal Case No.		5.	Civil Case No.
	Crimin	al Record: Page 1 of 1		Civil R	ecord: Page 1 of 1

Request for further information may be addressed at the Records Division of the Superior Court of Guam, Guam Judicial Center, 120 West O'Brien Drive, Hagatña, Guam. Hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed Saturday, Sunday and local/federal holidays. Court Clearances are Non-Refundable.

Dated: 11/07/2019

The absence of an original Court Seal invalidates this document

DANIELLE T. ROSETE

**Clerk of Court** 

BY: EVÁN L. TOPASNA

Prepared By: E



## Government of Guam GUAM POLICE DEPARTMENT RECORDS & IDENTIFICATION SECTION

P.O. Box 23909 Guam Main Facility, Guam 96921



November 7, 2019

SUBJECT: CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD

NAME:	Nonito V	incent BLAS		
DATE OF	BIRTH:		FINGERPRINT#:	NONE
-	1	dual has no record of out files that are subject to	criminal conviction(s) in the Guam law.	Guam Police

THIS INFORMATION MAY BE LIMITED TO A LOCAL CRIMINAL OFFENSE ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE FOR ANY LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

By Direction: angela



STEPHEN C. IGNACIO Chief of Police

## Nonito V. Blas



Leader, Maintenance and Training Expert. Offering over 38 years of operating maintaining Navy warships, leading and training Navy Sailors. Career highlighted with multiple leadership awards and supported with a Masters of Business Administration and certification as Project Management Professional. Excels in:

- Leadership / Mentoring / Team Builder
- Training / Instructing / Inspiring
- Project Management / Community Outreach
- Strategic Planning / Oral and Written Communication
- Quality Control / Quality Assurance
- Microsoft PROJECTS, WORD, EXCEL, ACCESS

## **WORK EXPERIENCE and ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Deputy Shipyard Commander - Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and IMF,

2014 - 2018

- Provided Leadership and Mentorship to over 5,000 highly skilled trades personnel, significantly improving the material condition of 19 home-ported submarines by completing over 20,000 man-days of production work. Led the completion of over 20 emergent repairs to remote ports in the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans.
- Hand-picked as Officer-In-Charge in support of training and evaluating of Joint Region Marianas, Guam, Submarine Squadron 15 and USS FRANK CABLE Emergency Planning Organization.

## Chief Engineer – USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74

2011 - 2014

- Senator John C. Stennis "Straight Furrow" Senior Leadership Award winner
- 2012 Navy Marine Association Leadership Award winner
- Maintained the ship at its highest state of material condition readiness in support of combat flight operations in the Indian Ocean area of responsibility.

## Officer Personnel Distribution - Navy Personnel Command

2008 - 2011

- Attracted the Navy's TOP enlisted Sailor talent to naval officer careers.
- Extraordinary Officer Community/Human Resource Manager. Identified and implemented new opportunities to enhance and maintain officer career progression in a rapidly changing Navy.

## Reactor Mechanical Assistant – USS RONALD REAGAN (CVN 76)

2005 - 2008

- 2007 Navy Marine Association Leadership Award winner
- Inspired Sailors to overcome potential propulsion-limiting equipment casualties during combat flight operations. His poised, forceful demeanor and superior reactor and steam plant knowledge were instrumental in meeting all operational commitments.

## Production Management Assistant – USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40)

2002 - 2005

- Awarded the 2004 Naval Submarine League Levering Smith Award for outstanding leadership and submarine support.
- Led the completion of numerous emergent ship repairs in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Chemistry and Radiological Controls Assistant – USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70) 1999 – 2002

Inspirational and Decisive Leader during actual crises. Led flawless responses to several
potentially debilitating propulsion plant equipment casualties while at sea conducting
blue-water flight operations in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

Hull Division Officer – Naval Intermediate Maintenance Facility, Pearl Harbor 1996 – 1999

- Successfully managed over 25,000 man-hours of production work in completing over 2,300 jobs on board 18 submarines and 17 surface ships.
- Implemented the Ship-fitter and Welder Battle Force Intermediate Maintenance job qualification requirements program, significantly contributing to the technical development of military personnel.

Nuclear Repair Officer – USS HOLLAND (AS 32)

1993 - 1996

- Selected as Commander Submarine Force Pacific Fleet Junior Officer of the Year
- Superb analytical, managerial and technical skills, the driving force behind numerous process improvements.

Nuclear Training Officer - Naval Nuclear Prototype Training Unit, Idaho Falls, Id 1990 - 1993

 Demonstrating superior knowledge of integrated reactor plant operations and possessing the unique ability to quickly and effectively trained, he was singularly responsible for qualifying over 20 officer and civilian students as nuclear propulsion plant operators.

## **Education and Certifications**

- Naval Electronics Technician (Nuclear Field) School, Jul 1982
- Navy Leadership and Management Education and Training (LMET), Nov 1987
- Navy Leader Development Program for Senior Personnel, Jun 1992
- Naval Nuclear Project Planners Course, Jun 1993
- Fundamentals of Total Quality Leadership, Jan 1994
- Radiological Controls Training for Senior Officers Course, Aug 1999
- Project Management, Villanova University, Jan 2008
- Masters of Business Administration, Grantham University, 2012
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Grantham University, 2011
- Certified Project Management Professional (PMP), Project Management Institute, 2019



## 1st Notice of Public Hearing: Friday, January 3, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Office of Senator Sabina Perez <office@senatorperez.org>

Thu, Dec 26, 2019 at 10:30 AM

To: nvblas@hotmail.com, cubi\_e@yahoo.com, pel@sardoma.com, guerreroa74@yahoo.com, "Walter S. Leon Guerrero" <walter.leonguerrero@epa.guam.gov>, nic.rupley@epa.guam.gov, "Dafne M. Shimizu"

<dafne.shimizu@revtax.guam.gov>, "Michele B. Santos" <michele.santos@revtax.guam.gov>, Michele Rabago <michele.rabago@revtax.guam.gov>, "Miguel C. Bordallo" <mcbordallo@guamwaterworks.org>, "Ann D. Borja, CPM" <annborja@guamwaterworks.org>, jbenavente@gpagwa.com, sblas@gpagwa.com, larry.gast@gswa.guam.gov, horeckylaw@teleguam.net, lpalomo@guampuc.com, "Leevin T. Camacho" <law@guamag.org>, carlo.branch@guam.gov, "Robert A. Perron" <raperron@mrrubbishman.com>

Cc: Sabrina Salas Matanane <sabrina@kuam.com>, nestor@kuam.com, Chris Barnett <malafunkshun@kuam.com>, joan@kuam.com, news@sorensenmediagroup.com, reporters@postguam.com, news@guampdn.com, news@k57.com, rlimtiaco@guampdn.com, heugenio@guampdn.com, John O'Connor <johntaoconnor@gmail.com>, kstokish@gmail.com, editor@pacificislandtimes.com, Maureen Maratita <publisher@glimpsesofguam.com>,

businesseditor@glimpsesofguam.com, assist\_editor@glimpsesofguam.com, reporter2@glimpsesofguam.com, Guam Progress <guamprogress@yahoo.com>, colinperez@gmail.com, Gabejereza@gmail.com, aebenavente@gdoe.net, phnotice@guamlegislature.org

December 26, 2019

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

Fr: Senator Sabina Flores Perez, *Chairperson* 

Subject: 1st Notice of Public Hearing: Friday, January 3, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement will be conducting a public hearing on **Friday**, **January 3**, **2020** at **9:00** a.m. This public hearing will take place in *I Liheslaturan Guahan*, Public Hearing Room. The agenda is as follows:

## 9:00 a.m.

Executive Appointment of Ms. Cynthia V. Ecube to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pelagio S. Sardoma to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pedro S.N. Guerrero to serve as a Member (Utilities Representative) of the Public Utilities Commission.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas to serve as a Member of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors.

Testimonies should be addressed to Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson, and will be accepted via hand delivery to our office, our mailbox at the Guam Congress Building at 163 Chalan

Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910, via email to office@senatorperez.org, no later than 4pm, January 8, 2020. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez at 989-2968.

## Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez

Committee on the Environment, Revenue & Taxation, and Procurement I Mina'trentai Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan 35th Guam Legislature

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## OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ



Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement

I MINA TRENTAL SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN

35<sup>TH</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

December 23, 2019

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

Fr:

Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson &F P

Subject:

1st Notice of Public Hearing: Friday, January 3, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement will be conducting a public hearing on **Friday**, **January 3**, **2020** at **9:00** a.m. This public hearing will take place in *I Liheslaturan Guahan*, Public Hearing Room. The agenda is as follows:

## 9:00 a.m.

Executive Appointment of Ms. Cynthia V. Ecube to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pelagio S. Sardoma to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pedro S.N. Guerrero to serve as a Member (Utilities Representative) of the Public Utilities Commission.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas to serve as a Member of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors.

Testimonies should be addressed to Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson, and will be accepted via hand delivery to our office, our mailbox at the Guam Congress Building at 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910, via email to office@senatorperez.org, no later than 4pm, January 8, 2020. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez at 989-2968.



## 2nd Notice of Public Hearing: Friday, January 3, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Office of Senator Sabina Perez <office@senatorperez.org>

Tue, Dec 31, 2019 at 8:00 AM

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December 31, 2019

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

Fr:

Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson

Subject:

2<sup>nd</sup> Notice of Public Hearing: Friday, January 3, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement will be conducting a public hearing on **Friday**, **January 3**, **2020** at **9:00** a.m. This public hearing will take place in *I Liheslaturan Guahan*, Public Hearing Room. The agenda is as follows:

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Executive Appointment of Mr. Pelagio S. Sardoma to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pedro S.N. Guerrero to serve as a Member (Utilities Representative) of the Public Utilities Commission.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas to serve as a Member of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors.

Testimonies should be addressed to Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson, and will be

accepted via hand delivery to our office, our mailbox at the Guam Congress Building at 163 *Chalan Santo Papa*, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910, via email to office@senatorperez.org, no later than 4pm, January 8, 2020. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez at 989-2968.

## Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez

Committee on the Environment, Revenue & Taxation, and Procurement I Mina'trentai Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan 35th Guam Legislature

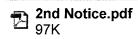
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## OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement I MINA TRENTAL SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 35<sup>TH</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

December 30, 2019

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

Fr:

Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson SEP

Subject:

2<sup>nd</sup> Notice of Public Hearing: Friday, January 3, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

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Executive Appointment of Mr. Pedro S.N. Guerrero to serve as a Member (Utilities Representative) of the Public Utilities Commission.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas to serve as a Member of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors.

Testimonies should be addressed to Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson, and will be accepted via hand delivery to our office, our mailbox at the Guam Congress Building at 163 *Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña*, Guam 96910, via email to office@senatorperez.org, no later than 4pm, January 8, 2020. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez at 989-2968.



PORT OF GUAM ATURIDAT I PUETTON GUAHAI



The Port Authority of Guam Board of Directors will hold its Regular Board meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Board of Directors' Conference Room, Port Authority of Guam, Cabras Island, Piti. Business to be transacted include: Legal Matters pursuant to §8111(c), as well as other regular agenda items. Individuals with disabilities who may need special accommodations may contact Mr. Simeon Delos Santos, ADA Coordinator at 477-5931/4, ext. 430.



The University of Guam Solicits Applications to Establish a list of eligibles for the following limited term, Federally Funded Positions (Subject to the availability of funds)

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Deadline to apply: CONTINUOUS UNTIL FILLED

Copies of school transcript(s) and valid driver's license are required with application.

Contact the Human Resources Office at (671) 735-2350 for additional information regarding requirements, qualifications and application deadline, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. View the Human Resources Office website at <a href="https://www.uog.edu/hrq">https://www.uog.edu/hrq</a> for detailed information on the job amouncement.

The University of Guam is a U.S. accredited institution and an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For assistance, please contact the University's Director, EEO an Title IX/ADA Coordinator at (671) 735-2244; (671) 735-2243 (TTY).

/s/ JOSEPH B. GUMATAOTAO Acting Chief Human Resources Office

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Senator Sabina Flores Perez

Public Hearing Notice Friday, January 3, 2020 wan Guahan, Public Hearing Room

## **AGENDA**

9:00am

Executive Appointment of Ms. Cynthia V. Ecube to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pelagio S. Sardoma to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pedro S.N. Guerrero to serve as a Member (Utilities Representative) of the Public Utilities Commission.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Noutto V. Blas to serve as a Member of the Guam Envior Protection Agency Board of Directors.

Restinances should be addressed to Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson, and will be accepted to the control of the contro





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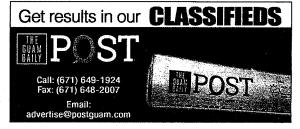
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Time: 10:00 a.m.

GENERAL SERVICES AGENCY, TAMUNING, GUAM Note: Bid package can be picked up at the **General Services Agency** located in the **ITC Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Suite 219, Tamuning, Guam or may be acquired from the GSA wesite:** <u>gsa.doa.guam.gov</u>. Please follow instructions once downloaded.

GSA recommends that prospective bidders register current contact information with GSA to ensure they receive any notices regarding any changes or updates to the IFB. The procuring agency and GSA will not be liable for failure to provide to any party who did not register current contact information.

/s/ CLAUDIA S. ACFALLE Chief Procurement Officer



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Updated as of 8/6/19

## OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ



Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement

I MINA TRENTAL SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

35TH GUAM LEGISLATURE

# AGENDA PUBLIC HEARING Friday, January 3, 2020 I Liheslaturan Guahan, Public Hearing Room

The agenda is as follows:

## 9:00am

Executive Appointment of Ms. Cynthia V. Ecube to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pelagio S. Sardoma to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pedro S.N. Guerrero to serve as a Member (Utilities Representative) of the Public Utilities Commission.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas to serve as a Member of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors.



## OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 35<sup>TH</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

Public Hearing

Friday, January 3, 2020, 9:00am

I Liheslaturan Guahan, Public Hearing Room

Executive Appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas to serve as a Member of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors.

NAME (please print)	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION	ORAL TESTIMONY	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	IN FAVOR	NOT IN FAVOR	CONTACT INFORMATION
Robert Person	GEPA					777-5}20
NICRUPLEY	GUAM EPP					3004753
(						
				3.00		

## Melanie Mendiola

P.O. Box 23025 Barrigada, Guain 96921 671,482 1823 Milhandi @gmail.com

Office of Senator Sabina Perez, Chair
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement
Terlaje Professional Building
194 Hernan Cortes Avenue, 1st Fl.
Hagatna, GU 96910

January 3, 2020

Hafa adai Chairwoman Perez and members of the Committee:

I am giving this testimony in support of Nonito Blas Jr. for his appointment as a Board Member for the Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors. My name is Melanie Mendiola, and I am the Administrator / CEO of the Guam Economic Development Authority, but I am giving this testimony in my personal capacity as an enthusiastic and supportive cousin of the nominee. Our mothers are sisters, so I have known him my whole life. I was a flower girl at his wedding, which, if it surprises you, it means either he looks incredibly young for his age, or I look old for my age.

Nonetheless, the nominee, who among family is called Junior, has always been a role model of what it means to be an exemplary son of Guam. He left home young to enlist in the Navy and through perseverance, grit, and determination, rose through the ranks to eventually retire as a Commander at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard in Hawaii.

Junior's educational background, professional certifications, and work experience as evidenced in his extensive resume speak for themselves with regard to his ability to get the job done. The clearest message I think his resume sends is that Junior is here to work, to lead, and to serve. He has been on the ground for less than a year, and already, has become an active member of a number of civic groups.

I believe on the Board of the Directors, he will view issues through the lens of a Veteran, someone with extensive experience dealing with the federal government, and most importantly, a son of Guam, putting the needs of our people at the forefront. I have reported to Boards of Directors for several years now, and it is always nice to have a board member you share common values with and the common goal for the good of Guam. I know and have worked with Administrator Leon Guerrero, and I believe that the two of them will work well together and be very productive.

Thank you for receiving my testimony. I encourage unanimous and expeditious confirmation for the Board of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency.

Si Yu'us Maase,

Melanie Mendiola

Senator Sabina Flores Perez 194 Herman Cortez Avenue First Floor, Terlaje Professional Building Hagatna, Guam, 96910

Subj: WRITTEN TESTIMONY ICO NONITO V. BLAS

Senator,

Thank you Senator. Buenas yan Hafa Adai. Quahu si Nito Blas, Jr. I am from the beautiful village of Mangilao. Upon graduation from Father Duenas Memorial High School in 1981, I enlisted in the Navy. After completing 38 years of service, I retired this past September. My wife Denise and I have returned to the island we love and will remain here until we die.

In my retirement, I continue to enjoy my wife and adult children, I take care of my mom and learn how to be a farmer from my father. I recently was certified a farmer by the Department of Agriculture.

If confirmed, I will, for the people of Guam, work with the other board members in providing forceful back-up to Walter Leon Guerrero and ensure his agency continues to:

- 1. Ensure a high quality environment is maintained at all times to guarantee an enjoyable life for all people at present and in the future.
- 2. Not allow the quality of land, water and air be degraded by any pollutants, including all physical, chemical and biological agents.
- 3. Provide a unified, integrated and comprehensive territory-wide environmental protection program and to provide a framework to fulfill this task.

If confirmed, I will make it known the good job our EPA employees do for our island.

If confirmed, I will make the time to make every board meeting. I will make the time to fully understand the issues at hand to allow me to make informed decisions. I will encourage constructive debate. I will be open to all ideas. I will be transparent.

If needed, I will recuse myself to avoid a conflict of interest.

If confirmed, I will use my Veteran status to enhance our relationship with our military partners.

In closing, I'm honored to be nominated for this position. And I'm ready to serve our people, our island.

Very Respectfully,

Nonito Vincent Blas

## OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ



Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement *I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*35<sup>TH</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

## **COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST**

## I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement convened a public hearing on January 3, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in *I Liheslaturan Guahan* Public Hearing Room. Among the items on the agenda was the consideration of the appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas to serve as a Member of the Board of Directors Guam Environmental Protection Agency, whose appointment history is as follows:

- Appointed by Governor Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero on November 19, 2019, to serve for three (3) years; November 29, 2019 to November 28, 2022; To fill the seat of Terrance M. Brooks, whose term has expired
- Appointment packet forwarded to I Liheslaturan Guahan on November 21, 2019
- Appointment packet forwarded to this committee for public consideration on November 22, 2019

## **Public Notice Requirements**

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via email to all Senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on December 26, 2019 and again on December 31, 2019. Publication was conducted in the **Guam Daily Post**, a newspaper of general circulation, fulfilling the 5-Day Notice and 48 Hour Notice of the Open Government Law requirements respectively.

## **Senators Present**

Senator Sabina Flores Perez

Senator Therese M. Terlaje

Senator Clynton E. Ridgell

Senator William M. Castro

Committee Chairperson

Committee Member

Legislative Member

Legislative Member

The confirmation hearing for Mr. Nonito V. Blas commenced at 9:00 a.m.

## II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY AND DISCUSSION

Chairperson Perez called up the appointee.

**Nonito Blas**, *Appointee*: Good morning Senators. My name is Nonito V. Blas. I am from the beautiful village of Mangilao. Upon graduating from Father Duenas in 1981 I enlisted in the Navy. I've served 38 years and recently retired back in September. In my retirement, I continue to enjoy my wife and children. I take care of my mom, and I'm learning from my father how to be a farmer; and in fact, I was certified a farmer by the Department of Agriculture. If confirmed, along with my fellow board members, I will provide backup to Walter Leon Guerrero and the agency. I'll provide him back up in ensuring the agency does three things: first one is to maintain a high-quality environment at all times to guarantee enjoyment by all on the island now and in the future. Second

thing, I will ensure that the quality of our land, our water, our air is not degraded by any pollutants or any chemical, biological, or physical elements. And third I will ensure our agency provides a unified, integrated, comprehensive, territorial-wide environmental protection program and the framework to execute that plan. If confirmed, I will make time to make all board meetings. I will make time to understand all the issues at hand so I can make an informed decision. I will welcome all debate. I will be open to all ideas. I will be transparent, and if needed I'll recuse myself to avoid any conflicts of interest. If confirmed, I will also use my veteran status to enhance our relationships with our military partners. In closing, I'm honored to be here, to be nominated for this position, and I'm ready to serve.

**Chairperson Perez:** Thank you Mr. Blas. I noticed in your resume that you actually served as a reactor mechanical assistant.

Mr. Blas: Yes, uh, in the Navy I was a nuclear trained officer. As a nuclear trained officer, I supervised, I trained, I maintained, and I operated nuclear propulsion plants onboard nuclear-powered war vessels such as aircraft carriers and submarines. In that position, in addition to supervising, operating, and maintaining, I also ensured the general public was not exposed to any radiation or contamination associated with naval nuclear power programs. I'm well-versed that the Navy did a good job in training me how to be a nuclear plant operator. In fact, many of our Guam residents don't realize in our home port of Apra Harbor we have up to 8 nuclear reactors in the harbor. Fortunately for us, the Navy in the past 60 years have been successful in ensuring reactor safety. Nothing to... in my opinion... nothing to worry about the Navy. However, we've got to keep them honest so we just got to continue our monitoring so we can provide them some backup.

Chairperson Perez: That's important expertise. I think you bring important expertise to the board—that insight; and how nuclear waste is processed. I think that's important. In your review of the board—have you reviewed the board meetings—have you been to a board meeting?

Mr. Blas: I've only looked at the minutes online. That's what I've seen. And in those minutes, I've noticed we do a lot of—a bunch of—notice of violations. We rule on those and various other items. I noticed in January and February we didn't have enough to make a quorum so the risk there is that any notice of violations may be voided because we don't have enough board members. That's why I stated it's very important that I make all those board meetings.

**Chairperson Perez**: Yes, exactly, that's important. In regard to making decisions, how do you go about deciding on an issue—when it comes to like notice of violations or anything that comes to the board. How would you describe your decision-making process?

Mr. Blas: My decision-making process. First of all, I will try to understand all the issues at hand—keeping in mind the good of the island—the good of the people in determining how I will vote or make a decision. And then, again, I will welcome open debate. I'll listen to everybody's ideas. And then, again, keeping the good of the island in mind when I finally make that decision.

Chairperson Perez acknowledge the presence of her colleagues and called up those who signed up to testify.

Nick Rupley Lee, Public Information Office, Guam Environmental Protection Agency: Håfa adai and good morning Senators. Happy New Year. My name is Nick Rupley Lee, I'm the public information officer for the Guam Environmental Protection agency. We're here to support the nomination of retired US Navy Captain Blas. I'll keep this very brief. We're very proud of our board. We have a very robust makeup in terms of the disciplines that every individual on the board represents. We have members from the legal community, the business community, we have an educator, we've got someone who's an expert in solid waste management. We believe that Mr. Blas' leadership skills, his experience, and his education will compliment an already robust board and we look forward to his confirmation. Thank you.

Bob Peron, Chairperson, Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors: Good morning, Senators. My name is Bob Peron, and I'm the Chairman of the board of directors of Guam EPA, and I'm here in support of the nomination of Mr. Blas. I've looked at his resume and seen all the accomplishments he's had during his life and all the experiences—and I really look forward to him joining our group on the board and you know his reputation precedes him. He has a very solid reputation and again I look forward to working with him should you confirm him, which I hope you will. As I said his resume is very strong and eager to work with him and let him apply his judgement to the areas of the environment for helping the people of Guam. Thank you.

Chairperson Perez opens the floor to her colleagues

Senator Ridgell: Thank you Madame Chair. Good morning. Congratulations first of all on your nomination. With that, I do have a few questions. The first is with regards to the past there have been I think notices of violation and other things issued to military contractors. I know for one there was a jet fuel pipeline that leaked and there were news reports about how the amount that the contractor was fined was less than what they could have been fined—significantly less. There were people in the community who were very upset about that. They felt it was more or less a slap on the wrist as opposed to an actual fine to hold them accountable for the environmental mess that they caused. So, with that my question is—what are your thoughts on those type of things with regard to military contractors? How tough are you going to be on people who violate environmental laws?

Mr. Blas: Again, for the good of our island, I'll be very tough on violators. From our experience in the military—the military, we hold our contractors to a higher standard than most. The military, again, from my experience, will make it clear what the requirements are and what the repercussions that they violate those requirements. I would see no reason why we wouldn't fine military contractors any less because they know the rules. So, again, I would be very tough.

**Senator Ridgell:** Thank you. Illegal dumping is a big issue on Guam, of course it's a big challenge. Do you have any ideas, or what do you think can be done to curb illegal dumping?

Mr. Blas: Well, you know my father was the Mayor of *Mangilao*. So, I learned from his time as the Mayor how bad—what I think, in all my duty stations in the mainland and even in Hawaii—they make it easy for the residents to dispose of their trash. One thing I did notice in Guam is aluminum cans. I collect aluminum cans—cause that's how I pay for my golf. The difference—I think here in Guam-again, I'll work with the board members and figure out why. In my opinion,

we don't give our villagers enough incentive to collect more aluminum cans because we don't pay them a lot, right, to recycle. So I—was it illegal dumping—I think we need to make it easier for our residents to be able to dump the trash, not cause them to make the decision—am I going to turn in my trash, or am I going to dump it in the jungle. We just have to make it easier for them.

**Senator Ridgell:** Thank you, I agree. And my final question is—is there anything you could say would be your main priority or objective should you be confirmed to sit on the board? What's important to you, I guess, what would be a main priority for you as a board member?

Mr. Blas: To be able to sustain our environment. We don't want to jeopardize an environment for the people today and then compromise my children's generation—grandchildren's generation—so, again, sustainable environment.

Senator Ridgell: Thank you so much. No further questions, Madame Chair. Thank you.

Senator Terlaje: Thank you, Madame Chair. Good morning, Mr. Blas. Thank you for agreeing to serve in this capacity and welcome to all your family who are here today. In regard to EPA I have no doubt that you're qualified to serve on this board, but I do want to ask you about a couple of things. Serving on these boards, I think, comes with a—political pressure—especially Guam EPA particularly because there's this—we have notice of violations for companies and we have a quite large recycling revolving fund that has been a political football over the years because everybody wants to use that for purposes they think are valid. But we've just recently ensured that the Guam EPA and the Board of Directors are going to be the ones to dictate or lead as to how those funds are going to be used and—they laid out a plan that we found very good step for—that it would be used for its original purposes that is, of course, reduce waste and ensure our landfill does not get filled with things that it doesn't need to be filled with and to institute a very good recycling program on Guam, and to get rid of debris that we are right now unable to get rid of. I think that's still a big challenge you're going to have on your hands. I guess I just wanted to ask you, for the record, if you feel like you'd be able to withstand this type of political pressure?

**Mr. Blas:** Well, you know, I'm not a politician. I've been in the service for the past 30 years so.... I guess I got to learn the politics here. But politics shouldn't be a play in how we treat our island.

Senator Terlaje: Alright, the Director of Guam EPA, if I understand correctly, isn't one of those subject to legislative consent. It's subject to the Board. Guam EPA is the one who confirms the Director. They have done that for Walter for this new term—and I guess I just wanted to put that out there also. That's also another responsibility that not all boards have, but your board has. It's to oversee this Director because—we can call oversight, but that confirmation and consent process is yours.

**Mr. Blas:** Well, what I stated earlier that, as a board of director I will provide forceful backup to Walter.

**Senator Terlaje:** Well, you're also his boss, right? And so, it's that role that I'm pointing to. Recently, there have been investigations regarding this Agent Orange, and whether Agent Orange was used on Guam, and the Department of Defense had denied it. But the Guam EPA, together

with the USEPA, conducted tests. And one of the tests was in coordination with the Joint Region Marianas up at Andersen. But the other tests were done outside the base and in some of these tests, well, obviously we're not—I think, it's my understanding that Guam EPA and USEPA would like to conduct more tests on the bases they were denied access, at least in one occasion. I just want to know if you feel like you'd be able to back the Board up in their request for access for this type of testing.

Mr. Blas: Yes, I would back EPA on getting onboard. Again, in my experience with regard to nuclear power on bases, the Navy is very leery about providing people come on base to test for radiological conditions because, at times, they could misinterpret the data. However, the Navy is very—with regard to nuclear power—they're very good at keeping records, they're very good at monitoring, very good at knowing the status of the environment. I wouldn't understand why they wouldn't let anybody on the Naval bases. I would bring that up.

Senator Terlaje: Alright. I'm sure they're trying to work that out with them. But if....

Mr. Blas: Actually, I know Captain Grimes, I've worked with him before.

Senator Terlaje: This is contamination we're talking about. We've got split test results whether they're actually these contaminants exist or do not exist, and we've found them to exist outside the base in some tests and to exist on the base on at least one test and so we want to confirm this of course. And we're looking a lot at the fuel lines—all these fuel lines lead on to Andersen from down south. Anyways, other issues such as notice of violations, as my colleague has stated earlier, I think the Guam EPA has adopted a policy now that has made these notices of violations more transparent. I've seen in their minutes they're very actively discussing them with the boards. The board has a very active role in following up, so I want to thank the board for that. I think the public, if we could just continue to keep them informed, announce as much as possible. You are a regulatory agency, and part of announcing your successes is going to help to deter other types of activity that contribute to our contamination or pollution here on Guam. So, that's all. I just wanted to encourage that. It looks like they're very active. It's looking much more transparent. But still, I think if you could go out and announce it to the public, I would thank you for that. I know that we've had a roundtable here on illegal dumping and it was Guam EPA's staff that came up with excellent thought and I would like to see that implemented as much as possible. They've laid out what they feel would work.

**Mr. Blas:** I think taking money away from somebody is a good motivator for them to do it—to do the right thing.

**Senator Terlaje:** Hopefully. But I think they also said, taking it away from those who don't have it is not going to deter them. We need a combination. But thank you. Thank you, Madame Chair.

**Senator Castro:** Thank you, Madame Chair. First of all, I just want to make it noted for the record that this would be Nonito Blas Jr. Not that I would have exception to the nominee but I just think it's much better that we have the son of the former Mayor so he can put in more than four years. Welcome back Captain. I do want to highlight, for the record, Madame Chair, that the nominee has extensive education and experience both in the military and through formal ed. He has is MBA.

I can also appreciate, Senator Perez, that his knowledge and skillset and exposure in dealing with contaminants is definitely a plus. So, with that said, I also would be remiss if I didn't thank the Leon Guerrero administration for reaching out and giving you the opportunity to serve your community again. I would like to encourage you to, if it's something different from what's already been said, to think outside the box when working both with the administration and the EPA. I would like to encourage you to look toward your private sector partners and also the federal government. You mentioned the military, and I'm going to address that in a minute. One of my colleagues mentioned that illegal dumping is a challenge. We also know that recycling is also a challenge, and, in my opinion, with respect to illegal dumping, in my opinion it's going to require a multi-agency approach. I've had those conversations in my first term. I certainly hope you can pick that conversation up once you're confirmed.

In dealing with abandoned vehicles—and forgive me, my knowledge is neither wide, nor deep, on this issue—but, often times I've had conversations either with GEPA or with other agencies that have cited certain complications like—the availability of land is one, handling of certain contaminants is the other; and frankly just the whole investigative side of dealing with illegally dumped vehicles, or abandoned vehicles, or what have you. I want to encourage you in this stream of thinking out of the box that you look toward outsourcing that with your Board. Perhaps we can find a third-party provider, and I don't know any off the cuff. But I think it provides numerous benefit to the community if we just allow the government to do what it does best, and the private sector entities who have not only the capacity but the ability to absorb that liability outside of the government, whether it's now or whether they're bonded or whatever other types of assurances they can provide so that if the environment is contaminated as a result of dealing with those illegally abandoned vehicles and placed on other properties and the leakages they can mitigate that.

I appreciate your knowledge of nuclear reactors in Apra Harbor. I had no idea there were 8, or however many you mentioned. But my point would be along the lines of probably one of our more ardent environmental activists on the panel here—if I could just relate from, again another professional experience back in the time of the late Senator Angel Santos, when I worked for him. There was a notice, not sure if its USEPA, or EPA at the time, or GRM. Whoever it was—it was an authority in the community that released the results of the gådao, grouper fish, being contaminated beyond a certain level of toxicity, and the Senator at his time, he took it upon himself and the entire team of volunteers and paid staff and went house to house, door to door warning people of this finding. Taking all that into mind and looking at you and your experience and going back to my encouragement to think outside the box. I want to encourage your team to utilize technology so that we can respond swiftly and accurately to any threats on the environment whether they might be imposed by the military or ourselves, the public—the general public. With that said, Madame Chair, that's all I have for the nominee. You have my utmost confidence, Captain Blas. Welcome back. You come from a very long line—or wide line—of public servants. My hats off to the former Mayor, your father and your mother. Nonito Blas is here and his beautiful wife. I know that your father's sister also served, former Mayor Margaret Blas, in the village of Asan. And I know your late Uncle Frank served for Tamuning, Tumon, and that general area—and Harmon—and I appreciate the public service your family has committed themselves to. Welcome home, and you have my unqualified support for confirmation of your nomination.

Mr. Blas: Thank you, Senator.

Chairperson Perez: So that concludes the confirmation of nomination for Nonito Blas. Thank you for accepting this nomination. So, Si Yu'os Ma'åse.

Chairperson Perez then adjourned the confirmation hearing for Mr. Nonito V. Blas.

## Written Testimonies:

- Melanie Mendiola
- Nonito Vincent Blas, Nominee

## III. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement hereby reports out the appointment of Mr. Nonito V. Blas to serve as a Member of the Board of Directors Guam Environmental Protection Agency with the recommendation of the Board of Directors Guam Environmental Protection Agency with the recommendation

## OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 35<sup>TH</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

## **COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET**

Nomination of Nonito V. Blas

To serve as a Member of the Board of Directors Guam Environmental Protection Agency For a term of Three (3) years; November 29, 2019 to November 28, 2022; To fill the seat of Terrance M. Brooks, whose term has expired

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	SIGNATURE AND DATE	TO DO CONFIRM	TO NOT CONFIRM	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ Chairperson	8FP 1/13/2020	/				
SENATOR THERESE M. TERLAJE Vice Chairperson	1/13/2020					
VICE SPEAKER TELENA CRUZ NELSON Member	1/13/2620			V		
SPEAKER TINA MUÑA BARNES Member						
SENATOR KELLY G. MARSH (TAITANO), Ph.D. Member						
SENATOR TELO T. TAITAGUE Member						
SENATOR MARY CAMACHO TORRES Member	1/13/20	/				