

I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Received
Bill Log Sheet

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES
135-32 (COR), P.L. 32-138	Frank B. Aguon, Jr.	AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, TO INITIATE EFFORTS TOWARD THE EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN - GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE", WHICH SHALL SERVE AS A ONE-STOP VETERANS SERVICES CENTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; THROUGH THE REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT §67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED	06/04/13 12:38 p.m.	06/04/13	Committee on the Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veteran's Affairs, and Judiciary	7/31/13, 5:30pm	2/3/14 3:28 p.m.	Fiscal Note Received 10/16/13
	DATE PASSED	TITLE	TRANSMITTED		DUE DATE	<small>DATE SIGNED BY I MAGA'LAHEN GUAHAN</small>	PUBLIC LAW NO.	NOTES
	4/15/2014	AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT § 67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.	4/16/14	1:10 p.m.	4/28/2014	4/28/2014	32-138	As substituted by the Committee on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs, and Judiciary; and amended on the Floor.



EDDIE BAZA CALVO
Governor

RAY TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor of Guam

APR 30 2014

32-14-1609

Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
155 Hesler Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Date 5.2.14
Time 2:30 PM
Received by [Signature]
2014 MAY - 2 PM 3:00 PM

Dear Madame Speaker:

Transmitted herewith is Bill No. 135-32 (COR) "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT §67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" which I signed into law on April 28, 2014 as Public Law 32-138.

Senseramente,

EDDIE BAZA CALVO

1609

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

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

This is to certify that **Substitute Bill No. 135-32 (COR)**, "AN ACT TO *REPEAL AND REENACT* § 67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," was on the 15th day of April, 2014, duly and regularly passed.



Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Speaker

Attested:


Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan* this 16 day of April,
2014, at 1:10 o'clock P.M.



Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'lahaen's Office

APPROVED:


EDWARD J.B. CALVO
I Maga'lahaen Guåhan

Date: APR 28 2014

Public Law No. 32-138

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 135-32 (COR)

As substituted by the Committee on
Guam U.S. Military Relocation,
Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs,
and Judiciary; and amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
T. C. Ada
V. Anthony Ada
B. J.F. Cruz
Chris M. Dueñas
Michael T. Limtiaco
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Tommy Morrison
T. R. Muña Barnes
Vicente (ben) C. Pangelinan
R. J. Respicio
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Michael F. Q. San Nicolas
Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.
Brant T. McCreadie

**AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT § 67107 OF
CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED,
RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION
OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE
GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.**

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

2 **Section 1.** § 67107 of Chapter 67 of Title 10, Guam Code Annotated,
3 relative to the Guam Veterans Commission, is hereby *repealed* and *reenacted* to
4 read as follows:

1 **“§ 67107. Guam Veterans Commission.**

2 (a) Commission Membership.

3 There is hereby established a Guam Veterans Commission which
4 *shall*, at a minimum, be composed of a total of nine members, to
5 include the following representation:

6 (1) four members, each of whom *shall* be
7 representative of a veterans or retirees association for each
8 branch of the U.S. Armed Forces to consist of:

9 (A) U.S. Army Retirees (or Veterans)
10 Association;

11 (B) U.S. Air Force Retirees (or Veterans)
12 Association;

13 (C) U.S. Navy Retirees (or Veterans)
14 Association; and

15 (D) U.S. Marine Corps Retirees (or Veterans)
16 Associations;

17 (2) two members from the officially chartered Guam
18 chapters of multi-service Veteran Service Organizations.
19 Organizations to be represented on the Guam Veterans
20 Commission, pertaining to Subsections (1) and (2), are required
21 to be duly registered as a non-profit organization with the
22 Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation, in accordance
23 with Title 18 of Guam Code Annotated; and/or is registered as a
24 non-profit organization within the United States and recognized
25 as exempt under IRC 501(c)(19). The organizations *shall*
26 furnish the Guam Veterans Affairs Office with a copy of an
27 official documentation reflecting such requirement; and

1 (3) a maximum of three members, whom each *shall* be
2 a veteran, may be appointed from other veteran organizations
3 on Guam, to include the Coast Guard. Should a Veteran
4 Service Organization have *more than* one Chapter, each
5 Chapter may recommend a representative to serve as a member
6 of the Commission, of which said appointment may be
7 authorized to serve as provided herein.

8 (4) Ex-Officio Members. With the recommendation of
9 the Guam Veterans Commission, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan* may
10 appoint as an ex-officio, non-voting member a veteran of a
11 foreign country who has fought alongside U.S. armed forces
12 members as allies in combat, who is representative of an
13 established veterans organization on Guam, and who has
14 resided on Guam for a minimum of three years immediately
15 preceding the appointment. Said veteran *shall* serve for a term
16 of three years from the date of appointment.

17 (b) Commission Membership Terms and Conduct of
18 Business.

19 (1) Veteran Organization Appointments.

20 The Commander, or designee, of Veteran Service Organizations
21 *shall* present in writing to the Chairman of the Commission the
22 name of the individual who *shall* represent their organization to
23 serve on the Commission, which *shall* be subject to the
24 aforementioned provisions above.

25 (2) Terms of Commission Members.

26 Every member of the Commission *shall* serve for a term of
27 three years, to commence on the date of appointment. Should

1 the representative terminate his/her term prior to the conclusion
2 of the three years, the Veteran Service Organization *shall*
3 appoint a successor to serve for a new three year term, which
4 *shall* commence upon the date of appointment. Said
5 appointment *shall* be in writing and presented to the Chairman
6 of the Guam Veterans Commission, with a copy to be furnished
7 to the Veterans Affairs Officer of the Office of Veterans
8 Affairs.

9 (3) Quorum Requirements.

10 For purposes of a quorum and for the official conduct of
11 business, a minimum of five voting members on the
12 Commission *shall* constitute a quorum. For the official conduct
13 of business, a majority of the members present, following the
14 constituting of a quorum, *shall* be required to conduct official
15 business.

16 (4) Scheduled Meetings.

17 The Commission *shall* meet monthly and *shall* advise the
18 Veterans Affairs Officer regarding matters affecting veterans
19 and related issues. Said meeting times, place and dates *shall* be
20 decided to allow the greatest level of participation and
21 attendance by Commission members.

22 (5) Veteran Community Participation.

23 The Commission *shall* provide veterans and their families with
24 the opportunity to air grievances for the purpose of effecting
25 corrective action or change to existing policies that affect the
26 delivery of benefits and services to the Guam veteran
27 population.

1 (6) Administrative Support.

2 The VAO, through the direction of the VAO Administrator,
3 *shall* provide administrative support to the Guam Veterans
4 Commission in the conduct of its meetings.

5 (7) Commission Activities.

6 Upon official written request by the Chairman of the
7 Commission for information or action by the VAO
8 Administrator on issues affecting the Commission or Veterans,
9 the VAO Administrator *shall* provide a written response to the
10 Commission within four weeks from the date of receipt of such
11 communication. Should the VAO Administrator require
12 additional time to provide a sufficient response to the matter,
13 the VAO *shall* request in writing a time extension, *not to*
14 *exceed* an additional four weeks, and further provide
15 justification for the need for such time extension in said written
16 communication. Such request *shall* be granted upon receipt by
17 the Chairman of the Commission.”

18 **Section 2. Effective Date.** The provisions contained herein *shall* be
19 effective upon enactment of this Act.



FILE

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
THIRTY-SECOND GUAM LEGISLATURE
155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

April 16, 2014

The Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo
I Maga'lahren Guåhan
Ufisinan I Maga'lahi
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear *Maga'lahi* Calvo:

Transmitted herewith are Bill and Substitute Bill Nos. 135-32 (COR), 183-32 (COR), 207-32 (COR), 222-32 (COR), 244-32 (COR), 266-32 (COR), 272-32 (COR), 273-32 (COR), 283-32 (COR), 286-32 (COR), 289-32 (COR), 311-32 (LS) and 315-32 (LS) which were passed by *I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* on April 15, 2014.

Sincerely,

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary

Enclosure (13)

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CENTRAL FILES

RECEIVED BY *for*
TIME *1:10* DATE *4/16/14*

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

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

This is to certify that **Substitute Bill No. 135-32 (COR), "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT § 67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,"** was on the 15th day of April, 2014, duly and regularly passed.



Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Speaker

Attested:


Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'lahren Guåhan* this 16 day of April,
2014, at 1:10 o'clock P.M.



Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'lahi's Office

APPROVED:

EDWARD J.B. CALVO
I Maga'lahren Guåhan

Date: _____

Public Law No. _____

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

FILE

Bill No. 135-32 (COR)

As substituted by the Committee on
Guam U.S. Military Relocation,
Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs,
and Judiciary; and amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
T. C. Ada
V. Anthony Ada
B. J.F. Cruz
Chris M. Dueñas
Michael T. Limtiaco
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Tommy Morrison
T. R. Muña Barnes
Vicente (ben) C. Pangelinan
R. J. Respicio
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Michael F. Q. San Nicolas
Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.
Brant T. McCreddie

**AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT § 67107 OF
CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED,
RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION
OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE
GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.**

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

2 **Section 1.** § 67107 of Chapter 67 of Title 10, Guam Code Annotated,
3 relative to the Guam Veterans Commission, is hereby *repealed* and *reenacted* to
4 read as follows:

1 **“§ 67107. Guam Veterans Commission.**

2 (a) Commission Membership.

3 There is hereby established a Guam Veterans Commission which
4 *shall*, at a minimum, be composed of a total of nine members, to
5 include the following representation:

6 (1) four members, each of whom *shall* be
7 representative of a veterans or retirees association for each
8 branch of the U.S. Armed Forces to consist of:

9 (A) U.S. Army Retirees (or Veterans)
10 Association;

11 (B) U.S. Air Force Retirees (or Veterans)
12 Association;

13 (C) U.S. Navy Retirees (or Veterans)
14 Association; and

15 (D) U.S. Marine Corps Retirees (or Veterans)
16 Associations;

17 (2) two members from the officially chartered Guam
18 chapters of multi-service Veteran Service Organizations.
19 Organizations to be represented on the Guam Veterans
20 Commission, pertaining to Subsections (1) and (2), are required
21 to be duly registered as a non-profit organization with the
22 Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation, in accordance
23 with Title 18 of Guam Code Annotated; and/or is registered as a
24 non-profit organization within the United States and recognized
25 as exempt under IRC 501(c)(19). The organizations *shall*
26 furnish the Guam Veterans Affairs Office with a copy of an
27 official documentation reflecting such requirement; and

1 (3) a maximum of three members, whom each *shall be*
2 a veteran, may be appointed from other veteran organizations
3 on Guam, to include the Coast Guard. Should a Veteran
4 Service Organization have *more than* one Chapter, each
5 Chapter may recommend a representative to serve as a member
6 of the Commission, of which said appointment may be
7 authorized to serve as provided herein.

8 (4) Ex-Officio Members. With the recommendation of
9 the Guam Veterans Commission, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan* may
10 appoint as an ex-officio, non-voting member a veteran of a
11 foreign country who has fought alongside U.S. armed forces
12 members as allies in combat, who is representative of an
13 established veterans organization on Guam, and who has
14 resided on Guam for a minimum of three years immediately
15 preceding the appointment. Said veteran *shall* serve for a term
16 of three years from the date of appointment.

17 (b) Commission Membership Terms and Conduct of
18 Business.

19 (1) Veteran Organization Appointments.

20 The Commander, or designee, of Veteran Service Organizations
21 *shall* present in writing to the Chairman of the Commission the
22 name of the individual who *shall* represent their organization to
23 serve on the Commission, which *shall* be subject to the
24 aforementioned provisions above.

25 (2) Terms of Commission Members.

26 Every member of the Commission *shall* serve for a term of
27 three years, to commence on the date of appointment. Should

1 the representative terminate his/her term prior to the conclusion
2 of the three years, the Veteran Service Organization *shall*
3 appoint a successor to serve for a new three year term, which
4 *shall* commence upon the date of appointment. Said
5 appointment *shall* be in writing and presented to the Chairman
6 of the Guam Veterans Commission, with a copy to be furnished
7 to the Veterans Affairs Officer of the Office of Veterans
8 Affairs.

9 (3) Quorum Requirements.

10 For purposes of a quorum and for the official conduct of
11 business, a minimum of five voting members on the
12 Commission *shall* constitute a quorum. For the official conduct
13 of business, a majority of the members present, following the
14 constituting of a quorum, *shall* be required to conduct official
15 business.

16 (4) Scheduled Meetings.

17 The Commission *shall* meet monthly and *shall* advise the
18 Veterans Affairs Officer regarding matters affecting veterans
19 and related issues. Said meeting times, place and dates *shall* be
20 decided to allow the greatest level of participation and
21 attendance by Commission members.

22 (5) Veteran Community Participation.

23 The Commission *shall* provide veterans and their families with
24 the opportunity to air grievances for the purpose of effecting
25 corrective action or change to existing policies that affect the
26 delivery of benefits and services to the Guam veteran
27 population.

1 (6) Administrative Support.

2 The VAO, through the direction of the VAO Administrator,
3 *shall* provide administrative support to the Guam Veterans
4 Commission in the conduct of its meetings.

5 (7) Commission Activities.

6 Upon official written request by the Chairman of the
7 Commission for information or action by the VAO
8 Administrator on issues affecting the Commission or Veterans,
9 the VAO Administrator *shall* provide a written response to the
10 Commission within four weeks from the date of receipt of such
11 communication. Should the VAO Administrator require
12 additional time to provide a sufficient response to the matter,
13 the VAO *shall* request in writing a time extension, *not to*
14 *exceed* an additional four weeks, and further provide
15 justification for the need for such time extension in said written
16 communication. Such request *shall* be granted upon receipt by
17 the Chairman of the Commission.”

18 **Section 2. Effective Date.** The provisions contained herein *shall* be
19 effective upon enactment of this Act.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN

2014 (SECOND) Regular Session

Voting Sheet

Bill No. 135-32 (COR)

Speaker Antonio R. Unipingo Legislative Session Hall
April 15, 2014

NAME	Yea	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent
Senator Thomas "Tom" C. ADA	✓				
Senator V. Anthony "Tony" ADA	✓				
Senator Frank Blas AGUON Jr.	✓				
Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. CRUZ	✓				
Senator Christopher M. DUENAS	✓				
Senator Michael LIMTIACO	✓				
Senator Brant McCREADIE	✓				
Senator Thomas "Tommy" MORRISON	✓				
Senator Tina Rose MUÑA BARNES	✓				
Senator Vicente (ben) Cabrera PANGELINAN	✓				
Senator Rory J. RESPICIO	✓				
Senator Dennis G. RODRIGUEZ, Jr.	✓				
Senator Michael F. Q.SAN NICOLAS	✓				
Speaker Judith T. WON PAT, Ed.D.	✓				
Senator Aline A. YAMASHITA, Ph.D.	✓				

TOTAL

15

Yea

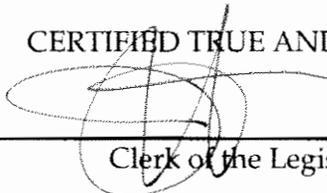
Nay

Not Voting/
Abstained

Out During
Roll Call

Absent

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:



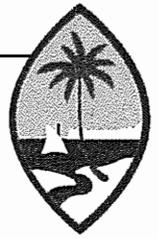
Clerk of the Legislature

I = Pass



GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



FEB 01 2014

The Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Speaker
I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan
155 Hesler Place
Hagatna, Guam 96910

VIA: The Honorable Rory J. Respicio
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RE: Committee Report on Bill No. 135-32 (COR), as Substituted by the Committee

Dear Speaker Won Pat:

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on Bill No. 135-32 (COR), as substituted by the Committee- An act relative to the increasing the representation of the number of Veterans serving on the on the Guam Veterans Commission, and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment of §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

Committee votes are as follows:

- 9 TO DO PASS
1 TO NOT PASS
1 TO REPORT OUT ONLY
1 TO ABSTAIN
1 TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

2014 FEB - 3 PM 3: 28

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature

Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Committee Chairperson

Senator Tina Muna-Barnes
Committee Vice Chairperson

Speaker Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Committee Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio
Committee Member

Senator Thomas C. Ada
Committee Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Committee Member

Senator V. Anthony Ada
Committee Member

Senator Michael Limtiaco
Committee Member

Senator Thomas Morrison
Committee Member



Senator
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Committee Chairperson

Senator
Tina Muna-Barnes
Committee Vice Chairperson

Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Committee Member

Senator
Rory J. Respicio
Committee Member

Senator
Thomas C. Ada
Committee Member

Senator
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Committee Member

Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Committee Member

Senator
Michael Limtiaco
Committee Member

Senator
Thomas Morrison
Committee Member

COMMITTEE REPORT

BILL NO. 135-32 (COR) **Introduced by Frank B. Aguon, Jr.** **As Substituted by the Committee**

An act relative to the increasing the representation of the number of Veterans serving on the on the Guam Veterans Commission, and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment of §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.



**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



January 31, 2014

MEMORANDUM

To: ALL MEMBERS
Committee on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security,
Veterans Affairs, and Judiciary

From: Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.
Committee Chairperson

Subject: Committee Report on Bill No. 135-32 (COR), as substituted by the Committee

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on Bill No. 135-32 (COR), as substituted by the Committee - An act relative to the increasing the representation of the number of Veterans serving on the on the Guam Veterans Commission, and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment of §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

This report includes the following:

- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Copy of Bill No. 135-32 (COR), as introduced
- Copy of Bill No. 135-32 (COR), as substituted by the Committee
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Referral of the Bill No. 135-32 (COR)
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Copy of Public Hearing Agenda

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.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse' !

**Senator
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.**
Committee Chairperson

**Senator
Tina Muna-Barnes**
Committee Vice Chairperson

**Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.**
Committee Member

**Senator
Rory J. Respicio**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas C. Ada**
Committee Member

**Senator
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.**
Committee Member

**Senator
V. Anthony Ada**
Committee Member

**Senator
Michael Limtiaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member



GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



COMMITTEE VOTING SHEET

Bill No. 135-32 (COR), as Substituted by the Committee - An act relative to the increasing the representation of the number of Veterans serving on the on the Guam Veterans Commission, and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment of §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Committee Chairperson

Senator Tina Muna-Barnes Committee Vice Chairperson

Speaker Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. Committee Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Committee Member

Senator Thomas C. Ada Committee Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Committee Member

Senator V. Anthony Ada Committee Member

Senator Michael Limtiaco Committee Member

Senator Thomas Morrison Committee Member

Table with 7 columns: COMMITTEE MEMBERS, SIGNATURE, TO DO PASS, TO NOT PASS, TO REPORT OUT ONLY, TO ABSTAIN, TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE. Rows include AGUON, FRANK B. JR, MUNA BARNES, TINA ROSE, SPEAKER WON PAT, JUDITH T. Ed.D., RESPICIO, RORY J., ADA, THOMAS C., RODRIGUEZ, DENNIS G. JR., ADA, V. ANTHONY, LIMTIACO, MICHAEL, MORRISON, THOMAS.



GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

Senator
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Committee Chairperson

Senator
Tina Muna-Barnes
Committee Vice Chairperson

Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Committee Member

Senator
Rory J. Respicio
Committee Member

Senator
Thomas C. Ada
Committee Member

Senator
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Committee Member

Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Committee Member

Senator
Michael Limtiaco
Committee Member

Senator
Thomas Morrison
Committee Member

I. OVERVIEW

Bill No. 135-32 (COR) was introduced on June 4, 2013, by Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr., and was subsequently referred by the Committee on Rules to the Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary on June 4, 2013.

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary convened the public hearing on Bill No. 135-32 (COR) on June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM in I Liheslatura's Public Hearing Room.

Public Notice Requirements

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via e-mail to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets for the June 13, 2013 hearing on June 6, 2013 (5-Day Notice), and again on June 11, 2013 (48-Hour Notice). Notices were also published in the Marianas Variety Newspaper for the June 13, 2013 hearing on June 6, 2013 and June 11, 2013.

Senators Present

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr., Chairperson
Vice Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

Appearing Before the Committee

John Unpingco, Administrator Veterans Affairs
Tom Devlin, Military Order of Purple Heart

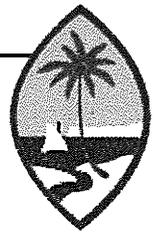
The public hearing was Called-to-Order at 9:09 AM.

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.:

Opens the agenda on Bill 135-32 (COR), "An Act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a One-Stop Veterans Services Center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and reenactment §67107, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated."

Senator Aguon invites Mr. Unpingco for his testimony.

**John Unpingco, Administrator Veterans Affairs**

He introduces himself and provides testimony verbatim. (See attached)

He has additional comments as follows:

He cites proposals brought up to him by Veterans. He states a Veteran who has approached him regarding not being able to retire from Government of Guam due to being discharged from the Army and receiving disability check from the VA. He states a proposal to increase the number of times a Veteran is allowed to be excused from work one hour to attend VA appointments. He states the government of Guam allows up to 5 absences. He states that the returning 598 deployed Guardsmen will fall into this category.

He concludes by stating that you are asking the staff of the Office of Veteran Affairs to execute the unfunded mandates on top of their current duties with no evidence of support forth coming. He asks Senator Aguon's committee to rethink Bill 135-32.

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

Thanks Mr. Unpingco for his comments and requests a copy of his written testimony to provide response. He comments on the official tax documentation, stating existing law requirements to non-profit status. He responds to Mr. Unpingco's comment of the 2 year term staying in place by stating he has no issue with keeping it at 2 years. He states in regards to approving/appointing authority stated in this verbiage and in the Commission bylaws is the Commander in Chief. He appreciates Mr. Unpingco offering his office as the possible location for the Veterans Village. He suggests an idea utilized by of government agencies that establishes a foundation in which they can receive private donations, grants, and contributions from Government of Guam.

John Unpingco, Administrator Veterans Affairs

States that his office already has such foundation in place and hasn't been very "fruitful".

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

He replies by saying we need to look at the journey of providing a permanent home.

John Unpingco, Administrator Veterans Affairs

States there is opportunity for synergism of having a One-Stop meeting place.

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

Highlights approval of the thought of expanding the Veterans Office as a site for the Veterans Village. States President Okada has indirectly offered a location as well.

Tom Devlin, Military Order of Purple Heart

Suggests, through past experiences of being on the Commission, that Commission members be made mandatory to attend a certain number of meetings. If they do not meet that number, they should be let go from the commission.

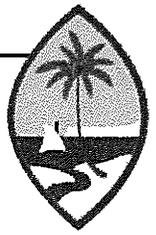
Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

Thanks everybody for their testimonies and all that they do for the Veteran community.



GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



John Unpingco, Administrator Veterans Affairs

Provides additional comment reemphasizing his proposal of his building as the site location for the Veterans Village.

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

Provides comment stating that the proposal is very timely. Suggests that Senator Aguon suggest this to GHURA.

John Unpingco, Administrator Veterans Affairs

Provides details of his rental fees.

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

Thanks Vice-Speaker Cruz and Mr. Unpingco for their comments. He concludes testimonies for Bill 135-32 and adjourns the public hearing accordingly.

The public hearing was adjourned at 10:24 AM.

III. **WRITTEN TESTIMONIES**

The following individuals submitted written testimonies to the Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary on 13 June 2013 at 9:00 AM:

1. Mary A. Y. Okada, Ed.D., Chairperson of WestCare Foundation Board
2. Carl Gumataotao, Volunteer Board Member, Pacific Island for WestCare
3. Sarah M. Thomas-Nededog, Vice President, WestCare Pacific Islands
4. Stan Y. Ko, President, Korean Vietnam War Veterans of Guam
5. Richard Chi, President, Korean Association of Guam
6. John S. Unpingco, Administrator, Guam Office of Veterans Affairs

IV. **FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary hereby submits these findings and reports out Bill No. 135-32 (COR) by the Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veteran's Affairs and Judiciary, with a recommendation TO PASS.



GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Committee Chairperson

Senator Tina Muna-Barnes Committee Vice Chairperson

Speaker Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. Committee Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Committee Member

Senator Thomas C. Ada Committee Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Committee Member

Senator V. Anthony Ada Committee Member

Senator Michael Limtiaco Committee Member

Senator Thomas Morrison Committee Member

I. OVERVIEW

Bill No. 135-32 (COR) was introduced on June 4, 2013, by Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr., and was subsequently referred by the Committee on Rules to the Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary on June 4, 2013.

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary convened a 2nd public hearing on Bill No. 135-32 (COR) on July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM in I Liheslatura's Public Hearing Room.

Public Notice Requirements

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via e-mail to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets for the July 31, 2013 hearing on July 24, 2013 (5-Day Notice), and again on July 29, 2013 (48-Hour Notice). Notices were also published in the Marianas Variety Newspaper for the July 31, 2013 hearing on July 24, 2013 and July 29, 2013.

Senators Present

- Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr., Chairperson
Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Senator V. Anthony Ada
Senator Brant McCreadie
Senator Thomas Morrison

Appearing Before the Committee

- John Unpingco, Administrator Veterans Affairs
Joe San Nicolas, Dededo Veterans Organization
Bill Cundiff, Chairman, Guam Veterans Commission

The public hearing was Called-to-Order at 5:30 PM.

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

Opens the agenda on Bill 135-32 (COR), "An Act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a One-Stop Veterans Services Center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and reenactment §67107, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated."

Bill Cundiff, Chairman Guam Veterans Commission

Introduces himself and reads testimony verbatim. (See attached)



**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

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Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

Thanks Mr. Cundiff for his testimony.

Joe San Nicolas, Dededo Veterans Organization

States on behalf of the Dededo on Veterans Organization that they do support the bill.

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

Thanks Mr. San Nicolas for his comments.

John Unpingco, Administrator Veterans Affairs

Introduces himself and testimony from public hearing on June 13, 2013 is resubmitted.

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

Thanks the panel for their testimonies and invites the Senators for comment. Concludes testimonies for Bill 135-32 and proceeds on with the agenda accordingly.

The public hearing was adjourned at 7:19 PM.

III. Written Testimonies

The following individuals submitted written testimonies to the Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary on 31 July 2013 at 5:30 PM:

1. John S. Unpingco, Administrator, Guam Office of Veterans Affairs(revised testimony of June 13, 2013 PH)
2. Bill Cundiff, Chairman, Guam Veterans Commission(Written Testimony dated June 21, 2013)
3. Anisia B. Terlaje, Veteran Advocate, Resident of Guam(Written Testimony emailed on June 27, 2013)

IV. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary hereby submits these findings and reports out Bill No. 135-32 (COR) by the Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veteran's Affairs and Judiciary, with a recommendation TO PASS.

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2013 (First) Regular Session

Bill No. 135-32 (COR)

Introduced by:

FRANK B. AGUON, JR.



AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, TO INITIATE EFFORTS TOWARD THE EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE “SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN - GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE”, WHICH SHALL SERVE AS A ONE-STOP VETERANS SERVICES CENTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; THROUGH THE REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT §67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.

2013 JUN -4 PM 12:38


BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. §§67107 of Chapter 67 of Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, relative to the Guam Veterans Commission is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

“§67107. Guam Veterans Commission.

A.) Commission Membership.

There is hereby established a Guam Veterans Commission which shall, at a minimum, be composed of a total of nine (9) members to include the following representation:

(1) Four members, each of whom shall be representative of a veterans or retirees association for each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces to consist of,

- a. U.S. Army Retirees (or Veterans) Association,
- b. U.S. Air Force Retirees (or Veterans) Association,
- c. U.S. Navy Retirees (or Veterans) Association,

1 d. U.S. Marine Corps Retirees (or Veterans) Associations;
2 (2) Two (2) members from the officially chartered Guam chapters of
3 multi-service Veteran Service Organizations.

4 Organizations to be represented on the Guam Veterans Commission,
5 pertaining to subsection 1 and 2 above, are required to be duly registered as a non-
6 profit organization with the Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation in
7 accordance with Title 18 of Guam Code Annotated and *shall* furnish the Guam
8 Veterans Affairs Office with a copy of an official documentation reflecting such
9 requirement.

10 (3) A maximum of three (3) members, whom each shall be a veteran,
11 may be appointed from other veteran organizations on Guam, to include the Coast
12 Guard. Should a Veteran Service Organization have *more than* one (1) Chapter,
13 each Chapter may recommend a representative to serve as a member of the
14 Commission, of which said appointment may be authorized to serve as provided
15 herein.

16 (4) Ex-Officio Members. With the recommendation of the Guam
17 Veterans Commission, I Maga'lahaen Guahan may appoint as an ex-officio, non-
18 voting member a veteran of a foreign country who has fought alongside U. S.
19 armed forces members as allies in combat, who is representative of an established
20 veterans organization on Guam, and who has resided on Guam for a minimum of
21 three years immediately preceding the appointment. Said veteran shall serve for a
22 term of three (3) years, from date of appointment.

23 **B.) Commission Membership Terms and Conduct of Business.**

24 1.) Veteran Organization Appointments.

25 The Commander *or* designee of Veteran Service Organizations

1 shall present in writing to the Chairman of the Commission the name of the
2 individual who shall represent their organization to serve on the Commission,
3 which shall be subject to the aforementioned provisions above.

4 2.) Terms of Commission Members.

5 Every member of the Commission *shall* serve for a term of
6 three (3) years, to commence on the date of appointment. Should the
7 representative terminate his/her term prior to the conclusion of the three (3) years,
8 the Veteran Service Organization *shall* appoint a successor to serve for a new three
9 (3) year term, which shall commence upon the date of appointment. Said
10 appointment shall be in writing and presented to the Chairman of the Guam
11 Veterans Commission, with a copy to be furnished to the Veterans Affairs Officer
12 of the Office of Veterans Affairs.

13 3.) Quorum Requirements.

14 For purposes of a quorum and for the official conduct of
15 business, a minimum of five (5) voting members on the Commission *shall*
16 constitute a quorum. For the official conduct of business, a majority of the
17 members present, following the constituting of a quorum, shall be required to
18 conduct official business.

19 4.) Scheduled Meetings.

20 The Commission *shall* meet monthly and *shall* advise the
21 Veterans Affairs Officer regarding matters affecting veterans and related issues.
22 Said meeting times, place and dates shall be decided to allow the greatest level of
23 participation and attendance by Commission members.

24 5.) Veteran Community Participation.

25 The Commission *shall* provide veterans and their families with

1 the opportunity to air grievances for the purpose of effecting corrective action *or*
2 change to existing policies that affect delivery of benefits and services to the Guam
3 veteran population.

4 6.) *Sengsong Beteranun Guahån - Guam Veterans Village.*

5 The Commission shall be tasked with the planning and
6 development of the *Sengsong Beteranun Guahån-Guam Veterans Village* facility,
7 which shall be utilized as the permanent home for the Office of Veterans Affairs
8 and as a one-stop center for veterans to acquire services or information on veterans
9 benefits, programs and activities; and further serve for use by the Guam Veterans
10 Commission and veteran organizations for the conduct of their meetings and
11 activities. The Office of Veterans Affairs shall be responsible, upon its completion,
12 for the maintenance, administration and operation of the *Sengsong Beteranun*
13 *Guahån-Guam Veterans Village facility.*

14 The Commission is hereby authorized, with the support of the Office of
15 Veterans Affairs, to pursue private, federal or local funds for the purposes of
16 addressing the provision contained herein. Any and all funds generated through
17 the application of this provision and in support of the *Sengsong Beteranun*
18 *Guahån-Guam Veterans Village* shall be reported on an annual basis to I
19 Maga'lahaen Guahan and I Liheslaturan Guahan, no later than the 30th day of
20 January each year. Such pursuit of external funding sources, wherever applicable,
21 shall be conducted in accordance with established laws and regulations.

22 7.) Administrative Support.

23 The Office of Veterans Affairs, through the direction of the
24 Veterans Affairs Officer, shall provide administrative support to the Guam
25 Veterans Commission in the conduct of its meetings.

26 8.) Commission Activities.

1 Upon official written request by the Chairman of the
2 Commission for information or action by the Veterans Affairs Officer (VAO) on
3 issues affecting the Commission or Veterans, the Veterans Affairs Officer shall
4 provide a written response to the Commission within four (4) weeks from the date
5 of receipt of such communication. Should the Veterans Affairs Officer require
6 additional time to provide a sufficient response to the matter, the VAO shall
7 request in writing a time extension, not to exceed an additional four (4) weeks, and
8 further provide justification for the need for such time extension in said written
9 communication. Such request shall be granted upon receipt by the Chairman of the
10 Commission.

11 **Section 2. Effective Date.**

12 The provisions contained herein shall be effective upon enactment of
13 this Act.

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2013 (First) Regular Session

Bill No. 135-32 (COR)
as Substituted by, Committee on
Guam U.S. Military Relocation,
Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs,
and Judiciary

Introduced by: **FRANK B. AGUON, JR.**

**AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE
REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS
SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; THROUGH THE
REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT §67107 OF CHAPTER
67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.**

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

2 Section 1. §§67107 of Chapter 67 of Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, relative to
3 the Guam Veterans Commission is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as
4 follows:

5 **“§67107. Guam Veterans Commission.**

6 **A.) Commission Membership.**

7 There is hereby established a Guam Veterans Commission which *shall*, at a
8 minimum, be composed of a total of nine (9) members to include the following
9 representation:

10 (1) Four (4) members, each of whom shall be representative of a
11 veterans or retirees association for each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces to
12 consist of,

- 13 a. U.S. Army Retirees (or Veterans) Association,
- 14 b. U.S. Air Force Retirees (or Veterans) Association,
- 15 c. U.S. Navy Retirees (or Veterans) Association,

1 d. U.S. Marine Corps Retirees (or Veterans) Associations;
2 (2) Two (2) members from the officially chartered Guam chapters of
3 multi-service Veteran Service Organizations.

4 Organizations to be represented on the Guam Veterans Commission,
5 pertaining to subsection 1 and 2 above, are required to be duly registered as a non-
6 profit organization with the Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation in
7 accordance with Title 18 of Guam Code Annotated *and/or* is registered as a non-
8 profit organization within the United States and recognized as exempt under IRC
9 501(c)(19). The organizations *shall* furnish the Guam Veterans Affairs Office with
10 a copy of an official documentation reflecting such requirement.

11 (3) A maximum of three (3) members, whom each shall be a veteran,
12 may be appointed from other veteran organizations on Guam, to include the Coast
13 Guard. Should a Veteran Service Organization have *more than* one (1) Chapter,
14 each Chapter may recommend a representative to serve as a member of the
15 Commission, of which said appointment may be authorized to serve as provided
16 herein.

17 (4) Ex-Officio Members. With the recommendation of the Guam
18 Veterans Commission, I Maga'lahen Guahan may appoint as an ex-officio, non-
19 voting member a veteran of a foreign country who has fought alongside U. S.
20 armed forces members as allies in combat, who is representative of an established
21 veterans organization on Guam, and who has resided on Guam for a minimum of
22 three years immediately preceding the appointment. Said veteran shall serve for a
23 term of three (3) years, from date of appointment.

24 **B.) Commission Membership Terms and Conduct of Business.**

25 1.) Veteran Organization Appointments.

26 The Commander *or* designee of Veteran Service Organizations

1 *shall* present in writing to the Chairman of the Commission the name of the
2 individual who *shall* represent their organization to serve on the Commission,
3 which *shall* be subject to the aforementioned provisions above.

4 2.) Terms of Commission Members.

5 Every member of the Commission *shall* serve for a term of
6 three (3) years, to commence on the date of appointment. Should the
7 representative terminate his/her term prior to the conclusion of the three (3) years,
8 the Veteran Service Organization *shall* appoint a successor to serve for a new three
9 (3) year term, which *shall* commence upon the date of appointment. Said
10 appointment shall be in writing and presented to the Chairman of the Guam
11 Veterans Commission, with a copy to be furnished to the Veterans Affairs Officer
12 of the Office of Veterans Affairs.

13 3.) Quorum Requirements.

14 For purposes of a quorum and for the official conduct of
15 business, a minimum of five (5) voting members on the Commission *shall*
16 constitute a quorum. For the official conduct of business, a majority of the
17 members present, following the constituting of a quorum, *shall* be required to
18 conduct official business.

19 4.) Scheduled Meetings.

20 The Commission *shall* meet monthly and *shall* advise the
21 Veterans Affairs Officer regarding matters affecting veterans and related issues.
22 Said meeting times, place and dates shall be decided to allow the greatest level of
23 participation and attendance by Commission members.

24 5.) Veteran Community Participation.

25 The Commission *shall* provide veterans and their families with

1 the opportunity to air grievances for the purpose of effecting corrective action *or*
2 change to existing policies that affect delivery of benefits and services to the Guam
3 veteran population.

4 6.) Mandated Financial Reporting

5 The Guam Veterans Commission is responsible for the
6 expenditures of the Office of Veterans Affairs (VAO) Non-Appropriated Funds
7 (NAF): the Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund, per Title 10 G.C.A. § 67105.1 and the
8 Veterans Affairs Fund, per Title 10 G.C.A. § 67109.

9 The Commission and the Veterans Affairs Officer (VAO Administrator)
10 *shall* establish policies and procedures for the handling, accounting, and reporting
11 of financial data, including but not limited to:

- 12 a. Utilization of an electronic spreadsheet or accounting
13 software program to prepare monthly financial reports,
14 including an electronic database for burial claims.
- 15 b. Utilize pre-numbered receipts to record all cash and checks
16 received.
- 17 c. Conduct monthly bank reconciliations and prepare monthly
18 financial statements to ensure that all cash collected and
19 disbursed are accurately accounted for.
- 20 d. Daily deposit of all cash receipts into the NAF bank
21 accounts.
- 22 e. Discontinue signing blank checks and require the
23 Administrator to provided supporting documentation prior to
24 disbursement of funds.
- 25 f. Petty cash replenishments match the receipts being provided
26 as support.

1 g. Maintenance of a list and the copies of all claims submitted
2 to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA); upon
3 receipt, reimbursements should be reconciled against the claims
4 submissions and immediately contact USDVA to resolve any
5 discrepancies.

6 h. Issue Form 1099 Miscellaneous Income to individuals and/or
7 businesses that were paid more than \$600 annually and submit
8 copies to Department of Revenue and Tax (DRT).

9 The Commission, in conjunction with the VAO Administrator, *shall* submit
10 quarterly reports to I Maga'lahaen Guahan, I Liheslaturan Guahan, and the Guam
11 Public Auditor on or before the 30th day of the month following the end of the
12 quarter, and *shall* post such reports on the VAO website.

13 7.) Administrative Support.

14 The VAO, through the direction of the VAO Administrator,
15 *shall* provide administrative support to the Guam Veterans Commission in the
16 conduct of its meetings.

17 8.) Commission Activities.

18 Upon official written request by the Chairman of the
19 Commission for information or action by the VAO Administrator on issues
20 affecting the Commission or Veterans, the VAO Administrator *shall* provide a
21 written response to the Commission within four (4) weeks from the date of receipt
22 of such communication. Should the VAO Administrator require additional time to
23 provide a sufficient response to the matter, the VAO shall request in writing a time
24 extension, not to exceed an additional four (4) weeks, and further provide
25 justification for the need for such time extension in said written communication.
26 Such request shall be granted upon receipt by the Chairman of the Commission.

27 **Section 2. Effective Date.**

1 The provisions contained herein shall be effective upon enactment of
2 this Act.



COMMITTEE ON GUAM US MILITARY RELOCATION, VETERANS' AFFAIRS HOMELAND SECURITY & JUDICIARY

I Mina' Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guahan 132nd Guam Legislature

**SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR
CHAIRMAN**

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Bill No. 135-32 (COR) – An Act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward establishment of the “SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN – GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE” which shall serve as a One-Stop Veterans Services Center.

NAME (Please Print)	Agency/Organization	Contact Number	Oral Testimony	Written Testimony	In Favor	Not In Favor
CHARL GUMMARRINO	WEST CAROLINA	909.8824	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Victor Dymally	GUAM Vet Center VETERANS of GUAM	477-7161				
ALBERT PARKER	MORGAN LA GUARDIA	565-7258			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Tom Deakin	Guam Veterans Affairs	727-1495	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Tom Wilke	Veterans Administration	468-0090				
AUTHUR V. ANUSUA	WEST CAROLINA	727-5534			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	



COMMITTEE ON GUAM US MILITARY RELOCATION, VETERANS' AFFAIRS HOMELAND SECURITY & JUDICIARY

I Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guahan 132nd Guam Legislature

**SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR
CHAIRMAN**

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Bill No. 135-32 (COR) – An Act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward establishment of the “SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN – GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE” which shall serve as a One-Stop Veterans Services Center.

NAME (Please Print)	Agency/Organization	Contact Number	Oral Testimony	Written Testimony	In Favor	Not In Favor
John W. Andrews	VA		✓	✓		✓
Sarah M. Thomas-Alabady	WestCare	472-0218	-	-	-	
Clifford K. F. Nedeleg	Ref.	637-3769			-	
Carmelita Carlos	WEST CARE	488-5003			✓	
Mary Okada	Westcare, Pac. Island	777-3214	✓		✓	



COMMITTEE ON GUAM US MILITARY RELOCATION, VETERANS' AFFAIRS HOMELAND

SECURITY & JUDICIARY

I Mind Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guahan 132nd Guam Legislature

**SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR
CHAIRMAN**

Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Bill No. 135-32 (COR) – An Act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward establishment of the “SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN – GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE” which shall serve as a One-Stop Veterans Services Center.

NAME (Please Print)	Agency/Organization	Contact Number	Oral Testimony	Written Testimony	In Favor	Not In Favor
STAN Y. KO	Korean Veterans Beteran Guahan	682-1128	L		✓	
KIM, SANG T	Same	998-2617	✓		✓	
ANDY D HOON	✓	649-2797	✓		✓	
YONG BOK KIM		649-8339	✓		✓	
BRYAN HA		688-2236			✓	
RC Gillman		678-2559				



COMMITTEE ON GUAM US MILITARY RELOCATION, VETERANS' AFFAIRS HOMELAND

SECURITY & JUDICIARY

I Mina' Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guahan 132nd Guam Legislature

**SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR
CHAIRMAN**

Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Bill No. 135-32 (COR) – An Act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward establishment of the “SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN – GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE” which shall serve as a One-Stop Veterans Services Center.

NAME (Please Print)	Agency/Organization	Contact Number	Oral Testimony	Written Testimony	In Favor	Not In Favor
Bill Lindell		5654561	✓		✓	
Romy Tardios		459.9817			✓	
Joe Sundale	Adolfo Vef Org.	2982-4350	✓		✓	
PC Gallant	VETERANS OF GUAM WE	678.2559			✓	
Joe Nuon		632-6599				

JUN 12 2013

The Honorable Frank Aguon
Chair, Committee on Military Relocation,
Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs and Judiciary
32nd Guam Legislature
155 Hesler Street
Hagatna, Guam 96910

Hafa Adai Senator Aguon and members of the Committee on Military Relocation,
Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs and Judiciary:

I am Mary Okada and I am here today as the Chairperson for the Pacific Islands' representation on the WestCare Foundation Board. I am also a wife of a veteran having served 23 years of service to our country. I also have first hand experiences of the life of a military family and that of a retiree and a veteran.

Today I am here to share with you my support for Bills 134 and 135 that you have recently introduced and of which are the focus for today's public hearing. I support the intent of these bills and our organization does as well. But what we would like you to consider is how can we get to the same place but perhaps in a different and more advanced technological direction?

The focus of Bill 135 is in providing a place that is improved services for veterans and their families at a location that will be easily found, accessible and require the least amount of time, energy and fuel. Agree?

Imagine this. Getting to the same place with the least amount of energy and frustration at a fraction of the costs.

The direction we propose is twofold.

Let's develop a virtual village rather than a concrete structure. A structure that can be accessed by anyone, anywhere, 24 hours a day at their homes, offices, at a relative's place or an office. Creating a computerized system that will allow veterans and their families to "walk through" the steps and at each point, getting information and submitting applications and moving towards the next service entry. They do not have to get up and down and all around to find these hot spots where they can get and submit important information. Imagine the savings of fuel, time and the reduction of frustration. With the growing numbers of veterans and the aging of our veteran populations we are seeing persons with disabilities who may be more successful in connecting to services than ever before.

An intense and comprehensive outreach effort by a non-profit organization that can build in-roads to veteran groups and subgroups forming or which will form in the coming years. Connecting with these groups, teaching them how to maneuver the virtual village and to help them engage in inter-generational programs where vets help other vets and family members collaborate to support veterans. Non-profit community based organizations are a true model for accessing and motivating our citizenry to action for themselves, their families and their communities.

As a finance person, I am always interested in the financial savings and benefits. I am familiar and have been quite successful in the leveraging of financial and human resources. So, what would this model look like? How can we best forge the partnership and co-location of the local and federal veterans affairs offices and operations that we currently have? What mechanisms do we need to employ to assist in this effort? What's the ROI, the return on our investment? If the Legislature allocates \$300,000 a year for the development and maintenance of a comprehensive outreach effort that includes information and referral and the development of a virtual village where would be the benefits and savings? Mental health services for a projected 5,000 veterans and their families a year x a conservative \$500 day for 10 days for hospitalization and in patient care for untreated and delay intervention for just 5% of this population or 250 is already \$1,250,000. Homelessness, substance abuse and domestic violence costs taxpayers millions each year in government-sponsored programs and in loss of wages to families and companies.

That's just an example of the savings. The benefits are the gainful employment of veterans who may not have sought or kept a job or completed college/career and technical training due to poor adjustment as a result of traumatic experiences in the war they fought in. Marriages and families that are kept intact despite challenges of returning soldiers who come back with "different" experiences that forever change them. Our human capital is protected as a valuable resource for today and for future generations to ensure true community sustainability.

In summary Mr. Chair and members of the Committee, Bills 134 and 135 have incredible potential and should be passed with amendments that will ultimately result in getting more done with less. I say, yes, let's have a central registry established at the Guam Office of Veterans Affairs. They need the resources to do this and the possibilities include having a non-profit organization on the ground and in the community that will help meet their mandated mission. Yes, we need an expanded commission that will plan and develop a veteran's village, but not a building, but a virtual village.

These ideas may sound different than what you may have expected to hear, but they are "outside of the box" as Guam is preparing to receive home over 600 soldiers from the Middle East in about 9 months. Each with an average of 3 family members adding to the thousands upon thousands of veterans and their families we already have on our small island. We need to be prepared with updated and innovative ways that will appeal to the soldier from the Korean War and Vietnam to those who recently returned from the Global

War on Terrorism and other more recent conflicts. Once again, I support the intent of Bills 134 and 135.

I am available to you should you have any questions or comments.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase,

Mary A.Y. Okada, Ed.D.



June 13, 2013

The Honorable Frank Aguon
Chair, Committee on Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs and Judiciary
32nd Guam Legislature
155 Hesler Street
Hagatna, Guam 96910

Dear Senator Aguon:

My name is Carl Gumataotao and I come to you today as a private citizen from the village of Agana Heights. I am also a volunteer board member representing the Pacific Islands for WestCare, a national non profit organization. Sir and members of the Committee, I am also a veteran and sit on WestCare's Foundation Board's Veterans' Committee. [#] *at the Nat'l Level.*

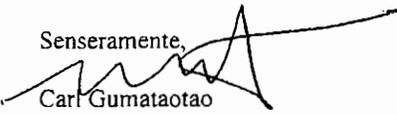
I do submit herein my testimony in support of Bills 134 establishing a Veterans Registry at the Guam Veterans Affairs Office and Bill 135 that would expand the membership of the Veterans Commission and have that entity plan for a Veterans Village, a centralized location for veterans and their families to find benefits. However, I would like to make some recommendations for your consideration.

Relative to Bill 134 Veterans Registry. The Office of Veterans Affairs is truly the best place for the collection of and safe keeping of veterans' names and their vital information. Also, that office should keep up with the count working closely with federal agencies to keep the data current. But they will need the funding to do this. Getting the veterans and his/her family to that office and to services is another area which I believe falls nicely with non profits to do outreach and information and referral. Developing and implementing veterans helping veterans program and initiatives to bring private businesses and other non profits together can best be done by another non profit. This will take money from government coffers but I believe a great investment in reaching out to the thousands of veterans we know are out there.

Relative to Bill 135 Expanding Commission Membership and Planning a Veterans Village. Getting more members that represent the growing and diverse veteran population is a good thing to ensure adequate representation on this Commission. We just need to make sure that the member organizations that are identified are still in existence and that the law provides for flexibility in getting the right persons from the appropriate groups on this Commission that is appointed by the Governor. Although a building may be something to look forward to in the future, what is most important is that veterans and their families have a virtual village where they can go to seek information and submit applications. Developing, maintaining, and promoting this concept also fits well with a non profit so that the government dollar can be multiplied and added on to as a benefit for our tax payers' money and most importantly to the veterans from Guam who need to have access. This will be an extraordinary help to our fellow Micronesians who do not have their own services in their respective islands and have to either do without or travel to Guam, Hawaii or the mainland to obtain information on much needed services.

As a veteran and an advocate for veterans services, I ask that you stand with us in developing these ideas that will be real and practical solutions to the current challenges our veterans and their families now face.

Thank you Senator Aguon and members of the Committee. I am available if you have any questions for me.

Senseramente,

Carl Gumataotao



June 13, 2013

The Honorable Frank Aguon
Chair
Committee on Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs & Judiciary
32nd Guam Legislature
155 Hesler Street
Hagatna, Guam 96910

Dear Committee Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am Sarah Thomas-Nededog, a resident from Dededo, and a private citizen. I am also currently the Vice President of WestCare Pacific Islands. We are a locally incorporated non profit with ties to a national foundation of non profits based in Nevada with projects and offices in 15 states, the Virgin Islands and here on Guam. I am also the wife of a veteran who is a retiree of over 23 years of U.S. military service. I am a daughter of a deceased veteran and the mother of a son who is currently in active duty in the U.S. Navy having returned recently from the Middle East. My testimony is relative to ***Bills 134 and 135 of which we support with recommendations for amendments.***

WestCare is an organization that is committed to uplifting the human spirit. In the nation, we have hundreds of programs serving hundreds of thousands of people all over the country in substance abuse treatment, shelters, emergency mental health facilities, prisons and in rural and urban centers. On Guam, we have programs that work with persons with mental illness, with the homeless, with girls in the schools and in the villages and in the prevention of HIV, STDs and other communicable diseases. On Guam and in the nation, we work with veterans – reaching out to them and to their families through our national AmeriCorps programs and direct services to ensure that they have access to services that they need so they can be happy, productive, and contributing family members and employees. Just last month, WestCare sponsored a national conference in conjunction with the University of Nevada at Las Vegas (UNLV) focusing on combat trauma, addiction, suicide prevention, reintegration and resiliency. Our CEO Richard Steinberg, who has been to Guam many times, is himself a veteran and wrote to me regarding this public hearing. “Sarah, as you know, veterans issues...and the unfortunate lack of appropriate services for veterans is a near and dear topic to me and many of our WestCare family” and he continues to remind me that the Foundation is available to provide support to us here on Guam. Steinberg is a Vietnam veteran who came to WestCare nearly 4 decades ago building it from a small non profit to a national

entity with hundreds of programs, thousands of employees and millions of federal, state, county and private dollars to bring quality care to the most vulnerable in our communities.

Bill 134 proposes to add an additional subsection to the existing mandate of the Office of Veterans Affairs giving that office the responsibilities of a central veterans registry. Guam definitely needs this registry so that the numbers that we have can be more reflective of the numbers we believe we have.

This is what we know. We know that we are patriotic and that we have an over presentation of persons joining the military and going to combat. This is verified by PBS in New York contacting us recently because they had information that Guam had the highest number of soldiers joining and the highest number per capita of theatre fatalities.

- *The U.S. Veterans Administration Statistics note that there are over 22 million veterans around the world from all of the different branches of military service. Of that number, it is estimated that about 8 million are participating in services and benefits that are offered. The United States population is about 313 million, therefore 22 million veterans represents about 7% of the US population.*
- *We have a local population of 160,000-170,000 and 7% would equal to about 12,000 veterans. This is a higher number than the 8,000 in the US census of 2010. Given our high levels of US military service entry, we could very easily see that the numbers are much higher. If we do have about 12,000 veterans and following national trends, have only 1/3 receiving services, then that would be equivalent to about 4,000 veterans receiving services now and about 8,000 who have not yet accessed any service or benefits entitled to them. This is a pretty close number to the 5,000 veterans that the Guam Vet Center tells us they have served since 1996 in their offices for readjustment counseling. We are not sure what the numbers are that the federal and local governments actually have of veterans served in benefits and services from Guam as the home of record.*

Although we support Bills 134 and 135, we want to encourage our good legislators to consider other ways in which we can get to 8,000 veterans in the coming years to make sure they are connected with services they are eligible for and services that will provide them the support they need to do well at home, on the job, in school, and in the community.

We therefore suggest the **virtual village** which would be a computer based structure that veterans and their families can access anywhere, anytime to learn of benefits and services and to submit applications for such. Secondly, we recommend a **comprehensive outreach and information and referral system** that is community-based to reach and connect veterans and their families.

We offer that a **partnership with a non profit is a viable and efficient way** to go about locating and connecting these veterans with each other, with their families and other families who have common issues, and with service providers who are non profits and governmental entities.

- *Non Profits create value because it can increase revenues, eliminate costs or both while improving social benefits to a community (Rothchild, 2012). Non profits can leverage \$115 to \$1 of grant money according to the National Communities for Responsive Philanthropy who conducted 7 studies of 110 non profits in 13 states over 3 years. Although comparable studies have not been done on Guam, one can speculate that minimally, local non profits at least triple the dollar of government funding through contracts and grants and from private donations.*

Other specific recommendations we would like to make include:

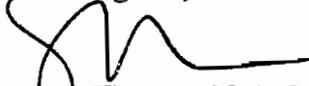
Bill 134-32: Provide for the Office of Veterans Affairs to enter into agreements with various local and federal agencies and non profits that can assist in acquiring information and necessary services such as health care and other vital services and benefits for veterans and their families.

Bill 135.32: We ask that you consider adding the Guam Women's Veterans organizations to the list of members of the Commission and that widows, widowers, orphans and surviving adults family members of a fallen hero or deceased veteran be considered for membership on the Commission.

An appropriations measure must naturally accompany these bills should they become law to give the OVA the resources it needs to have a suitable and appropriate data base set up to collect, maintain and keep "clean" its data in a Veterans Registry, to store information such as DD214s and to secure staff to ensure that these activities are carried out. These additional staff can also assist the Commission in its endeavors to facilitate a venue for veterans, their families and supportive services so they can voice their opinions and to contribute to policy updates and improvements. Funds for outsourcing outreach and to maintain a comprehensive outreach and information and referral service system is vital to the success of this endeavor as well.

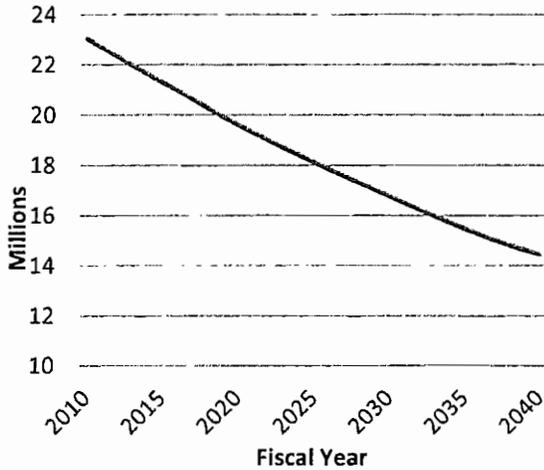
Thank you for listening and we look forward to further discussion and consideration of our recommendations.

With best regards,

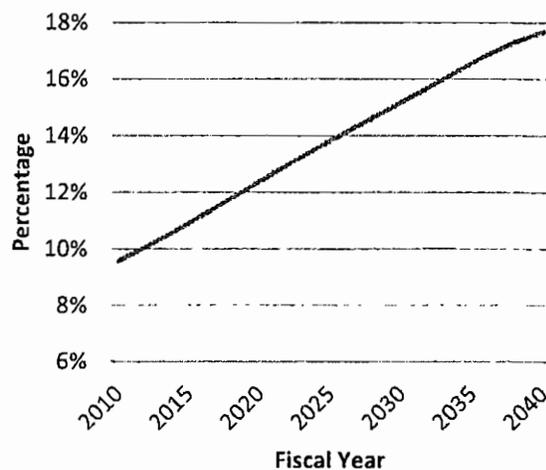

Sarah M. Thomas-Nededog
Vice President

Veteran Population Projections: FY2010 to FY2040

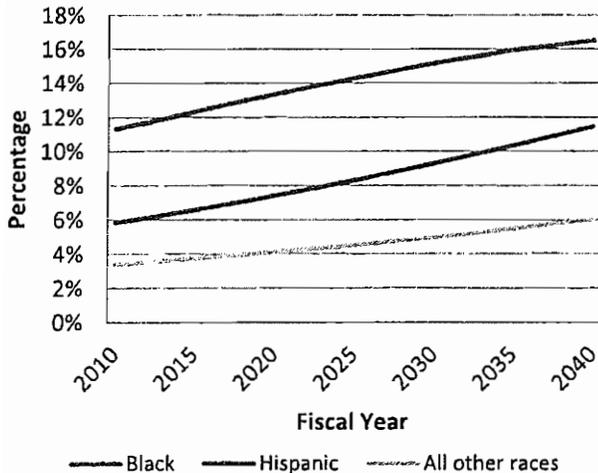
**Projected Total Veteran Population
2010 to 2040**



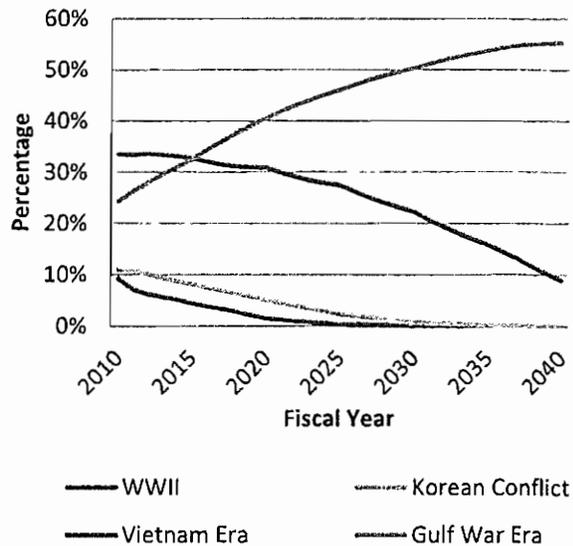
**Projected % of Female Veteran Population
2010 to 2040**



**Projected % of Minority Veteran Population
2010 to 2040**



**Projected % of Total Veteran Population by
Period of Service, 2010-2040**



Note: Categories are mutually exclusive.
'All other races' includes American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Pacific Islander, and Other.

Source: Office of the Actuary, Veteran Population Projections Model (VetPop2011) tables 1L, 3L and 2L.



PUBLIC TESTIMONY:
To: 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE
FROM: STAN Y. KO



My name is Stan Y. Ko, president of the Korean Vietnam war Veterans Association of Guam. I am here today to represent a group of those Korean-American veterans who fought side by side with the American soldiers during the Vietnam war. This legislative public hearing is an opportunity for us to be heard why we asked veteran benefits should also be extended to us.

As I have mentioned the first public hearing two years ago there is more story and evidence and so I will just come to the main essential points. Korean Government sent it troops to South Vietnam request by U.S. Government, from July 18, 1964 through March 23, 1973 9 years total of troops 325,000 soldiers, Army, Marine, Air force, and Navy. Kill in action: 5099. Wound and injury in action: 10,962.

- **Korean soldiers were sent to Vietnam War to support American soldiers at the request of the United States and served in Vietnam.**
- **These Korean Vietnam war veterans U.S. Citizens.**
- **We were receiving our salary directly from U.S. Government**
- **We were receiving all the necessity munitions supplies from U.S. Government**

Korean troops with which we was a part were deployed not only as allied, we are coalition forces with the U.S. troops in Vietnam. And some said that we are in Vietnam war fight to enemy under Korean flag, but all in Korean Company headquarters there is three is flag pole one is American one is Korea, one Vietnam. That mean to say we are fight under American flag.

The Koran Vietnam War Veterans on Island of Guam was 20 member but couple of years ago one died three were went back Korea, and some not interesting what I doing, actually now about 10 on my list, if we get veteran benefit the name of Korean Veterans on Guam it is not for long it maintain on Gaum, because we are all old age we have one person age 84yrs, as myself 76yrs and others are over 60yrs the number of our group get it shorter and short.

I, came here Guam 1975 fate of God, others similar background, we start our new life on Island live here on Guam neared 40 years I am Guamanian. We pay our taxes, we vote for people who rule the Island, we bury our love one here and also we bury ourself when we die. We ask that on Guam voting member of the Guam veterans commission. On Guam Korean-American on Island about 7000 and eligible for voting approximately 4000.

Sincerely: Stan Y. Ko President of Korean Vietnam War Veterans of Guam.



대한인회
Korean Association of Guam
P. O. Box 8958 Tamuning, Guam 96931

Letter of Support

To: 32nd Guam Legislature

Re: Korean Vietnam War Veteran Association Testimony

To all Senators:

My name is Richard Chi and I am the President of the Korean Association of Guam. As the representative organization for Koreans on Guam, we on the behalf of the Korean community would like to extend our support for the Korean Vietnam War Veterans Association of Guam.

As stated in the Public Testimony of Stan Y. Ko, the president of the Korean Vietnam War Veterans Association, total of 325,000 Korean soldiers were sent to Vietnam to support the U.S. troops during the Vietnam War. After the war, number of soldiers settled on Guam and became U.S. citizens and currently there are about 10 veterans living here on Guam.

The Korean Association of Guam is requesting the support of the committee on Veterans Affairs and all the Senators of the 32nd Guam legislature to allow a U.S. combat ally veteran to become a voting member of the Guam Veterans Commission.

We appeal to all Senators to consider the contributions of U.S. combat allies in enhancing the war fighting capabilities of the U.S. and the continual quest to secure peace around the world.

Sincerely,



Richard Chi

President of Korean Association of Guam

TESTIMONY ON
BILL 135-32
by
JOHN S. UNPINGCO

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO TESTIFY ON BILL 135-32

BILL 135-32 INCREASES THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION FROM SIX (6) TO NINE (9) MEMBERS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT RETIREES ARE WELL REPRESENTED ON THE COMMISSION BUT THERE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE REPRESENTATION OF ACTIVE DUTY, RESERVE OR GUARD COMPONENTS ON THE VETERANS COMMISSION. THERE IS EVEN REPRESENTATION FOR NOW DEFUNCT RETIREE ORGANIZATIONS ON THE COMMISSION (E.G. U.S. ARMY AND U.S. MARINE CORPS). A BALANCED COMMISSION WOULD CONSIST OF RETIREE OR ACTIVE DUTY, RESERVE AND GUARD REPRESENTATIVE ON SUCH A COMMISSION.

FIRST, INSTEAD OF A COPY OF THE NON-PROFIT CERTIFICATE FROM DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION THE PROPOSED STATUTE USES THE WORDS "OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION REFLECTING SUCH REQUIREMENT." JUST WHAT EXACTLY IS "OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION OF SUCH REQUIREMENT?" IS IT THE FORMS EVIDENCING THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS APPLIED FOR THE STATUS OR IS IT A SWORN STATEMENT FROM A REVENUE AND TAXATION OFFICIAL THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS APPLIED? THE APPLICATION CAN BE PENDING FOR YEARS YET APPROVAL IS NOT FORTHCOMING. NOTHING BEATS THE OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN GRANTED OFFICIAL TAX EXEMPT STATUS. IT IS OFFICIAL AND FIRST HAND PROOF OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENT. SECOND, THE THREE (3) YEAR TERM OF OFFICE IS CHANGED FROM THE TWO (2) YEAR TERM OF OFFICE. THIS

CAN BE A DETERRENT TO BRINGING IN NEW BLOOD TO THE ORGANIZATION AS THE TWO (2) YEAR TERM NOW IS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS OF THE VETERANS COMMISSION.

IN SECTION 67107(B) (2) IF A REPRESENTATIVE OF A VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATION TERMINATE HIS MEMBERSHIP BEFORE HIS THREE (3) YEAR TERM OF OFFICE ENDS, THE VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION APPOINTS A SUCCESSOR TO SERVE NOT JUST THE REMAINING TERM OF THE REPRESENTATIVE BUT A WHOLE NEW THREE (3) YEAR TERM FROM THE DATE OF THE APPOINTMENT. IN NO OTHER ORGANIZATION IS THIS EVER ALLOWED (E.G. IN CONGRESS, WHERE THE CONGRESSMAN DIES PRIOR TO THIS TERM ENDING, THE GOVERNOR USUALLY APPOINTS A NEW SENATOR TO SERVE THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF THE DEAD CONGRESSMAN). WHY MUST THIS BE DIFFERENT?

SECTION 67107 (B) (6) TASKS THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WITH THE ADMINISTRATION, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE. FIRST OF ALL, HOW IS THE VETERANS VILLAGE TO BE BUILT? USING WHAT FUNDS? SECOND, IF IT IS TO BE BUILT IN THE FUTURE, WHAT DO WE DO NOW? THIRD, THE CONCEPT OF A VETERANS VILLAGE HAS BEEN DEALT WITH BEFORE. THE VETERANS WERE GIVEN A SUGGESTION, THE LATTE OF FREEDOM, TO BE USED FOR THEIR MEETINGS, ETC. AFTER A WHILE, THE VETERANS WERE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN THIS IDEA AND THEY JUST WALKED AWAY FROM IT. FOURTH, IF THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IS TO MAINTAIN, ADMINISTER AND OPERATE THE VILLAGE, WHAT RESOURCES ARE BEING GIVEN TO IT TO RUN THE VETERANS VILLAGE? IF THIS VILLAGE IS BUT A NICE TO HAVE CONCEPT AND IT REMAINS TO BE BUILT IN THE FUTURE, WHY LEGISLATE IT NOW? WHY NOT IN THE FUTURE WHEN ITS TIME COMES? RUNNING A PLACE REQUIRES RESOURCES AND WE SHOULD KNOW AS WE SPEND A LOT OF MONEY MAINTAINING THE CEMETERY.

NEXT, THERE IS THE UNSETTLED ISSUE OF WHO REPORTS THE PROGRESS OF THE VILLAGE TO THE LEGISLATURE. ON THE 30TH DAY OF JANUARY, THERE IS A LEGISLATIVE REPORT DUE. WHO REPORTS?

SECTION 67107 (B) (7) - TASKS THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WITH PROVIDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION. MY QUESTION AGAIN, IS WHERE ARE THE RESOURCES FOR OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS?

I LEAVE YOU WITH ONE LAST THOUGHT. YOU ARE ASKING FOR DEDICATED PEOPLE TO RUN THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WITH ALL THESE REQUESTS. YOU ARE MULTI-TASKING WITH NO EVIDENCE OF SUPPORT FORTHCOMING. BE FOREWARNED, IF YOU TASK TOO MUCH TO THE STAFF OF THE VA, SOMETHING WILL HAVE TO GIVE EITHER THE DIRECT SERVICES GIVEN TO VETERANS WHO COME DOWN TO OUR OFFICE OR THE TASKING OF THE STATUTE OR THE LOSS OF DEDICATED PEOPLE. BILL 135 NEEDS A LOT OF RETHINKING.

RESPECTFULLY,
JOHN S. UNPINGCO

REVISED

TESTIMONY ON
BILL 135-32
by
JOHN S. UNPINGCO

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO TESTIFY ON BILL 135-32

BILL 135-32 INCREASES THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION FROM SIX (6) TO NINE (9) MEMBERS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT RETIREES ARE WELL REPRESENTED ON THE COMMISSION BUT THERE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE REPRESENTATION OF ACTIVE DUTY, RESERVE OR GUARD COMPONENTS ON THE VETERANS COMMISSION. THERE IS EVEN REPRESENTATION FOR NOW DEFUNCT RETIREE ORGANIZATIONS ON THE COMMISSION (E.G. U.S. ARMY AND U.S. MARINE CORPS). A BALANCED COMMISSION WOULD CONSIST OF RETIREE OR ACTIVE DUTY, RESERVE AND GUARD REPRESENTATIVE ON SUCH A COMMISSION.

NOW LOOKING AT SOME SPECIFIC MANDATES OF THE BILL.

FIRST, INSTEAD OF A COPY OF THE NON-PROFIT CERTIFICATE FROM DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION THE PROPOSED STATUTE USES THE WORDS "OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION REFLECTING SUCH REQUIREMENT." JUST WHAT EXACTLY IS "OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION OF SUCH REQUIREMENT?" IS IT THE FORMS EVIDENCING THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS APPLIED FOR THE STATUS OR IS IT A SWORN STATEMENT FROM A REVENUE AND TAXATION OFFICIAL THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS APPLIED? THE APPLICATION CAN BE PENDING FOR YEARS YET APPROVAL IS NOT FORTHCOMING. NOTHING BEATS THE OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN GRANTED OFFICIAL TAX EXEMPT

STATUS. IT IS OFFICIAL AND FIRST HAND PROOF OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENT. SECOND, ANOTHER THING, THE THREE (3) YEAR TERM OF OFFICE IS CHANGED FROM THE TWO (2) YEAR TERM OF OFFICE. THIS CAN BE A DETERRENT TO BRINGING IN NEW BLOOD TO THE ORGANIZATION AS THE TWO (2) YEAR TERM NOW IS IN THE CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS OF THE VETERANS COMMISSION.

IN SECTION 67107(B) (2) IF A REPRESENTATIVE OF A VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATION TERMINATE HIS MEMBERSHIP BEFORE HIS THREE (3) YEAR TERM OF OFFICE ENDS, THE VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION APPOINTS A SUCCESSOR TO SERVE NOT JUST THE REMAINING TERM OF THE REPRESENTATIVE BUT A WHOLE NEW THREE (3) YEAR TERM FROM THE DATE OF THE APPOINTMENT. IN NO OTHER ORGANIZATION IS THIS EVER ALLOWED (E.G. IN CONGRESS, WHERE THE CONGRESSMAN DIES PRIOR TO THIS TERM ENDING, THE GOVERNOR USUALLY APPOINTS A NEW SENATOR TO SERVE THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF THE DEAD CONGRESSMAN). WHY MUST THIS BE DIFFERENT? IS THIS NOT TAKING SOME POWER AWAY FROM THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY OF THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION AND HENCE SUCH LEGISLATION RUNS THE VERY REAL RISK OF BEING DECLARED INORGANIC?

SECTION 67107 (B) (6) TASKS THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WITH THE ADMINISTRATION, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE. FIRST OF ALL, HOW IS THE VETERANS VILLAGE TO BE BUILT? USING WHAT FUNDS? WHAT LAND? HOW ABOUT EXTENDING THE PRESENT OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUILDING FOR A LARGER CONFERENCE ROOM? THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION UNDER MR. CHARLES ERWIN HAD THIS IDEA. BUT IT WAS FORGOTTEN BECAUSE OF MR. ERWIN'S WIFE'S DEATH. BUT, NOTHING CAME OF IT, WHY NOT RESUSCITATE IT NOW? WE'RE ONLY PAYING ONE DOLLAR (\$1) PER YEAR RENT FOR THE ENTIRE BUILDING. GETTING FEDERAL FUNDING TO BUILD A VETERANS VILLAGE IS AN IDEA, BUT, THE PROCUREMENT LAWS ON BUILDING A NEW BUILDING ARE VERY RIGID. HAS ANYONE EVER DEALT WITH GETTING A NEW

BUILDING BUILT? NEED AN ARCHITECT TO DO DRAWING. THAT IS A SEPARATE CONTRACT. HAVE TO GET ARCHITECT PAID. THERE ARE BUREAUCRATIC ROADBLOCKS TO THIS. THEN YOU HAVE TO GET A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT. WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS! NEED TO GET DELEGATION LETTER FROM THEM IF YOU WANT TO PROCURE IT, OTHERWISE THEY NEED THIRTY (30) DAYS TO GET YOUR SOLICITATION READY. THEN IT GOES TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. YOU HAVE TO DO A LETTER REQUESTING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ASSIGN AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL TO THE CASE. THEN YOU WOULD HAVE TO EXPLAIN YOUR PROJECT TO THE ASSISTANT GENERAL. WHEN THE ASSISTANT GENERAL GIVES THE LEGAL REVIEW (OFTEN IN THIRTY (30) DAYS IF YOU'RE LUCKY), THEN YOU CAN ADVERTISE IN THE NEWSPAPER. BUT, BE CAREFUL, THE ADVERTISEMENT HAS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORK'S ADVERTISEMENT FORMAT. THEN YOU HAVE TO MAKE A BIDDER'S LIST BASED ON HOW THEY BID. THEN YOU HAVE TO MAKE A RESPONSIVE DETERMINATION AND A RESPONSIBILITY DETERMINATION. THEN YOU HAVE A GET A LEGAL REVIEW FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. THEN YOU HAVE TO GET SIGNATURES ON THE CONTRACT. THEN YOU AWARD. THEN YOU MAY HAVE A PROTEST. IF THERE IS NO PROTEST, HAVE TO DEAL WITH CONTRACTOR PRESENTED PROBLEMS. THIS IS WHAT I'M GOING THROUGH NOW. IF YOU THINK I AM LYING FEEL FREE TO INVESTIGATE. GETTING THE MONEY IS THE EASY PART. THE TRUE TEST IS BUILDING THE BUILDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT OF GUAM PROCEDURES.

SECOND, IF IT IS TO BE BUILT IN THE FUTURE, WHAT DO WE DO NOW? THIRD, THE CONCEPT OF A VETERANS VILLAGE HAS BEEN DEALT WITH BEFORE. THE VETERANS WERE GIVEN A SUGGESTION, THAT THE LATTE OF FREEDOM, TO BE USED FOR THEIR MEETINGS, ETC. AFTER A WHILE, THE VETERANS WERE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN THIS IDEA AND THEY JUST WALKED AWAY FROM IT. FOURTH, IF THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IS TO MAINTAIN, ADMINISTER AND OPERATE THE VILLAGE, WHAT RESOURCES ARE BEING GIVEN TO IT TO RUN THE VETERANS VILLAGE? IF THIS

VILLAGE IS BUT A NICE TO HAVE CONCEPT AND IT REMAINS TO BE BUILT IN THE FUTURE, WHY LEGISLATE IT NOW? WHY NOT IN THE FUTURE WHEN ITS TIME COMES? RUNNING A PLACE REQUIRES RESOURCES AND WE SHOULD KNOW AS WE SPEND A LOT OF MONEY MAINTAINING THE CEMETERY. WE GET EVERYTHING FROM TOILET PAPERS TO BACKHOE DIGGING SERVICES.

NEXT, THERE IS THE UNSETTLED ISSUE OF WHO REPORTS THE PROGRESS OF THE VILLAGE TO THE LEGISLATURE. ON THE 30TH DAY OF JANUARY, THERE IS A LEGISLATIVE REPORT DUE. WHO REPORTS? IS IT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION THAT WILL GIVE THE REPORT OR IS IT GOING TO AGAIN ANOTHER TASKING LANDING ON THE ADMINISTRATOR'S LAP. LET ME TELL YOU A STORY OF A FLAGPOLE. LATEST INCIDENT, WE ARE ORDERED TO FLY A FLAG AT HALF MAST IN HONOR OF TWO AFGHANISTAN CASUALTIES. IT WAS AN HONOR WELL DESERVED AND WE ARE NOT HERE TO COMPLAIN. BUT, IT IS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW DUTIES ARE ADDED.

SECTION 67107 (B) (7) - TASKS THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WITH PROVIDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION. MY QUESTION AGAIN, IS WHERE ARE THE RESOURCES FOR OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS?

THERE ARE SILENT VETERANS OUT THERE THAT HAVE NOT SPOKEN. YOU APPEAR TO BE ACCOMMODATING JUST THE FEW WHO ARE VOCAL AND WHO ARE HERE. HOW ABOUT THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS INSTEAD THAT SHOULD BE LOOKED AT? HOW ABOUT A VETERAN GETTING DISCHARGED FROM THE ARMED FORCES AND NOT BEING ABLE TO RETIRE FROM GOVERNMENT OF GUAM WITH FULL ENTITLEMENT BECAUSE HE IS RECEIVING DISABILITY COMPENSATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS. HE DIDN'T ASK, E.G. TO GET POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD), A SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY THAT AFFECTS HIS LIFE, HIS ABILITY TO WORK AND DO HIS JOB. HOW ABOUT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF TIMES A SOLDIER CAN BE

EXCUSED FOR ONE (1) HOUR. SO THAT HE CAN GO TO A VA APPOINTMENT, E.G. HE HAS PTSD SESSIONS HE NEEDS TO ATTEND? GOVERNMENT OF GUAM ALLOWS FIVE (5) EXCUSED ABSENCES WHY NOT INCREASE IT TO FIFTEEN (15) DAYS AT ONE HOUR A PIECE? THEY ALREADY HAVE FIFTEEN (15) DAYS PER YEAR FOR ACTIVE DUTY PURPOSES. THESE TWO (2) IDEAS DON'T COST MUCH. FOR THE FIVE HUNDRED NINETY EIGHT (598) DEPLOYED TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN, THEY ARE REAL ISSUES, WHY NOT LOOK AT THEM?

I LEAVE YOU WITH ONE LAST THOUGHT. YOU ARE ASKING FOR DEDICATED PEOPLE TO RUN THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WITH ALL THESE REQUESTS. YOU ARE MULTI-TASKING WITH NO EVIDENCE OF SUPPORT FORTHCOMING. BE FOREWARNED, IF YOU TASK TOO MUCH TO THE STAFF OF THE VA, SOMETHING WILL HAVE TO GIVE EITHER THE DIRECT SERVICES GIVEN TO VETERANS WHO COME DOWN TO OUR OFFICE OR THE TASKING OF THE STATUTE OR THE LOSS OF DEDICATED PEOPLE. BILL 135 NEEDS A LOT OF RETHINKING.

RESPECTFULLY,
JOHN S. UNPINGCO

June 21, 2013

Hafa Adai Senator Aguon and members of the Committee on Veterans Affairs

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony on Bill 135.

I wholeheartedly support the intent of Bill 135. The establishment of a One-Stop Veterans Services Center will definitely improve services for our veterans and their families. It's also in-line with today's trend to create one-stop people centers.

Increasing the number of members of the Guam Veterans Commission will give the Guam Veterans Commission **strength in diversity**.

Recommend the following changes to sub-section 67107, A.)

(1):

- **Change beginning of line 10, Four to Five members.**

Add: **e. Women Veterans Organization.**

- **(4):**

1. Change line 16 Change, Ex-Officio Member to **U.S. Combat Ally Member**.

- Ex officio is a Latin term which means by virtue of a position or an office. It is often used for committee members who are long-serving and who will remain a part of the committee, even upon retirement. It is conferring membership to others such as a chairman, to serve on certain other teams or committees.

- How can a member be ex-officio member when the member has never been a member of the Guam Veterans Commission? In accordance with the current version of the Robert's Rule of Order, an **ex officio member** is a member of a body (a board, committee, council, etc.) who is part of it by virtue of holding another office.
- Even if the member is appointed an ex-officio member, a common misconception is that the participatory rights of ex officio members are limited by their status. This is incorrect, although their rights may be indeed limited by the by-laws of a particular body. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (10th ed.), clarifies that the term denotes only how one becomes a member of a group, not what one's rights are. It is a method of sitting on a committee, not a class of membership (466-67). Frequently, ex officio members will abstain from voting, but unless by-laws constrain their rights, they are afforded the same rights as other members, including debate, making formal motions, and voting (466-67; 480).

2. Change Line 16-22 to read as follows: **U.S. Combat Ally Member:** With the recommendation of the Guam Veterans Commission, the Governor of Guam may **appoint a U.S. Combat Ally Member veteran to serve as a voting member of the Guam Veterans Commission.** The member must be a representative of an established veteran's organization on Guam, and who has resided

on Guam for a minimum of three years immediately preceding the appointment. Said veteran shall serve for a term of three (3) years from date of appointment.

- Allowing U.S. combat ally as voting member of the Guam Veterans Commission is inclusion and the right thing to do. Mrs. Hillary Clinton puts things in perspective. She said, "What we have to do... is to find a way to celebrate our diversity and debate our differences without fracturing our communities." She also once said, "It's important to recognize that expanding the circle of opportunity and increasing the democratic potential of our own society, as well as those across the world, is a continuing process of inclusion."
- Further testimony on the importance of inclusion and cooperation.

SINGAPORE, June 1, 2013 - The United States is committed to a strategic rebalance to the Asia-Pacific and aims to strengthen its ties in the region, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel told an audience of Pacific leaders here today. Today, Hagel held separate meetings with Korea Minister of Defense Kim Kawn-jin and the Philippines Secretary of National Defense Voltaire Gazmin, Little said.

"Secretary Hagel and Minister Kim discussed the security situation on the Korean peninsula, the advancement of the U.S.-ROK Alliance and the importance of trilateral security cooperation with Japan," Little said.

The two discussed the North Korean threat and agreed that enhanced collaboration to deter further provocations was necessary, Little said. He added they also discussed the need to upgrade alliance capabilities in the coming years.

"The two defense leaders agreed that the U.S.-ROK Alliance is one of the most successful in modern history, and that it must be further strengthened in light of the North Korean threat and other regional and global security challenges," Little said.

- **The U.S. and South Korea forged an alliance during the Korean War and that alliance is stronger than ever today as evidenced by the meeting of the two top leaders recently in Singapore.**
- There is just no way that any community can succeed by acting in a vacuum. We need each other to make things better for all of us.
- Not allowing our fellow combat allies to be part of the Guam Veterans Commission is wrong! Diversity and inclusion is Americanism, Guamanianism, and definitely is Chamorronism.

- Allowing our combat allies full participation in the Guam Veterans Commission will only strengthened our commitment and actions for our veterans and their families ultimately improving their quality of life. Isn't this what we all want?

Guam Korean Stats:

- **Approximately 7000 residence**
- **Voting in Guam election:4000**
- **Korean Vietnam Veterans: 20 (10 recently left Guam)**

B.)

Commission Membership Terms and Conduct of Business.

8.) Commission Activities.

Line 4 Change: four weeks to **Two weeks**

- To take a maximum of 4 weeks to respond and to make it mandatory for a maximum of another 4 weeks of extension is totally unacceptable.

Line 7: After **extension, place a period (.)** Delete everything after the period (.) all the way to line 10.

A long time frame to answer correspondence from the Guam Veterans Commission can undermine veteran community opinion by creating an appearance of unresponsiveness and a sense that needs and concerns of veterans and their families are unimportant.

In today's administrative environment, it's unheard of to take a maximum of four weeks to answer correspondence and then request an extension of another four weeks and make mandatory to grant the extension.

The Guam Office of Veterans Affairs must be responsive and creative in answering correspondence from the Guam Veterans Commission.

Lack of man-power and other office issues are definitely unacceptable poor excuses.

Thank you.

Bill Cundiff
Chairman, Guam Veterans Commission



Fwd: Comments on Bill 135-32 (COR)

Frank Aguon, Jr. <aguon4guam@gmail.com>
To: Yvette Cruz <yvettelgcruz@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 27, 2013 at 8:44 AM

FYI

—— Forwarded message ——

From: "Anisia Terlaje" <anisiaterlaje@hotmail.com>
Date: Jun 27, 2013 8:21 AM
Subject: Comments on Bill 135-32 (COR)
To: "aguon4guam@gmail.com" <aguon4guam@gmail.com>

Buenas Dias and Hafa Adai Senator Aguon:

As a veteran advocate, I would like to first thank you for all your efforts in assisting our veteran community in Guam. As you are well aware, I have been involved in numerous veteran organizations and activities since returning to Guam ten and a half years ago.

Please allow me to provide some recommendations for your consideration regarding Bill 135-32 (COR) relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission. Upon reviewing the Bill, I noticed that a significant group was omitted, Korean War Veterans. I recommend that local Korean War veterans be included as a voting member of the Commission. Additionally, we should include all World War II veterans as honorary members of the Commission. My recommendation is one of inclusion for the veteran commission.

As a member of Congresswoman Bordallo's Veteran Advisory Council for over nine years, I have been active in getting every veteran I meet to stand up and be counted as a veteran living in Guam in order for Guam to obtain all the benefits our veterans deserve. With the recent deployment and "hopefully the pending military build-up", we both know that our veteran population will increase dramatically and there will be more demand for services.

Since Bill 135-32 (COR) task the Commission "to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN - GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE" which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center, I urge you to consider providing some funding towards this mission by increasing the staff at the Guam Veterans Administrators (GVA) office. The GVA office has been understaffed for many years. This problem is unfair to our veterans. I also recommend that funding be provided for the GVA office to hire a program coordinator to serve as a coordinator between the Commission and the GVA's office.

Finally, with the program coordinator in place, I recommend that any "official written request by the Chairman of the Commission for information or action by the Veterans Affairs Officer (VAO)..." shall be provided within **three (3) weeks** from the date of receipt of such communication. Should the VAO require additional time to provide a sufficient response, the VAO shall be granted reasonable time to obtain the necessary information not to exceed **three (3) weeks**.

Thank you for all you do for our veteran community and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 777-4984.

Sincerely,
Anisia B. Terlaje



COMMITTEE ON RULES

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155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com
E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator
Rory J. Respicio
CHAIRPERSON
MAJORITY LEADER

Senator
Thomas C. Ada
VICE CHAIRPERSON
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

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Senator
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Member

Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Member
MINORITY LEADER

Senator
Aline Yamashita
Member

October 16, 2013

Memorandum

To: **Rennae Meno**
Clerk of the Legislature

From: **Senator Rory J. Respicio**
Majority Leader & Rules Chair

Subject: **Fiscal Notes /Waivers**

Hafa Adai!

Attached please find the waiver for the bill numbers listed below.
Please note that the fiscal notes, or waivers, are issued on the bills as introduced.

FISCAL NOTES:

- Bill No. 135-32(COR)
- Bill No. 151-32(COR)
- Bill No. 163-32(COR)
- Bill No. 166-32(LS)
- Bill No. 168-32(LS)

WAIVERS:

- Bill No. 162-32(LS)
- Bill No. 175-32(COR)

Please forward the same to MIS for posting on our website. Please contact our office should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

2013 OCT 16 AM 11:05

**BUREAU OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT RESEARCH**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Post Office Box 2950, Hagåtña Guam 96932EDDIE BAZA CALVO
GOVERNORJOHN A. RIOS
DIRECTORRAY TENORIO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

SEP 11 2013

Senator Rory J. Respicio
Chairperson, Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Unu na Liheslaturan Guåhan
The 31st Guam Legislature
155 Hesler Place
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

Hafa Adai Senator Respicio:

Transmitted herewith is Fiscal Note on the following Bill Nos.: 135-32(COR), 151-32(COR), 166-32(LS), 168-32(LS) and Fiscal Note Waiver on the following Bill Nos.: 162-32(LS), and 175-32(COR).

If you have any question(s), please do not hesitate to call the office at 475-9412/9106.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Rios".

JOHN A. RIOS
Director

Enclosures

cc: Senator Vicente (ben) Pangelinan

**Bureau of Budget & Management Research
Fiscal Note of Bill No. 135-32**

AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, TO INITIATE EFFORTS TOWARD THE EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN- GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE" WHICH SHALL SERVE AS A ONE-STOP VETERANS SERVICES CENTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; THROUGH THE REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT §67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.

Department/Agency Appropriation Information

Dept./Agency Affected: Guam Veterans Affairs Office	Dept./Agency Head: John S. Unpingco
Department's General Fund (GF) appropriation(s) to date:	691,794
Department's Other Fund (Specify) appropriation(s) to date:	-
Total Department/Agency Appropriation(s) to date:A45	\$691,794

Fund Source Information of Proposed Appropriation

	General Fund:	(Specify Special Fund):	Total:
FY 2012 Unreserved Fund Balance			
FY 2013 Adopted Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 2013 Appro.(P.L. 31-233)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sub-total:	\$0	\$0	\$0
Less appropriation in Bill	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total:	\$0	\$0	\$0

Estimated Fiscal Impact of Bill

	One Full Fiscal Year	For Remainder of FY 2013 (if applicable)	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
(Specify Special Fund)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

- Does the bill contain "revenue generating" provisions? // Yes /x/ No
If Yes, see attachment
- Is amount appropriated adequate to fund the intent of the appropriation? /x/ N/A // Yes // No
If no, what is the additional amount required? \$ _____ /x/ N/A
- Does the Bill establish a new program/agency? // Yes /x/ No
If yes, will the program duplicate existing programs/agencies? // N/A // Yes /x/ No
Is there a federal mandate to establish the program/agency? // Yes /x/ No
- Will the enactment of this Bill require new physical facilities? // Yes /x/ No
- Was Fiscal Note coordinated with the affected dept/agency? If no, indicate reason: /x/ Yes // No
// Requested agency comments not received by due date // Other: _____

Analyst: Matt Quinata Date: SEP 11 2013 Director: John A. Rios, BBMR Director Date: SEP 11 2013

Footnotes:

The intent of this bill is to increase the number of representatives in the Guam Veteran's Commission from six (6) to nine (9). The bill also recommends for the Office of Veteran's Affairs to be responsible for providing administrative support to the Commission. Currently, §67107 specifically notes that members of the Commission are volunteers and shall not receive compensation; however, the bill eliminates this verbage and is silent on board stipends. With the additional responsibility, the Office of Veteran Affairs, in its testimony bill, share its funding concerns in reference to the Guam Veterans Village. The Office questions how the village is to be build, what funds will be used to build, administer, maintain and operate the village. Cost impact can not be determine for the village at this time as plans have not been created.



COMMITTEE ON RULES

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155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com
E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator
Rory J. Respicio
CHAIRPERSON
MAJORITY LEADER

June 11, 2013

Senator
Thomas C. Ada
VICE CHAIRPERSON
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

VIA E-MAIL
john.rios@bbmr.guam.gov

Senator
Vicente (Ben) C. Pangelinan
Member

John A. Rios
Director
Bureau of Budget & Management Research
P.O. Box 2950
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Speaker
Judith T.P. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Member

RE: Request for Fiscal Notes– Bill Nos. 131–140(COR)

Senator
Dennis C. Rodriguez, Jr.
Member

Hafa Adai Mr. Rios:

Vice-Speaker
Benjamin J.F. Cruz
Member

Transmitted herewith is a listing of *I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan's* most recently introduced bills. Pursuant to 2 GCA §9103, I respectfully request the preparation of fiscal notes for the referenced bills.

2013 JUN 11 AM 11:12
Rory

Legislative Secretary
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Member

Si Yu'os ma'åse' for your attention to this matter.

Senator
Frank Blas Aguon, Jr.
Member

Very Truly Yours,

Senator
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Member
MINORITY LEADER

Attachments (1)

Senator
Aline Yamashita
Member

Cc: Clerk of the Legislature

Bill Nos.	Sponsor	Title
131-32 (COR)	T. C. Ada	AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTION (f) AND ADD A NEW SUBSECTION (g) TO §3301 AND OF CHAPTER 3, TITLE 16 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING SPEEDLIMITS.
132-32 (COR)	Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW SECTION 11 TO PUBLIC LAW 30-200 RELATIVE TO EXPANDING THE BORROWING ABILITY OF THE GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BY INCLUDING THE AUTHORIZATION TO ALSO ENTER INTO REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS, AND DIRECT LOAN FUNDS.
133-32 (COR)	v.c. Pangelinan B.J.F. Cruz	AN ACT TO ADD SUBSECTION 6206(c) AND TO AMEND SUBSECTION 6210(a) AND TO ADD SUBSECTION 6210(c) TO TITLE 5 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED CHAPTER 6 ARTICLE 2; TO AMEND SUBSECTION 6401(b) TO TITLE 5 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 4; TO AMEND SUBSECTION 10102(d) AND SECTION 10113 TO TITLE 5 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE 1; AND TO AMEND SECTION 1820 TO TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, CHAPTER 18, ARTICLE 2 RELATIVE TO PROHIBIT THE SEALING OF SETTLEMENTS OF CLAIM AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT
134-32 (COR)	Frank B. Aguon, Jr.	AN ACT RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AS THE OFFICIAL LOCAL AGENCY FOR ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING THE "GUAM VETERANS REGISTRY" WHICH SHALL BE UTILIZED FOR ENUMERATING THE POPULATION OF VETERANS ON GUAM, AND FOR THE USE OF SUCH INFORMATION FOR INCREASING OR ACQUIRING NECESSARY HEALTHCARE AND OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES TO BENEFIT VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES; THROUGH ADDING A NEW §67110 TO CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.
135-32 (COR)	Frank B. Aguon, Jr.	AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, TO INITIATE EFFORTS TOWARD THE EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN - GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE", WHICH SHALL SERVE AS A ONE-STOP VETERANS SERVICES CENTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; THROUGH THE REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT §67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.
136-32 (COR)	T. R. Muña Barnes R.J. Respicio	AN ACT TO REZONE LOT NO. 2174, LOCATED IN TIYAN IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BARRIGADA, FROM AGRICULTURAL ZONE (A) TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ZONE (M1).
137-32 (COR)	B.J.F. Cruz	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §1115 TO CHAPTER 1 OF TITLE 12 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO PROVIDING NO COST SPACE TO THE GUAM CUSTOMS AND QUARANTINE AGENCY IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL LAW.
138-32 (COR)	Vicente (ben) C. Pangelinan	AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 1515(i)(2)(G), ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER 1, TITLE 5 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO THE REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GUAM FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVE.

139-32 (COR)	Frank B. Aguon, Jr	AN ACT RELATIVE TO REMOVING ANY REFERENCE OF SLOT MACHINES IN THE DEFINITION OF GAMING DEVICES; THROUGH DELETING SUB-ITEM "{1}" OF SUBSECTION "{N}" OF §7102, CHAPTER 7, TITLE 3 OF THE GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS
140-32 (COR)	Tommy Morrison	AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 1515(i)(2)(G), ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER 1, TITLE 5 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO THE REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GUAM FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVE.



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Senator
Frank Blas Aguon, Jr.
Member

Senator
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Member

Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Member
MINORITY LEADER

Senator
Aline Yamashita
Member

June 4, 2013

MEMORANDUM

To: **Rennae Meno**
Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Therese M. Terlaje
Legislative Legal Counsel

From: **Senator Rory J. Respicio**
Majority Leader & Rules Chair

Subject: **Referral of Bill No. 135-32(COR)**

As the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding my referral of **Bill No. 135-32(COR)**.

Please ensure that the subject bill is referred, in my name, to the respective committee, as shown on the attachment. I also request that the same be forwarded to all members of *I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 472-7679.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse!

Attachment

I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan

Bill Log Sheet

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES
135-32 (COR)	Frank B. Aguon, Jr.	AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, TO INITIATE EFFORTS TOWARD THE EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN - GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE", WHICH SHALL SERVE AS A ONE-STOP VETERANS SERVICES CENTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; THROUGH THE REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT §67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED	06/04/13 12:38 p.m.	06/04/13	Committee on the Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veteran's Affairs, and Judiciary			



Re: FIRST NOTICE: Public Hearing at 9:00AM on THURSDAY

Office of Sen. Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <committee@frankaguonjr.com>
To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Thu, Jun 6, 2013 at 1:54 PM

Please note the following correction:

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing starting at 9:00AM, ~~Wednesday~~ Thursday, June 5 13, 2013, at *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* Public Hearing Room in Hagåtña.

On Thu, Jun 6, 2013 at 11:15 AM, Office of Sen. Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <committee@frankaguonjr.com> wrote:

June 06, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators

FROM: Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary

SUBJECT: FIRST NOTICE of **Public Hearing** on Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Buenas yan Hala Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing starting at 9:00AM, Wednesday, June 5, 2013, at *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* Public Hearing Room in Hagåtña, on the following:

- **Bill No. 99-32 (LS)** - An act to amend §80.60 of Article 4, Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to clarifying minimum sentences for crimes.

- **Bill No. 107-32 (COR)** - An act to add a new Section to Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code

Annotated, relative to creating a "Two Strikes" provision for habitual offenders of serious crimes.

- **Bill No. 116-32 (COR)** - An act to amend §§ 65102 and 65103 of Chapter 65, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated and to add a new § 65103.1 to the same Chapter; relative to the establishment of operational continuity plans for each agency of the government of Guam.

- **Bill No. 134-32 (COR)** - An act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" which shall be utilized for enumerating the population of veterans on Guam, and for the use of such information for increasing or acquiring necessary healthcare and other relevant services to benefit veterans and their families; through adding a new §67110 to Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

- **Bill No. 135-32 (COR)** - An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

The Committee requests that, if written testimonies are to be presented at the hearing, copies be submitted one day prior to the public hearing date, to the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr., or via fax to 475-GUM3 (4863), or via email to aguon4guam@gmail.com. Copies of the aforementioned Bill(s) may be obtained at / *Liheslaturan Guåhan* s website at www.guamlegislature.com. Individuals requiring special accommodations or services, please contact Yvette Cruz at 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or via email to admin@frankaguonjr.com.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase!

Cc: Clerks
MIS
Sgt-at-Arms

Thanks!

Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary

Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

155 Hesler PL Suite 104, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2)

Fax: (671) GUM3 (4863)

aguon4guam@gmail.com | www.frankaguonjr.com

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GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



June 06, 2013

MEMORANDUM

Senator
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Committee Chairperson

Senator
Tina Muna-Barnes
Committee Vice Chairperson

Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Committee Member

Senator
Rory J. Respicio
Committee Member

Senator
Thomas C. Ada
Committee Member

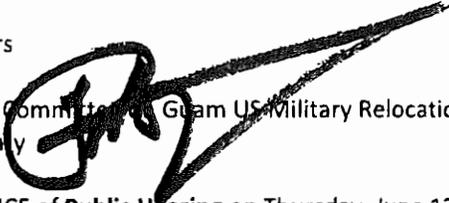
Senator
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Committee Member

Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Committee Member

Senator
Michael Lintiaco
Committee Member

Senator
Thomas Morrison
Committee Member

TO: All Senators

FROM: Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary 

SUBJECT: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing starting at 9:00AM, Wednesday, June 5, 2013, at *Liheslaturan Guåhan's* Public Hearing Room in Hagåtña, on the following:

- **Bill No. 99-32 (LS)** - An act to amend §80.60 of Article 4, Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to clarifying minimum sentences for crimes.
- **Bill No. 107-32 (COR)** - An act to add a new Section to Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to creating a "Two Strikes" provision for habitual offenders of serious crimes.
- **Bill No. 116-32 (COR)** - An act to amend §§ 65102 and 65103 of Chapter 65, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated and to add a new § 65103.1 to the same Chapter; relative to the establishment of operational continuity plans for each agency of the government of Guam.
- **Bill No. 134-32 (COR)** - An act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" which shall be utilized for enumerating the population of veterans on Guam, and for the use of such information for increasing or acquiring necessary healthcare and other relevant services to benefit veterans and their families; through adding a new §67110 to Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.
- **Bill No. 135-32 (COR)** - An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

The Committee requests that, if written testimonies are to be presented at the hearing, copies be submitted one day prior to the public hearing date, to the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr., or via fax to 475-GUM3 (4863), or via email to aguon4guam@gmail.com. Copies of the aforementioned Bill(s) may be obtained at *Liheslaturan Guåhan's* website at www.guamlegislature.com. Individuals requiring special accommodations or services, please contact Yvette Cruz at 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or via email to admin@frankaguonjr.com.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase!

Cc: Clerks | MIS | Sgt-at-Arms

- **Bill No. 135-32 (COR)** - An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

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Si Yu'os Ma'ase!

Cc: Clerks
MIS
Sgt-at-Arms

--
Thanks!

Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary

Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

155 Hesler PL Suite 104, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

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COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



June 11, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators

FROM: Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary

SUBJECT: SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing starting at 9:00AM, Thursday, June 13, 2013, at *I Liheslaturan Guahan's* Public Hearing Room in Hagåtña, on the following:

- **Bill No. 99-32 (LS)** - An act to amend §80.60 of Article 4, Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to clarifying minimum sentences for crimes.
- **Bill No. 107-32 (COR)** - An act to add a new Section to Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to creating a "Two Strikes" provision for habitual offenders of serious crimes.
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The Committee requests that, if written testimonies are to be presented at the hearing, copies be submitted one day prior to the public hearing date, to the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr., or via fax to 475-GUM3 (4863), or via email to aguon4guam@gmail.com. Copies of the aforementioned Bill(s) may be obtained at *I Liheslaturan Guahan's* website at www.guamlegislature.com. Individuals requiring special accommodations or services, please contact Yvette Cruz at 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or via email to admin@frankaguonjr.com.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase!

Cc: Clerks | MIS | Sgt-at-Arms

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155 HESLER PLACE HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 | EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM

WWW.FRANKAGUONJR.COM

**Senator
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Committee Chairperson

**Senator
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Committee Member

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2013 - MARIANAS VARIETY GUAM EDITION



OFFICE OF SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation,
Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs and Judiciary

Mina Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



PUBLIC HEARING

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 | 9:00AM

Bill No. 99-32 (LS) - An act to amend §80.60 of Article 4, Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to clarifying minimum sentences for crimes.

Bill No. 107-32 (LS) - An act to add a new section to Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to creating a "Two Strikes" provision for habitual offenders of serious crimes.

Bill No. 116-32 (COR) - An act to amend §§ 65102 and 65103 of Chapter 65, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated and to add a new § 65103.1 to the same Chapter, relative to the establishment of operational continuity plans for each agency of the government of Guam.

Bill No. 134-32 (COR) - An act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" which shall be utilized for enumerating the population of veterans on Guam, and for the use of such information for increasing or acquiring necessary healthcare and other relevant services to benefit veterans and their families; through adding a new §67110 to Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

Bill No. 135-32 (COR) - An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

The public hearing will be broadcasted on MCV Channel 13 or GUMTV Channel 21. If you require any special accommodations, please contact the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. at 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or e-mail committee@frankaguonjr.com. *This ad paid for with government funds*



COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



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**Senator
Michael Llimtiaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 06, 2013

James T. McDonald
Administrator, Office of Civil Defense
221B Chalan Palasyo
Agana Heights, Guam 96910
Sent via email to jim.mcdonald@qhs.guam.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Dear Mr. McDonald,

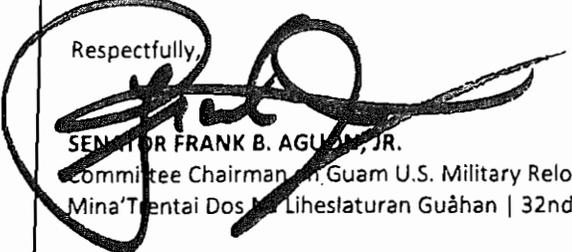
Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Judiciary has schedule a public hearing Thursday, June 13, 2013 beginning at 9:00AM. Included on the agenda are the following:

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If you feel the above mentioned items impact your agency or organization, we encourage you to participate in this upcoming Public Hearing. Also, if you have any concerns in regards to this invitation, please contact me or my office via phone 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or email to aguon4guam@gmail.com.

Respectfully,


SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

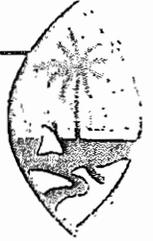
Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



June 06, 2013

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Committee Member

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Committee Member

**Senator
Michael Lintlaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

The Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo
Congresswoman of Guam | Guam Delegate
120 Father Duenas Avenue Suite 107
Hagåtña, GU 96910
Sent via email to cecilia.blas@mail.house.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Dear Congresswoman Bordallo,

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing Thursday, June 13, 2013 beginning at 9:00AM. Included on the agenda are the following:

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Respectfully

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Committee Chairman of Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
Mina Trentai Dos Na Hieslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

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**Senator
Michael Limtiaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

Mark Calvo
Special Assistant to the Governor on Military Buildup & Infrastructure
513 West Marine Corps Drive
Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex
Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Sent via email to mark.calvo@guam.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Dear Mr. Calvo,

Buenos yan Hafa Adai!

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Respectfully,

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
Mina Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE ON

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VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

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Committee Member

**Senator
Michael Limtiaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 06, 2013

The Honorable John Unpingco, Esq.
Administrator, Office of Veterans Affairs
172 S. Marine Corp Drive, Asan
P.O. Box 5178
Hagåtña, GU 96932
Sent via email to john.unpingco@qvao.guam.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Dear Judge Unpingco,

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

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Respectfully,

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
Mina'trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
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Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 06, 2013

The Honorable F. Philip Carbullido
Chief Justice, Judiciary of Guam
Suite 300, Guam Judicial Center
120 West O' Brien Drive
Hagåtña, GU 96910
Sent via email to fpcarbullido@quamsupremecourt.com

RE: **Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM**

Dear Chief Justice Carbullido,

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

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Respectfully,

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
Mina'trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature

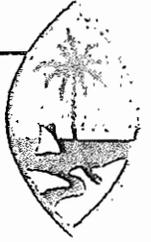
CC: Joshua Tenorio



COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



June 06, 2013

**Senator
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Committee Vice Chairperson

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**Senator
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Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

The Honorable Eddie J.B. Calvo
Governor of Guam
513 West Marine Corps Drive
Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex
Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Sent via email to governor@guam.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Dear Governor Calvo,

Buenas yon Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing Thursday, June 13, 2013 beginning at 9:00AM. Included on the agenda are the following:

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Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
I Mina'trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature

CC: Lieutenant Governor Raymond S. Tenorio
Joy Unpingco
Elaine Gogue
Rose Ramsey



COMMITTEE ON

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**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 06, 2013

**The Honorable Leonardo G. Rapadas
Attorney General of Guam**

287 W. O'Brien Drive
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Sent via email to law@quomaa.org

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Dear Attorney General Rapadas,

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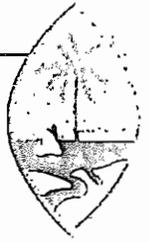
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COMMITTEE ON

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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



June 06, 2013

Eric D. Miller
Executive Director, Public Defender Service Corporation
MVP Sinajana Commercial Bldg., Unit B
779 Route 4, Sinajana, Guam 96910
Sent via email to emiller@quampdsc.net

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Dear Mr. Miller,

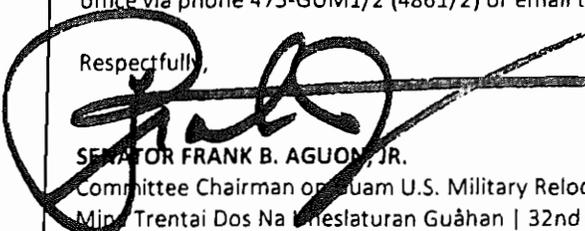
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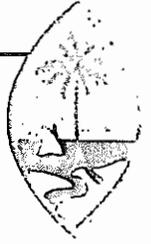
**Senator
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Committee Member



COMMITTEE ON

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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



June 06, 2013

Pedro Leon Guerrero
Director, Guam Customs & Quarantine Agency
770 East Sunset Boulevard Airport Road
AB Won Pat, Guam 96913
Sent via email to pedro.leonquerrero@cqa.guam.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Dear Mr. Leon Guerrero,

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

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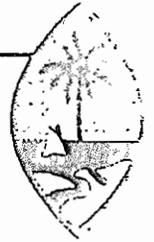
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Committee Member



COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
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June 07, 2013

Nancy Kuper
Commander for Chapter 43
Women Veterans of America
Sent via email to nancy.t.kuper.ctr@mail.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

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June 07, 2013

Sarah Thomas-Nededog
Vice-President, WestCare Pacific Islands
545 Chalan San Antonio Suite 301
Tamuning, GU 96923
Sent via email to sarah.thomasnededog@westcare.com

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CC: Carmelita Calvo
Anthony Nangauta



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June 07, 2013

Tom Devlin
Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 1315
Sent via email to mophtd@ite.net

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June 07, 2013

Ray Baza
Guam Vietnamese American Association
Sent via email to jbazanaputi@gmail.com

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June 07, 2013

Joyce Martratt
Fleet Reserve Association 73 Auxiliary
Sent via email to joyimar13@yahoo.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

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The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing Thursday, June 13, 2013 beginning at 9:00AM. Included on the agenda are the following:

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Respectfully,

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

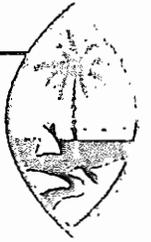
Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
Mina'trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE ON

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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



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**Senator
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Committee Member

June 07, 2013

Joseph San Nicolas
Dededo Veterans Organization
Sent via email to joe_kamudo@yahoo.com

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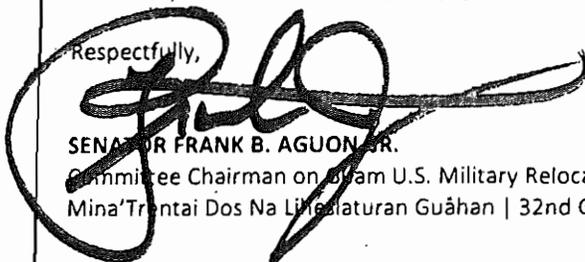
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June 07, 2013

John Taitano
Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 787
Sent via email to jnbatulai@guam.net

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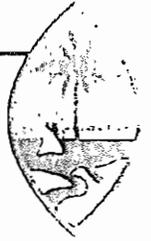
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Harold Kirk
Fleet Reserve Association BR 73
Sent via email to harold.kirk@med.navy.mil

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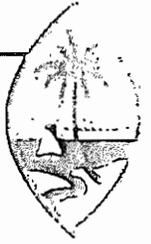
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Gregorio Borja
U S Department of Veterans Affairs
VA Benefits Administration
Guam Benefits Office
Sent via email to gregorio.a.borja@va.gov

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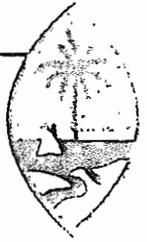
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Francisco Mendiola
Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 2007
Sent via email to Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 2007

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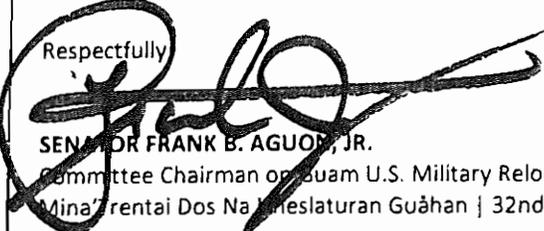
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Victor Ryan
American Legion
Sent via email to alegionguam@yahoo.com

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Robert Hayes
Brotherhood of Veterans
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Dan Perez
Barrigada Veterans Organization
Sent via email to jgrivero1949@ymail.com

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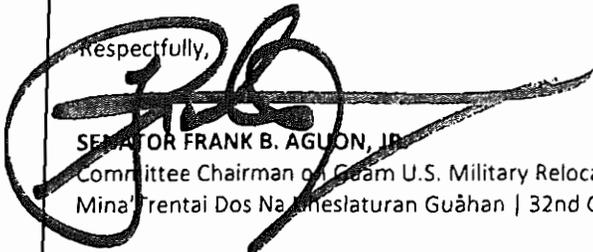
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Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

/ MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



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Committee Member

**Senator
Michael Limtiaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 07, 2013

Dan Mendiola
Vietnam Veterans of America #668
Sent via email to dmendiola@teleguam.net

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

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**Senator
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Committee Member

June 07, 2013

Connie Flores
Ladies Auxiliary - VFW Post 1509
Sent via email to ritalynn_flores@yahoo.com

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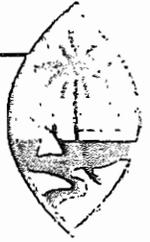
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June 07, 2013

Celine Sanchez-Guzman
Army Retirees Association
Sent via email to celine.sanchez@us.army.mil

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Committee Member

June 07, 2013

Brian Merenda
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1509
Sent via email to bjmerenda@yahoo.com

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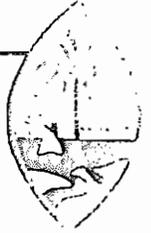
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June 07, 2013

Bernard Gines
Philippine Scouts & World War II Association
Sent via email to edaycab@yahoo.com

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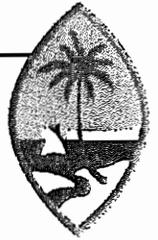
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June 07, 2013

Bobbie Taitano

Ladies Auxiliary - Military Order of the Purple Heart

Sent via email to jnbatulai@guam.net

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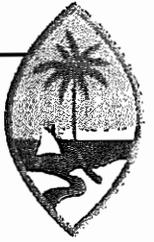
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June 07, 2013

Bill Cundiff
Guam Veterans Commission
Guam U.S. Air Force Association
Sent via email to afcmsgt24@yahoo.com

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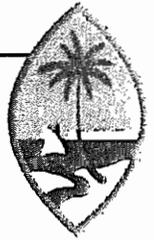
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June 07, 2013

Bill Bradford
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2917
Sent via email to wwbradford@live.com

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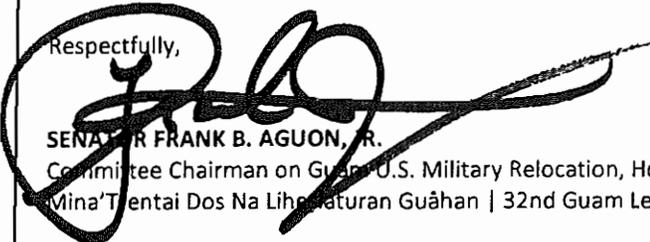
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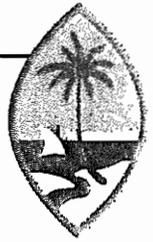

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June 07, 2013

Bernadette Santos
Guam Community-Based Outpatient Clinic
498 Chalan Palayso
Agana Heights, GU 96910
Sent via email to bernadette.santos@va.gov

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Respectfully,

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature

**Senator
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Committee Chairperson

**Senator
Tina Muna-Barnes**
Committee Vice Chairperson

**Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.**
Committee Member

**Senator
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V. Anthony Ada**
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Michael Lintiac**
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**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member



COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



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Michael Lintlaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 07, 2013

Art Mesa
American Legion
Sent via email to varoguam1@yahoo.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing Thursday, June 13, 2013 beginning at 9:00AM. Included on the agenda are the following:

- **Bill No. 99-32 (LS)** - An act to amend §80.60 of Article 4, Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to clarifying minimum sentences for crimes.
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Respectfully,

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

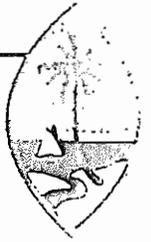
Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32nd Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

I MINA'TRENTAI DÒS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



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**Senator
V. Anthony Ada**
Committee Member

**Senator
Michael Limtiaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 07, 2013

Alwin Rafael
Guam Vet Center
Reflection Center Suite 102
222 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Sent via email to alwin.rafael@va.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing Thursday, June 13, 2013 beginning at 9:00AM. Included on the agenda are the following:

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Respectfully,

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Committee Chairman - Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 32nd Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE ON

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**Senator
Michael Limtlaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 07, 2013

Albert Parke
Veterans of Guam Motorcycle Club
Sent via email to ttsguam@hotmail.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

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Committee Member

**Senator
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Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 07, 2013

Alan Van Aken
Third Marine Division Association
Sent via email to AGunner77@teleguam.net

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

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Michael Limtiaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 07, 2013

Adolf Sgambelluri
National Association for Uniformed Services
Sent via email to olyman@gmail.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM

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Respectfully,

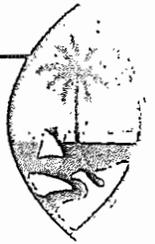
SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
I Mina'trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE ON

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V. Anthony Ada**
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**Senator
Michael Limtiaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

June 06, 2013

Ambrosio Constantino
Advisor, Guam Homeland Security
221B Chalan Palasyo
Agana Heights, Guam 96910
Sent via email to ambrosio.constantino@ghs.guam.gov

RE: **Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 9:00AM**

Dear Mr. Constantino,

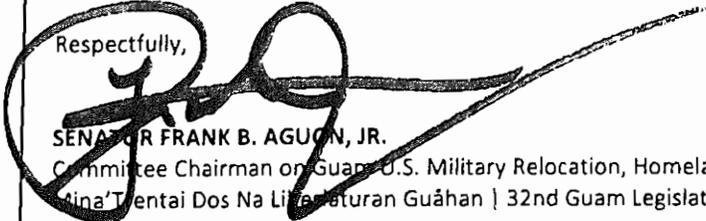
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Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY

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Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Committee Member

Senator
Michael Limtiaco
Committee Member

Senator
Thomas Morrison
Committee Member

July 23, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators

FROM: Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs,
Homeland Security and Judiciary

SUBJECT: FIRST NOTICE of **Public Hearing** on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing starting at 5:30PM, Wednesday, July 31, 2013, at *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* Public Hearing Room in Hagåtña, on the following:

- **Res. No. 186-32 (COR)**- Relative to respectfully requesting President Barack Obama, Department of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, and the United States Congress to permanently station a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) and a Patriot Missile Defense System on Guam for the protection of Guam, CNMI, and the neighboring islands throughout Micronesia, and the Asia-Pacific region.
- **Bill No. 134-32 (COR)** – An Act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" for information purposes and for enumerating the population of veterans of Guam.
- **Bill No. 135-32 (COR)** – An Act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the establishment of the "*SENGSONG BETERANUN GUÅHAN – GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE*" which shall serve as a One-Stop Veterans Service Center.
- **Bill No. 143-32 (COR)** - An Act relative to extending the Applicability of the Waiver of Driver's License Fees for Veterans.
- **Bill No. 146-32 (COR)** – An act to add a new Article 3 to Chapter 37 of 9GCA relative to Castle Doctrine. **LS**

The Committee requests that, if written testimonies are to be presented at the hearing, copies be submitted one day prior to the public hearing date, to the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, jr., or via fax to 475-GUM3(4863), or via email to aguon4guam@gmail.com. Copies of the aforementioned Bill(s) may be obtained at *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* website at www.guamlegislature.com. Individuals requiring special accommodations or service, please contact Yvette Cruz at 475-GUM1/2 or via email to admin@frankaguonjr.com.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase!

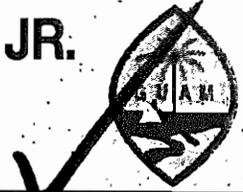
cc: Clerks
MIS
Sgt.-at-Arms

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2013 - MARIANAS VARIETY GUAM EDITION



OFFICE OF SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation,
Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs and Judiciary
Mina Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



PUBLIC HEARING

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2013 | 5:30PM

Bill No. 134-32 (COR) - **2nd Public Hearing** - An act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" which shall be utilized for enumerating the population of veterans on Guam, and for the use of such information for increasing or acquiring necessary healthcare and other relevant services to benefit veterans and their families; through adding a new §67110 to Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

Bill No. 135-32 (COR) - **2nd Public Hearing** - An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

Bill No. 143-32 (COR) - An act relative to extending the applicability of the waiver of Driver's license fees for veterans to include all classes and endorsements; through amending §3102.1 of Chapter 3, Article 1, Title 16, Guam Code Annotated.

Bill No. 146-32 (LS) - An act to add a new Article 3 to Chapter 27 of 90CA relative to Castle Doctrine.

Resolution No. 186-32 (COR) As Introduced - Relative to respectfully requesting President Barack Obama, Department of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, and the United States Congress to permanently station a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system and a Patriot Missile Defense System on Guam for the protection of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), the neighboring islands throughout Micronesia, and the Asia Pacific region.

The public hearing will be broadcasted on MCV Channel 13 or GUDTV Channel 21. If you require any special accommodations, please contact the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. at 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or e-mail committee@frankaguonjr.com. **This ad paid for with government funds.**



COMMITTEE ON

GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



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Senator
Michael Lintiao
Committee Member

Senator
Thomas Morrison
Committee Member

July 29, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators

FROM: Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary

SUBJECT: SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing starting at 5:30PM, Wednesday, July 31, 2013, at *Liheslaturan Guåhan's* Public Hearing Room in Hagåtña, on the following:

- **Bill No. 134-32 (COR)** – An act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" which shall be utilized for enumerating the population of veterans on Guam, and for the use of such information for increasing or acquiring necessary healthcare and other relevant services to benefit veterans and their families; through adding a new §67110 to Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.
- **Bill No. 135-32 (COR)** – An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.
- **Bill No. 143-32 (COR)** - An act relative to extending the applicability of the waiver of driver's license fees for veterans to include all classes and endorsements; through amending §3102.1 of Chapter 3, Article 1, Title 16, Guam Code Annotated.
- **Bill No. 146-32 (LS)** – An act to add a new Article 3 to Chapter 37 of 9GCA relative to Castle Doctrine.
- **Res. No. 186-32 (COR)**- Relative to respectfully requesting President Barack Obama, Department of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, and the United States Congress to permanently station a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) and a Patriot Missile Defense System on Guam for the protection of Guam, CNMI, and the neighboring islands throughout Micronesia, and the Asia-Pacific region.

The Committee requests that, if written testimonies are to be presented at the hearing, copies be submitted one day prior to the public hearing date, to the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr., or via fax to 475-GUM3 (4863), or via email to aguon4guam@gmail.com. Copies of the aforementioned Bill(s) may be obtained at *Liheslaturan Guåhan's* website at www.guamlegislature.com. Individuals requiring special accommodations or services, please contact Yvette Cruz at 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or via email to admin@frankaguonjr.com.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase!

Cc: Clerks | MIS | Sgt-at-Arms

PHONE: (671)475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) | FAX: (671)475-GUM3 (4863)
155 HESLER PLACE HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 | EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM

WWW.FRANKAGUONJR.COM



OFFICE OF SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation,
Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs and Judiciary
Mina Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



PUBLIC HEARING WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2013 | 5:30PM

Bill No. 134-32 (COR) - **2nd Public Hearing** - An act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" which shall be utilized for enumerating the population of veterans on Guam, and for the use of such information for increasing or acquiring necessary healthcare and other relevant services to benefit veterans and their families; through adding a new §67110 to Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

Bill No. 135-32 (COR) - **2nd Public Hearing** - An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Veteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

Bill No. 143-32 (COR) - An act relative to extending the applicability of the waiver of driver's license fees for veterans to include all classes and endorsements; through amending §3102.1 of Chapter 3, Article 1, Title 36, Guam Codes Annotated.

Bill No. 146-32 (LS) - An act to add a new Article 3 to Chapter 3 of DCCA relative to Castle Doctrine.

Resolution No. 186-32 (COR) As Introduced - Relative to respectfully requesting President Barack Obama, Department of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, and the United States Congress to permanently station a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system and a Patriot Missile Defense System on Guam for the protection of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), the neighboring islands throughout Micronesia, and the Asia Pacific region.

The public hearing will be broadcasted on MCV Channel 13 or GUDTV Channel 21. If you require any special accommodations, please contact the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. at 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or e-mail committee@frankaguonjr.com. *This ad paid for with government funds*



FIRST NOTICE: Public Hearing at 5:30PM on WEDNESDAY, July 31, 2013

Office of Sen. Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <committee@frankaguonjr.com>

Wed, Jul 24, 2013 at 10:11 AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Bcc: Kelly.Toves@mail.house.gov, breanna.lai@mail.house.gov

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators

FROM: Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary

SUBJECT: FIRST NOTICE of **Public Hearing** on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing starting at 5:30PM, Wednesday, July 31, 2013, at *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* Public Hearing Room in Hagåtña, on the following:

- **Resolution No. 186-32 (COR) As Introduced** - Relative to respectfully requesting President Barack Obama, Department of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, and the United States Congress to permanently station a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system and a Patriot Missile Defense System on Guam for the protection of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), the neighboring islands throughout Micronesia, and the Asia Pacific region.
- **Bill No. 134-32 (COR) - **2nd Public Hearing**** - An act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" which shall be utilized for enumerating the population of veterans on Guam, and for the use of such information for increasing or acquiring necessary healthcare and other relevant services to benefit veterans and their families; through adding a new §67110 to Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.
- **Bill No. 135-32 (COR) - **2nd Public Hearing**** - An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

- **Bill No. 143-32 (COR)** - An act relative to extending the applicability of the waiver of driver's license fees for veterans to include all classes and endorsements; through amending §3102.1 of Chapter 3, Article 1, Title 16, Guam Code Annotated.
- **Bill No. 146-32 (LS)** - An act to add a new Article 3 to Chapter 37 of 9GCA relative to Castle Doctrine.

The Committee requests that, if written testimonies are to be presented at the hearing, copies be submitted one day prior to the public hearing date, to the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr., or via fax to 475-GUM3 (4863), or via email to aguon4guam@gmail.com. Copies of the aforementioned Bill(s) may be obtained at *Liheslaturan Guåhan's* website at www.guamlegislature.com. Individuals requiring special accommodations or services, please contact Yvette Cruz at 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or via email to admin@frankaguonjr.com.

Si Yu'os Ma'asel

Cc: Clerks
MIS
Sgt-at-Arms

--
Thanks!

Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary

Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.
155 Hesler PL Suite 104, Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Tel: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2)
Fax: (671) GUM3 (4863)
aguon4guam@gmail.com | www.frankaguonjr.com

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 **AllSen_Memo.pdf**
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SECOND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Office of Sen. Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <committee@frankaguonjr.com>

Mon, Jul 29, 2013 at 10:39 AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Bcc: Kelly.Toves@mail.house.gov, breanna.lai@mail.house.gov

July 29, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators

FROM: Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs,
Homeland Security and Judiciary

SUBJECT: SECOND NOTICE of **Public Hearing** on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hala Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing starting at 5:30PM, Wednesday, July 31, 2013, at *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* Public Hearing Room in Hagåtña, on the following:

- **Bill No. 134-32 (COR)** – An act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" which shall be utilized for enumerating the population of veterans on Guam, and for the use of such information for increasing or acquiring necessary healthcare and other relevant services to benefit veterans and their families; through adding a new §67110 to Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.
- **Bill No. 135-32 (COR)** – An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.
- **Bill No. 143-32 (COR)** - An act relative to extending the applicability of the waiver of driver's license

fees for veterans to include all classes and endorsements; through amending §3102.1 of Chapter 3, Article 1, Title 16, Guam Code Annotated.

- **Bill No. 146-32 (LS)** – An act to add a new Article 3 to Chapter 37 of 9GCA relative to Castle Doctrine.
- **Res. No. 186-32 (COR)**- Relative to respectfully requesting President Barack Obama, Department of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, and the United States Congress to permanently station a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) and a Patriot Missile Defense System on Guam for the protection of Guam, CNMI, and the neighboring islands throughout Micronesia, and the Asia-Pacific region.

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Si Yu'os Ma'ase!

Cc: Clerks | MIS | Sgt-at-Arms

--
Thanks!
Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Veterans Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary
Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.
155 Hesler PL Suite 104, Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Tel: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2)
Fax: (671) GUM3 (4863)
aguon4guam@gmail.com | www.frankaguonjr.com

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As of May 14, 2013**

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admin@leapguam.com
admin@weareguahan.com
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ed@tonyada.com

edelynn1130@hotmail.com
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hana@guam-shinbun.com
hill.bruce@abc.net.au
hottips@kuam.com
info@chinesetimesguam.com
janela@mvguam.com
jason@judiwonpat.com
jason@kuam.com
jblas@tinamunabarnes.com
jcamacho@senatorada.org
jean@tinamunabarnes.com
jennifer.lj.dulla@gmail.com
jennifer@mvguam.com
jimespaldon@yahoo.com
jmesngon.senatorrodriguez@gmail.com
joan@kuam.com
joe@toduguam.com
john.calvo@noaa.gov
john@kuam.com
jpmanuel@gmail.com
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jtyquiengco@spbguam.com
julian.c.janssen@gmail.com
juliette@senatorada.org
kai@spbguam.com
kcn.kelly@gmail.com
kenq@kuam.com
kevin@spbguam.com
khmg@hbcguam.net
koreanne@guam.net
koreatv@kuentos.guam.net
kstokish@gmail.com
kstone@ite.net

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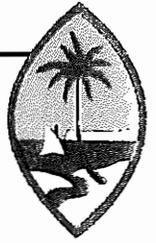
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mcarlson@guamlegislature.org
mcpherson.kathryn@abc.net.au
menchu@toduguam.com
mike.lidia@senatorbjcruz.com
mike@mikelimtiaco.com
mindy@kuam.com
mis@guamlegislature.org
miseke@mvcguam.com
mlwheeler2000@yahoo.com
mmafnas@guamlegislature.org
monty.mcdowell@amiguam.com
mspeps4873@gmail.com
mvariety@pticom.com
mwatanabe@guampdn.com
news@guampdn.com
news@spbg Guam.com
nick@kuam.com
nicole@toduguam.com
norman.aguilar@guamcc.edu
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ricknauta@hitradio100.com
rlimtiaco@guampdn.com
rob@judiwonpat.com
rolly@ktkb.com
roryforguam@gmail.com
ryanjames@senatormorrison.com
santos.duenas@gmail.com
senator@senatorbjcruz.com
senator@tinamunabarnes.com
senatordrodriguez@gmail.com
senatorsannicolas@gmail.com
senatortonyada@guamlegislature.org
senbenp@guam.net
sgflores@tinamunabarnes.com
sgtarms@guamlegislature.org
sitarose2@yahoo.com
slimtiaco@guampdn.com
sonedera-salas@guamlegislature.org
speaker@judiwonpat.com
steve@judiwonpat.com
tanya4families@gmail.com
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tjtaitano@cs.com
tom@senatorada.org
tommy@senatormorrison.com
tony@tonyada.com
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troy.torres@guam.gov
tterlaje@guam.net
val@tonyada.com
vincent@tinamunabarnes.com
wil@judiwonpat.com
will@senatorada.org
xiosormd@gmail.com
xiosormd@yahoo.com
ylee2@guam.gannett.com
zita@mvguam.com



GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



July 23, 2013

The Honorable Edward J. Calvo
Governor of Guam

513 West Marine Corps Drive
Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex
Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Sent via email to governor@quam.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 beginning at 5:30PM. Included on the agenda are the following:

- **Res. No. 186-32 (COR)**- Relative to respectfully requesting President Barack Obama, Department of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, and the United States Congress to permanently station a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) and a Patriot Missile Defense System on Guam for the protection of Guam, CNMI, and the neighboring islands throughout Micronesia, and the Asia-Pacific region.
- **Bill No. 134-32 (COR)** – An Act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" for information purposes and for enumerating the population of veterans of Guam.
- **Bill No. 135-32 (COR)** – An Act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the establishment of the "SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN – GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE" which shall serve as a One-Stop Veterans Service Center.
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- **Bill No. 146-32 (COR)** – An act to add a new Article 3 to Chapter 37 of 9GCA relative to Castle Doctrine. **LS**

If you feel the above mentioned items impact your agency or organization, we encourage you to participate in this upcoming Public Hearing. Also, if you have any concerns in regards to this invitation, please contact me or my office via phone 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or email to aguon4guam@gmail.com.

Respectfully,

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
I Mina'trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature

cc: Lieutenant Governor Raymond Tenorio
Joy Unpingco
Elaine Gogue
Rose Ramsey

Senator
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Committee Chairperson

Senator
Tina Muna-Barnes
Committee Vice Chairperson

Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Committee Member

Senator
Rory J. Respicio
Committee Member

Senator
Thomas C. Ada
Committee Member

Senator
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Committee Member

Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Committee Member

Senator
Michael Lmtiaco
Committee Member

Senator
Thomas Morrison
Committee Member



COMMITTEE ON

**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUĀHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



July 23, 2013

**The Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo
Guam Delegate**

120 Father Duenas Avenue
Suite 107

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Sent via email to Cecilia.Blas@mail.house.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 beginning at 5:30PM. Included on the agenda are the following:

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SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
I Mina Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guāhan | 32nd Guam Legislature

**Senator
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.**
Committee Chairperson

**Senator
Tina Muna-Barnes**
Committee Vice Chairperson

**Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.**
Committee Member

**Senator
Rory J. Respicio**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas C. Ada**
Committee Member

**Senator
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.**
Committee Member

**Senator
V. Anthony Ada**
Committee Member

**Senator
Michael Limtlaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member



**GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS | HOMELAND SECURITY | JUDICIARY**

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



July 23, 2013

**The Honorable F. Philip Carbullido
Chief Justice of the Judiciary of Guam**

Suite 300, Guam Judicial Ctr.

120 West O' Brien Drive

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Sent via email to fpcarbullido@quamsupremecourt.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Judiciary has scheduled a public hearing on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 beginning at 5:30PM. Included on the agenda are the following:

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Respectfully

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary

I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 32nd Guam Legislature

**Senator
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.**
Committee Chairperson

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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



July 23, 2013

Ambrose Constantino
Advisor, Guam Homeland Security
2218 Chalan Palasyo
Agaña Heights, Guam 96910
Sent via email to ambrosio.constantino@qhs.guam.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

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July 23, 2013

James T. McDonald
Office of Civil Defense Administrator
221B Chalan Palasyo
Agana Heights, Guam
Sent via email to jim.mcdonald@qhs.guam.gov

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July 23, 2013

The Honorable John Unpingco, Esq.

Administrator, Office of Veterans Affairs
172 S. Marine Corp Dr. Asan
P.O. Box 5178

Hagåtña, Guam 96932

Sent via email to john.unpingco@qvao.guam.gov

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July 23, 2013

Mr. Mark Calvo
Special Assistant to Governor on Military Buildup & Infrastructure

513 West Marine Corps Drive
Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex
Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Sent via email to mark.calvo@guam.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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July 23, 2013

Attorney General Leonardo G. Rapadas

Office of the Attorney General

287 W. O'Brien Drive

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Sent via email to law@quamaa.org

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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July 23, 2013

Eric D. Miller
Public Defender Service Corporation
MVP Sinajana Commercial Bldg.,
Unit B 779 Route 4
Sinajana, Guam 96910
Sent via email to emiller@quampdsc.net

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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July 23, 2013

Pedro Leon Guerrero
Guam Customs & Quarantine Agency

770 East Sunset Boulevard Airport Rd.
AB Won Pat, Guam 96913

Sent via email to pedro.leonquerrero@cqa.guam.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

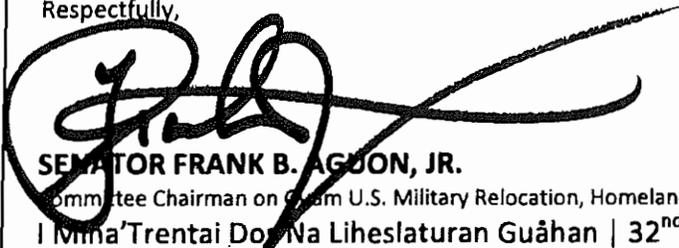
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July 23, 2013

Colonel Raffaele J.M. Sgambelluri
Chief of Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency

770 East Sunset Boulevard Airport Rd.

AB Won Pat, Guam 96913

Sent via email to Raffaele.sgambelluri@cga.guam.gov

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July 23, 2013

Adolf Sgambelluri
National Association for Uniformed Services
Sent via email to olyman@gmail.com

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Tony Guzman
Army Retirees Association
Sent via email to celine.sanchez@us.army.mil

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Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN | 32nd Guam Legislature

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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUĀHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



July 23, 2013

Tom Devlin
Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 1315

Sent via email to mophtd@ite.net

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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July 23, 2013

Sarah Thomas Nededog
Vice President, WestCare Pacific Islands

545 Chalan San Antonio Suite 301

Tamuning, GU 96923

Sent via email to sarah.thomasnededog@westcare.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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July 23, 2013

Robert Hayes
Brotherhood of Veterans
Sent via email to aleqionquam@yahoo.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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July 23, 2013

Ray Baza
Guam Vietnamese American Association
Sent via email to jbazanaputi@gmail.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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July 23, 2013

Nancy T. Kuper
Commander for Chapter 43
Women Veterans of America
Sent via email to nancy.t.kuper.ctr@mail.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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July 23, 2013

Joyce Martratt
Fleet Reserve Association 73 Auxiliary
Sent via email to joyimar13@yahoo.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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July 23, 2013

Joseph San Nicolas
Dededo Veterans Organization
Sent via email to joe_kamudo@yahoo.com

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July 23, 2013

John Taitano
Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 787
Sent via email to jnbatulai@quam.net

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July 23, 2013

John G. Rivera
Barrigada Veterans Organization
Sent via email to jgrivera1949@ymail.com

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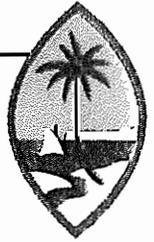
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Barrigada Veterans Organization
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Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature

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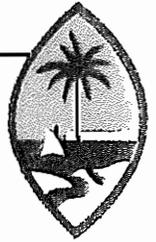
**Senator
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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



July 23, 2013

Harold Kirk
Fleet Reserve Association BR 73
Sent via email to harold.kirk@med.navy.mil

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

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July 23, 2013

Gregorio Borja

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
VA Benefits Administration
Guam Benefits Office

Sent via email to gregorio.a.borja@va.gov

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July 23, 2013

Victor Ryan
American Legion
Sent via email to alegionguam@yahoo.com

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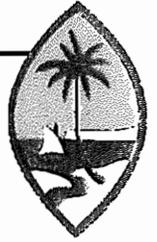
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July 23, 2013

George Perez

Chairman, Korean War Veterans Association
P.O. Box 26798
Barrigada, Guam 96921

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July 23, 2013

Francisco Mendiola

Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 2007

Sent via email to Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 2007

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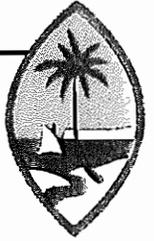
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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUĀHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



July 23, 2013

Connie Florez

Ladies Auxiliary – VFW Post 1509

Sent via email to ritalynn_flores@yahoo.com

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July 23, 2013

Dan Mendiola
Vietnam Veterans of America #668
Sent via email to dmendiola@telequam.net

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July 23, 2013

Celine Sanchez-Guzman

Army Retirees Association

Sent via email to celine.sanchez@us.army.mil

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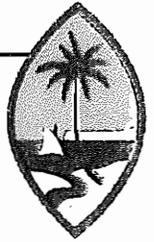
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July 23, 2013

Brian Merenda
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1509
Sent via email to bjmerenda@yahoo.com

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Bobbie Taitano

Ladies Auxiliary – Military Order of the Purple Heart

Sent via email to jnbatulaj@guam.net

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Respectfully,

SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary
| MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN | 32nd Guam Legislature

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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



July 23, 2013

Bill Cundiff
Guam Veterans Commission
Guam U.S. Air Force Association
Sent via email to afcmsgt24@yahoo.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adail

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July 23, 2013

Bill Bradford
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2917
Sent via email to wwbradford@live.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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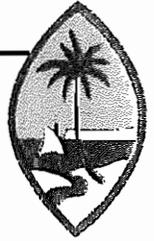
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July 23, 2013

Bernard Gines
Philippine Scouts & World War II Association
Sent via email to edaycab@yahoo.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

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July 23, 2013

Bernadette Santos

Guam Community-Based Outpatient Clinic

498 Chalan Palasyo

Agaña Heights, GU 96910

Sent via email to bernadette.santos@va.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

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Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

July 23, 2013

Art Mesa
American Legion
Sent via email to varoguam1@yahoo.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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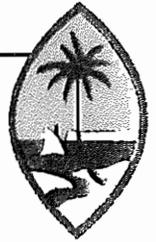
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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



July 23, 2013

Alwin Rafael
Guam Vet Center
Reflection Center Suite 102
222 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Sent via email to alwin.rafael@va.gov

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



July 23, 2013

Albert Parke
Veterans of Guam Motorcycle Club
Sent via email to ttsguam@hotmail.com

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

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July 23, 2013

Alan Van Aken
Third Marine Division Association
Sent via email to AGunner77@teleguam.net

RE: Public Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 5:30PM

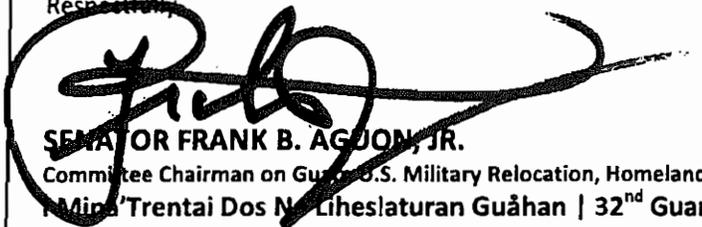
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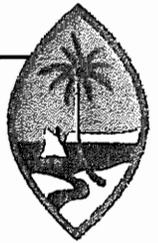
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I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 32ND GUAM LEGISLATURE



PUBLIC HEARING

June 13, 2013, Thursday at 9:00AM

I Liheslaturan Guahan's Public Hearing Room, Hagatna

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Senator
Thomas Morrison
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AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Opening remarks/Announcements**
- III. **Items for discussion:**
 - **Bill No. 99-32 (COR)** - An Act to amend §80.60 of Article 4, Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated relative to clarifying minimum sentences for crimes.
 - **Bill No. 107-32 (LS)** - An Act to add a new Section to Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to creating a "Two Strikes" provision for habitual offenders of serious crimes.
 - **Bill No. 116-32 (COR)** - An Act to amend §§ 65102 and 65103 of Chapter 65, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated and to add a new § 65103.1 to the same Chapter; relative to the establishment of operational continuity plans for each agency of the government of Guam.
 - **Bill No. 134-32 (COR)** - An Act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" for information purposes and for enumerating the population of veterans of Guam.
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- IV. **Closing Remarks**
- V. **Adjournment**



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Rory J. Respicio**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas C. Ada**
Committee Member

**Senator
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.**
Committee Member

**Senator
V. Anthony Ada**
Committee Member

**Senator
Michael Limtiaco**
Committee Member

**Senator
Thomas Morrison**
Committee Member

PUBLIC HEARING

July 31, 2013, Wednesday at 5:30PM
I Liheslaturan Guåhan's Public Hearing Room, Hagatna

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Opening remarks/Announcements**
- III. **Items for discussion:**
 - **Bill 134-32 (COR)** – An act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" which shall be utilized for enumerating the population of veterans on Guam, and for the use of such information for increasing or acquiring necessary healthcare and other relevant services to benefit veterans and their families; through adding a new §67110 to Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.
 - **Bill 135-32 (COR)** – An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Beteranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center; and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.
 - **Bill 143-32 (COR)** – An act relative to extending the applicability of the waiver of driver's license fees for veterans to include all classes and endorsements; through amending §3102.1 of Chapter 3, Article 1, Title 16, Guam Code Annotated.
 - **Bill 146-32 (LS)** – An act to add a new Article 3 to Chapter 37 of 9GCA relative to Castle Doctrine.
 - **Resolution 186-32 (COR)** – Relative to respectfully requesting President Barack Obama, Department of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, and the United States Congress to permanently station a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) and a Patriot Missile Defense System on Guam for the protection of Guam, CNMI, and the neighboring islands throughout Micronesia, and the Asia-Pacific region.
- IV. **Closing Remarks**
- V. **Adjournment**

GovGuam works to help veterans

Written by Frank B. Aguon Jr.

Jun. 16, 2013 |

guampdn.com

What more must the government of Guam do to help the island's military veterans?

As chairman of the Committee on the Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs and Judiciary of the Mina Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan, I would like to highlight several of the benefits and services that have been extended to island veterans by their local government, and further enumerate several proposals that have been introduced that continue to recognize the unique service that many of our men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces have provided in the defense and preservation of freedom.

The government of Guam presently provides the following services, benefits or programs for Guam's veterans:

- Veterans license plates;
- Waiver of license plate fees for 100-percent disabled American veteran or legal guardian;
- Waiver of driver's license fees (operator, chauffeur or motorcycle), process eased through the provision of official documentation directly to Revenue and Taxation;
- Waiver of motor vehicle registration for 100-percent disabled American veteran and individual unemployable;
- Preferential points for government of Guam employment;
- Waiver of fees for special Gold Star License Plates for parents, widow/widower of deceased veteran; and
- Burial spaces at the Veterans Cemetery.

In addition, your leaders in the Guam Legislature continue to consider additional services or benefits for our veterans to include the following:

- The establishment of a Fallen Heroes Monument for the War on Terror (to be entertained by Liheslaturan Guahan in the upcoming session);
- The creation of a Guam Veterans Registry, which will directly assist in further advocating for much-needed local and federal services and programs for our veterans;
- The eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Betaranun Guahan" or Guam Veterans Village, which will serve as a one-stop service center for veterans and a permanent home for the Office of Veterans Affairs; and
- The expansion of the waiver of the driver's license fee, to be applicable to all classes and endorsements.

The committee is in the process of finalizing the aforementioned information and much more, in both a written brochure format and an electronic format, which will be made available to all of Guam's veterans through my office.

As can be noted with the information provided above, your government has worked diligently over the years in providing our veterans with much needed services and benefits. These efforts will continue in the years ahead, as I can attest to the tremendous support for veterans by members of I Liheslaturan Guahan, who acknowledge and appreciate the special service provided by Guam's veterans--retired, active duty, or reserve.

I would like to close by mentioning ongoing efforts by the committee in bringing together primary veteran service providers in our community. This includes our local veteran organizations, our partners in the federal government (Guam Vet Center, Veterans Benefits Office, Outpatient Clinic, and others) and nonprofit organizations, i.e. WestCare.

It is through collaboration and understanding the needs of our veterans that we can altogether work toward ensuring the proper services and programs are identified and made available for our veterans.

Frank B. Aguon Jr. is a senator in the 32nd Guam Legislature and chairs its Committee on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Veterans Affairs, Homeland Security and Judiciary.

[Read More](#)

Bill 134-29 ✓ / 125-32

LOCAL

Bill 134 seeks to create Guam Veterans Registry

By Jerick Sablan

Pacific Daily News
jpsablan@guampdn.com

Sen. Frank Aguon, Jr. this week introduced two bills aimed at improving services to active and retired military veterans on Guam.

As oversight chairman of the legislative committee on veterans' affairs, Aguon proposed legislation with the goal of developing a comprehensive database of veterans on Guam and a one-stop center of services for veter-

ans and their families.

Bill 134 seeks to create a "Guam Veterans Registry" to identify the island's veteran population and for the purpose of creating a more accurate database, which in turn would be used to provide veterans and their families current information on health care, benefits and activities.

The bill designates the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency responsible for maintaining and updating the registry.



/GuampDN

Representation increase

Bill 135 seeks to increase the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission from six members to nine. The bill also initiates efforts toward the planning and development of the "Sengsong Betaranun Guahan" or Guam Veterans Village, which would be utilized as the permanent home for the Office of Veterans Affairs and as a one-stop center for veterans to acquire services or information on benefits, programs and activities.

Concerns raised

"Concerns have been raised with the way information is being disseminated to our veterans regarding what veteran services are available on our island and it is critical that we reach out and modernize those services to meet the long-standing and future needs of our veterans," said Aguon, who also is a member of the Guam Air National Guard.



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Pacific Daily News, Saturday, June 8, 2013 guampdn.com

Local

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2013 - MARIANAS VARIETY GUA

Bill 134 to create veterans database

By Louella Losinlo
louella@mvguam.com
Variety News Staff

RESPONDING to the need to create a more accurate database on the island's veteran population, Sen. Frank B. Aguon Jr. yesterday introduced Bill 134, a measure seeking to create a "Guam Veterans Registry."

Aguon, who chairs the Committee on Veterans Affairs, proposed the legislation in order to develop a comprehensive record of veterans on Guam.

Aside from facilitating the process of identifying the island's veteran population, the registry would be used to provide current information on health care, benefits and activities.

The bill also designates the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency responsible for maintaining and updating the registry.

Additionally, Aguon said the establishment of the Veterans Registry is needed to accurately capture the total number

of veterans on island to ensure Guam's ability in securing vital services from the federal government.

The need to solidify the figures relating to the number of veterans on island was raised during a recent roundtable discussion convened to discuss programs and issues affecting the island's veteran community.

During the meeting, Aguon said the 2010 census reports 8,041 veterans. However, he said figures provided by the Office of Veterans Affairs peg the number at 13,000-plus.

A firm and definite number, according to Aguon, would help reinforce critical funding and programs for Guam's veterans.

Representation

Meanwhile, Aguon also introduced Bill 135, which seeks to increase the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission from six members to nine.

The bill, according to a release, also initiates efforts

toward the planning and development of the "Sengsong Betaranun Guåhan" or Guam Veterans Village, which would be utilized as the permanent home for the Office of Veterans Affairs and as a one-stop center for veterans to acquire services or information on benefits, programs and activities.

"Concerns have been raised with the way information is being disseminated to our veterans regarding what veteran services are available on our island, and it is critical that we reach out and modernize those services to meet the longstanding and future needs of our veterans," Aguon said.

"I echo these concerns and want to ensure that our veterans — whether active or retired — are receiving the essential services they need through the development of this one-stop 'Sengsong Betaranun Guåhan,' which would be an efficient integration of services available by our government agencies," he added.

**Guam Veterans Affairs Office
Non-Appropriated Funds**

**Performance Audit
October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2011**

**OPA Report No. 12-01
March 2012**



Guam Veterans Affairs Office Non-Appropriated Funds

**Performance Audit
October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2011**

**OPA Report No. 12-01
March 2012**

Distribution:

Governor of Guam
Speaker, 31st Guam Legislature
Senators, 31st Guam Legislature
Administrator, Guam Veterans Affairs Office
Chairman, Guam Veterans Commission
Director, Department of Administration
Director, Bureau of Budget and Management Research
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office of Inspector General – Hawaii Field Office
Guam Media via E-Mail



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Guam Veterans Affairs Office
Non-Appropriated Funds
OPA Report No. 12-01, March 2012

Our review of the Veterans Affairs Office (VAO) found that the Guam Veterans Commission did not perform its fiduciary responsibility to provide oversight or adequately monitor VAO's finances and operations. Instead, the Commission relied extensively on the former and present Administrators. From FY 2009 to 2011, the two non-appropriated fund accounts recorded total deposits of \$66,091 and total expenditures of \$65,681. We found the following:

- Pre-numbered receipts were not used for cash received;
- Receipts were not reconciled to deposits;
- 17 blank checks were pre-signed, resulting in \$12,261 in disbursements under the current Administrator;
- Guam Procurement Law and Regulations were not followed, resulting in \$65,500 in disbursements without evidence of the minimum three quotes. Of this amount, \$53,239 and \$12,261 were under the former and current Administrators, respectively;
- \$46,391 in disbursements did not have supporting documentation, of which \$35,808 and \$10,583 were disbursed by the former and current Administrators, respectively;
- The payees or nature of disbursements on 15 checks totaling \$26,758 paid by the former Administrator could not be determined;
- The current Administrator's travel was not approved by the Commission;
- Petty cash reimbursements under the current Administrator were not reconciled to receipts;
- Bank reconciliations were not performed;
- Quarterly and annual financial reports were not prepared and submitted;
- Tax filing reports were not prepared and submitted; and
- The Administrators had sole custody and complete control over the handling and recording of cash received and disbursed.

We concluded that it was not possible to completely assess or quantify the extent of (1) loss due to the lack of burial claims submitted by the former Administrator, and (2) possible misuse or misappropriation due to poor record keeping. Due to the lack of VAO records, we subpoenaed the bank statements for the Guam Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund and the Veterans Affairs Fund and reviewed and prepared schedules of cash receipt and disbursement transactions. Based on available records, we did not find evidence or deliberate attempts to misuse or misappropriate VAO funds. This was VAO's first audit with findings similar to other audits conducted on Non-Appropriated Funds (NAF).

Cash Receipts Deficiencies

Of the \$66,091 in deposits, we were unable to identify the nature of \$9,391 in deposits because VAO did not maintain pre-numbered receipt books. We also found \$952 in written cash receipts

between January and July 2011 for donations or payments that could not be traced to specific deposits in the bank statements. We could not ascertain whether all cash received under the former Administrator were deposited due to the lack of records. The former and present Administrators informed us that they held cash: (1) to pay or reimburse VAO staff; (2) to purchase supplies; or (3) because they did not have the time to make bank deposits right away.

Burial Reimbursement Claims Listing Not Maintained

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) reimburses VAO up to \$300 for the burial of each eligible veteran or retiree, whose death is non-service related. We found that VAO did not maintain a listing of claims submitted to USDVA for reimbursement. Based on available records, from fiscal years 2009 to 2011, VAO submitted 314 claims for \$94,200, of which USDVA reimbursed 138 claims for \$41,400. We noted that USDVA did not process some claims because payments had already been made to VAO or there were discrepancies that needed to be resolved. VAO subsequently received approval for 126 claims totaling \$37,800 in November 2011. Altogether, VAO received \$94,500 or \$300 more than the \$94,200 they claimed in the three years. Because VAO files were incomplete, we could not ascertain whether all claims were processed, approved, and paid.

Pre-Signed Blank Checks

Title 10 of G.C.A. § 67105.1 and 67109 requires the Commission to approve all expenditures for both non-appropriated funds. Accordingly, the Commission designated the Chairman and the Treasurer as the authorized signatories on the two bank accounts. Although the Administrator is expected to manage and account for the funds, he is not an authorized account signatory.

According to the former Chairman because the Commission lacked enough members for a quorum throughout 2011, he and the Treasurer were asked by the current Administrator to sign blank checks in order to keep VAO operational. The former Chairman admitted that they signed blank checks without supporting documentation (e.g. invoices). From January to September 2011, the former Chairman and the former Treasurer signed 17 blank checks which subsequently totaled \$12,261. The former Chairman and the former Treasurer acted merely as check signers and did not perform their fiduciary responsibilities to review, monitor, and question VAO's activities.

No Travel Authorization

Of the 17 pre-signed blank checks, two checks were related to the current Administrator's travel to attend a conference in Oregon. A \$1,505 check was issued to a travel company in August 2011 to pay for the airfare, but no supporting documentation was on file. In September 2011, the current Administrator received a \$3,200 reimbursement for travel expenses and a battery purchase, in which we verified attached receipts totaling \$1,020 for the conference fee, lodging, and car rental. We received additional information in March 2012 to substantiate the battery purchase of \$132. However, the remaining \$2,048 was unsupported because there was no travel authorization on file to show how the per diem was calculated.

In March 2012, we received a copy of the Administrator's administrative leave form approved by the Governor's Chief of Staff, but we still were not provided an approved and signed travel authorization form or Commission minutes indicating travel approval.

Designation of Administrator

Title 10 G.C.A. § 67100 calls for the VAO Administrator to be a classified employee to serve as administrative head yet subject to the direction and control of the Governor. In practice, the Governor appoints an unclassified Special Assistant to fill the Administrator position. As unclassified employees, the former Administrator served from February 2003 to December 2010 and the current Administrator began his appointment in January 2011. Given that the Administrator serves at the Governor's pleasure and remains subject to his direction and control, the position is better suited to be in the unclassified service. We recommend the Commission review the matter further to determine whether a change in law is needed to reflect the current practice.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The Commission's inability to provide oversight and monitoring over VAO's finances and operations led to \$66,453 in lost/potential revenues, as well as unallowable and unsupported costs. We made several recommendations to improve the management and accountability of non-appropriated funds, such as (1) immediately discontinue the practice of signing blank checks and require the Administrator to provide supporting documentation prior to all disbursements, (2) perform monthly bank reconciliations and prepare monthly financial statements to ensure that all cash collected and disbursed are accurately accounted for, and (3) maintain a list of all claims submitted to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

A draft report was transmitted to the Board Chairman of the Guam Veterans Commission and the VAO Administrator in February 2012. The Board Chairman generally concurred with the audit report findings and provided a plan of action. In March 2012, the current Administrator disagreed with our findings and provided a detailed response. While additional information was subsequently provided to document \$9,828 in expenses directly related to the pre-signed blank checks, they were not enough to clear all questioned costs. Their management responses are attached to our report as Appendices 10 and 11.

Doris Flores Brooks, CPA, CGFM
Public Auditor



Introduction

This report presents the results of our audit of the Guam Veterans Affairs Office (VAO) from October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2011. The audit on VAO's management of funds was initiated at the request of two Senators of the 31st Guam Legislature. Our objective was to determine whether VAO's non-appropriated funds (NAF) were properly managed and accounted for in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

The audit scope, methodology, and prior audits are detailed in Appendices 2 and 3.

Background

Title 10 of the Guam Code Annotated (G.C.A.) § 67100 created the Office of Veterans Affairs (referred to as the Office or VAO) within the Office of the Governor. Further, the Veterans Affairs Officer (referred to as the VAO Administrator), "is a member of the *classified service* (emphasis added) and is the administrative head . . . subject to the direction and control of *Maga'lahaen Guahan*."

Under § 67102, VAO is responsible for administering all local laws, programs, and services owed to veterans of the United States (U.S.) Armed Forces, including retirees, active duty personnel and/or their dependents and survivors. VAO assists in preparing, submitting and presenting any claim against USDVA for compensation, pension, survivor's annuity, burial, hospitalization, insurance, education, health, medical rehabilitation, employment, reemployment services, or other entitled benefits pursuant to Title 38, United States Code, and other applicable laws. The VAO also is responsible for coordinating with the respective military branches for burial honors for deceased veterans, active duty personnel, and retirees at the Guam Veterans Cemetery.

Annual Appropriation and Staffing

VAO's appropriation for FY 2012 totaled \$293,983. Its total appropriations from fiscal years 2009 to 2011 amounted to \$1,006,095 and its expenditures totaled \$924,742. We noted VAO's FY 2011 appropriations were \$503,911, which was comprised of \$353,911 from the General Fund and \$150,000 from the Territorial Highway Fund (THF). Of the \$150,000 from the THF, \$136,361 was expended.

Table 1: Annual Appropriations

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
2011 (unaudited)	\$503,911	\$447,089
2010	\$255,827	\$240,024
2009	\$246,357	\$237,629
Total	<u>\$1,006,095</u>	<u>\$924,742</u>

When fully staffed, VAO should consist of six employees: the Administrator, an Administrative Assistant, three Health/Benefit Services Representatives (currently one position filled; and two vacant) and a Cemetery Maintenance Supervisor (vacant).

Guam Veterans Commission

Title 10 G.C.A. § 67107 established the Guam Veterans Commission to be comprised of members of both federally recognized and non-recognized veterans' groups which are duly registered with the Department of Revenue and Taxation (DRT) as non-profit organizations and annually submit a non-profit annual report to the Commission and DRT. Thus, Commission membership varies according to the number of veterans' organizations. Commission members serve voluntarily, without compensation, for no more than two years and elect officers each term. Currently, there are seven members on the Commission.

The Commission meets quarterly and advises the Administrator on matters affecting veterans and eligible claimants regarding Veterans Administration-related issues. A majority (50% plus 1) of membership constitutes a quorum. The Commission provides veterans and their families the opportunity to air grievances or seek corrective action to policies affecting the delivery of benefits and services. The Commission is also the body responsible for the expenditure of the NAF.

Under § 67108, when the Administrator position is vacant, the Commission may recommend to the Governor a nominee from the Department of Administration's list of eligible applicant(s).

Non-Appropriated Funds

The VAO Administrator manages two non-appropriated funds: the Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund for the maintenance of the Veterans Cemetery and the Veterans Affairs Fund for various purposes. Separate non-interest bearing checking accounts were established for the funds.

Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund

Title 10 G.C.A. § 67105.1 established the Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund¹ and states "Any money paid by the Federal government to Guam in connection with the use of the cemetery shall be deposited in the Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund and used for the maintenance of the cemetery." Funds deposited to this account are the USDVA reimbursements for the burials for deceased veterans. VAO can receive up to \$300 per burial claim; USDVA determines the amount. The Commission directs expenditures from the Fund and must annually account to the Guam Legislature for the use of the Fund.

Veterans Affairs Fund

Title 10 G.C.A. § 67109 created the Veterans Affairs Fund separate and apart from other Government of Guam funds and are not to be commingled with the General Fund. The Commission must approve all expenditures from the Fund. Also by law, the VAO Administrator is authorized to solicit, accept, utilize and administer gifts, bequests, and donations on the behalf

¹ The Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund was transferred from the Guam Parks Commission to the Guam Veterans Commission in December 2005.

of VAO. Funds received are to be deposited into the Veterans Affairs Fund² and shall be used for the maintenance of the Veterans Cemetery and the VAO for sponsorship of events for veterans and for purposes intended by the donor. The Administrator must submit quarterly reports to the Governor and the Public Auditor, describing the solicitation, acceptance, utilization and administration of gifts, bequests, and donations, and must post such reports on the VAO website.

² The Veterans Affairs Fund was established in December 2005.

Results of Audit

We determined that VAO's NAF were not properly managed and accounted for in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The Guam Veterans Commission did not perform its fiduciary responsibility to provide oversight or adequately monitor VAO's finances and operations. Instead the Commission relied extensively on the former and present Administrators. From fiscal years 2009 to 2011, the two NAF accounts recorded total deposits of \$66,091 and total expenditures of \$65,681. We found the following:

- Pre-numbered receipts were not used for cash received;
- Receipts were not reconciled to deposits;
- 17 blank checks were pre-signed, resulting in \$12,261 in disbursements under the current Administrator;
- Guam Procurement Law and Regulations were not followed, resulting in \$65,500 in disbursements without the minimum three quotes. Of this amount, \$53,239 and \$12,261 were under the former and current Administrators, respectively;
- \$46,391 in disbursements did not have supporting documentation, of which \$35,808 and \$10,583³ were disbursed by the former and current Administrators, respectively;
- The payees or nature of disbursements on 15 checks totaling \$26,758 paid by the former Administrator could not be determined;
- The current Administrator's travel was not approved by the Commission;
- Petty cash reimbursements under the current Administrator were not reconciled to receipts;
- Bank reconciliations were not performed;
- Quarterly and annual financial reports were not prepared and submitted;
- Tax filing reports were not prepared and submitted; and
- The Administrators had sole custody and complete control over the handling and recording of cash received and disbursed.

We concluded that it was not possible to completely assess or quantify the extent of (1) loss due to the lack of burial claims submitted by the former Administrator, and (2) possible misuse or misappropriation due to poor record keeping. Due to the lack of VAO records, we subpoenaed the bank statements for the Guam Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund and the Veterans Affairs Fund and reviewed and prepared schedules of cash receipt and disbursement transactions. Based on available records, we did not find evidence or deliberate attempts to misuse or misappropriate VAO funds. This was VAO's first audit with findings similar to other audits conducted on NAF.

Pre-Numbered Receipts Not Used

Of the \$66,091 in deposits, we were unable to identify the nature of \$9,391 because VAO did not use pre-numbered receipt books. The receipts were instead assigned numbers manually and trying to associate cash receipts to specific bank deposits was difficult. The lack of pre-numbered

³ We subsequently received additional documentation to substantiate \$8,240 of the \$10,583 in disbursements under the current Administrator in March 2012.

receipts creates an opportunity for misappropriation or defalcation. We recommend that VAO use pre-numbered receipts to record all cash or checks received.

Receipts Not Reconciled to Deposits

As few receipts were issued, the deposits could not be reconciled to ascertain completeness and timeliness. Specifically, we found \$952 in cash receipts between January and July 2011 that could not be traced to specific deposits in the bank statements. We could not ascertain whether all cash received from donations or fundraising events, such as car washes, under the former Administrator were deposited due to the lack of records. See Table 2 for undeposited cash receipts. See Appendices 4 and 6 for the summary of the Veterans Cemetery Fund and Veterans Affairs Fund bank balances.

Table 2: Cash Receipts from Donations or Fundraising Events Not Reconciled to Bank Deposits

	Date	Description/Activity	Amount
1	January 9, 2011	Car wash fundraiser	\$ 50
2	January 31, 2011	Donation for cemetery project	250
3	April 7, 2011	None specified	50
4	April 7, 2011	None specified	50
5	April 7, 2011	None specified	52
6	May 12, 2011	None specified	100
7	May 12, 2011	None specified	250
8	May 18, 2011	Car wash deposit	50
9	June 6, 2011	None specified	50
10	July 5, 2011	Car wash deposit	50
			\$952

The former and present Administrators informed us that they held cash: (1) to pay or reimburse VAO staff for lunches for Department of Correction inmates working at the Veterans Cemetery; (2) to purchase supplies; or (3) because they had no time to make bank deposits right away. This last practice is contrary to a good system of checks and balances to ensure that collected cash is deposited timely and intact.

Best practices call for cash collections to be deposited daily and intact. However, we recognize that this may not be practical; therefore, we recommend that cash receipts be deposited promptly into the bank, preferably within a few days of receipt.

Lack of Segregation of Duties

The Commission did not monitor the collection processes for fundraising events and allowed the Administrators sole responsibility to (1) authorize transactions, (2) record transactions, (3) deposit collected funds, and (4) have custody of undeposited funds without verification by a

second person. Thus, contrary to good checks and balances and segregation of duties, the custody and handling of cash were not separated from the cash recording and keeping functions.

Burial Reimbursement Claims Listing Not Maintained

VAO does not maintain a list of its reimbursement claims to the USDVA to ensure that payments of all claims are received and reconciled. Based on available records, from fiscal years 2009 to 2011, VAO submitted 314 claims for \$94,200, of which USDVA reimbursed 138 claims for \$41,400. We noted that USDVA did not process some claims because payments had already been made to VAO or there were discrepancies that needed to be resolved. VAO subsequently received approval for 126 claims totaling \$37,800 in November 2011. Altogether, VAO received \$94,500 or \$300 more than the \$94,200 they claimed in the three years. Because VAO files were incomplete, we could not ascertain whether all claims were processed, approved, and paid. See Table 3 for summary of claims.

**Table 3: Summary of Burial Claims
FY 2009, 2010, and 2011**

Claim Date	No. of Claims Submitted	Amount Claimed	Date Approved	No. of Claims	Amount Reimbursed	Date Approved	Amount Reimbursed
11/20/08 to 11/21/08	59	\$ 17,700	1/9/09	52	\$ 15,600	2/20/09	\$ 15,600
12/12/08	65	\$ 19,500	1/30/09	51	\$ 15,300	1/28/09	\$ 22,800
1/6/09	11	\$ 3,300	3/6/09	9	\$ 2,700	4/30/09	\$ 7,800
3/8/11	38	\$ 11,400	4/25/11	24	\$ 7,200	6/2/11	\$ 9,900
3/8/11	2	\$ 600	8/29/11	2	\$ 600	9/16/11	\$ 600
8/12/11	139	\$ 41,700	Unknown	126	\$ 37,800	11/14/11	\$ 37,800
Total	314	\$ 94,200		264	\$ 79,200		\$ 94,500

For example:

- In November 2008, the former Administrator submitted 59 burial claims, totaling \$17,700, for January to July 2007. On January 9, 2009, USDVA approved 52 of the 59 claims and reimbursed \$15,600. No other documents were available to explain why seven claims were not approved. In February 2009, \$15,600 was deposited into the Cemetery Trust Fund. Since VAO had no details other than what was recorded in the bank statements, we assumed this deposit was the USDVA reimbursement because it matched the amount approved.
- In March 2011, the present Administrator submitted 38 burial claims, totaling \$11,400, for the months of June 2008 and January to April 2009. In April 2011, USDVA approved 24 burial claims for \$7,200. Some of the claims were not processed because prior payments were made. A \$300 claim also was not processed because there was a discrepancy in VAO's claim information. USDVA instructed VAO to resubmit the claim with additional information. To date, VAO has not resubmitted the claim.

To ensure all qualified burial claims are reimbursed, we recommend VAO create an electronic database of burials and copies of all claims submitted to USDVA. Once approved and received, reimbursements should be reconciled against the claims submitted, and VAO should contact USDVA immediately to resolve any discrepancies.

Guam Procurement Law and Regulations Not Followed

Title 5 G.C.A. § 5004(b) states that Chapter 5, which is the Guam Procurement Law, shall apply to every expenditure of public funds irrespective of their source, including federal assistance funds. Title 2 G.A.R. § 1101 states that the Guam Procurement Regulations' purpose is to provide standard policies and procedures governing the procurement, management, control, and disposal of supplies, services, and construction for the territory of Guam in conformity with 5 G.C.A. Chapter 5, which is the Guam Procurement Law. Again because 5 G.C.A. § 5004(b) specifies that Chapter 5 shall apply to every expenditure of public funds irrespective of their source, including federal assistance funds, the VAO is therefore required to comply with Guam Procurement Law as well as Guam Procurement Regulations.

Specifically, 2 G.A.R. § 3111(c)(1) states in pertinent part that no less than three positive written quotes shall be solicited for small purchases of supplies or services between \$500 and \$15,000. For small purchases of \$500 or less, 2 G.A.R. § 3111(e) requires procurators to obtain adequate and reasonable competition and the General Services Agency's Standard Operating Procedures requires a minimum of three telephonic quotations to be obtained for small purchases of \$500 or less. When three telephonic quotes cannot be obtained, documentation stating what efforts were made to obtain the quotations must be recorded and kept in the procurement file.

The former and present Administrators and the Administrative Assistant were of the general understanding that they did not have to follow Government of Guam procurement laws and regulations because they use non-appropriated funds. In practice, they simply purchased goods and services from vendors they previously dealt with and did not obtain three minimum quotes.

Of the \$65,681 expended from fiscal years 2009 to 2011, we found that 91 disbursements totaling \$65,500 did not comply with procurement laws and regulations. The required minimum three positive written quotes were not solicited for these transactions. The remaining 12 disbursements, totaling \$181, were for bank charges and check orders. See Table 4 for the list we compiled of disbursements by type. Summarizing financial transactions is a routine reporting function that VAO should have performed, but did not during the three years audited.

Table 4: List of Disbursements by Type

Type of Disbursement	No. of Disbursements	Total Costs
Food	3	\$ 1,088
Travel	2	\$ 4,705
Equipment	4	\$ 3,650
Services	15	\$ 12,317
Supplies & Materials	41	\$ 12,227
Bank charges/check orders	12	\$ 181
Other/unknown	26	\$ 31,513
Total Disbursements	103	\$ 65,681

We found that complete supporting documents (invoices, receipts or other documents) were not on file for 59 transactions totaling \$46,391. Of those that had receipts, the transaction amounts

did not match the check amounts for payment. Of the \$46,391, \$35,808 and \$10,583 were disbursed by the former and current Administrators, respectively.

In March 2012, we received additional information in an attempt to clear questioned costs. We verified that \$8,240 of the \$10,583 expended under the current Administrator was substantiated.

In addition, the payees or types of purchases on 15 checks totaling \$26,758 paid by the former Administrator could not be determined.

Pre-Signed Blank Checks

According to the former Chairman, because there was no Commission in place from January to December 2011, he and the former Treasurer were asked by the current Administrator to pre-sign blank checks in order to continue VAO activities. The former Chairman admitted they signed blank checks without supporting documentation (e.g. invoices). From January to September 2011, the former Chairman and former Treasurer signed 17 blank checks, which subsequently totaled \$12,261. The former Chairman and the former Treasurer merely signed the checks and failed in their fiduciary duty to review, monitor, and question VAO's activities.

Dual signature checks ensure that two persons independently review disbursements, but the security mechanism is negated when the designated signatories sign blank checks. We recommend that the officers immediately discontinue the practice of signing blank checks beforehand and require the Administrator to submit justification and supporting documentation *prior* to disbursing any funds.

No Travel Authorization

The current Administrator attended a conference in Oregon in September 2011. Of the 17 pre-signed blank checks mentioned above, two were related to this specific travel, and both had noted deficiencies.

First, a local travel company was paid \$1,505 in August 2011, but the disbursement was not supported with an attached invoice or receipt. We also could not determine whether a minimum of three price quotes were obtained to ensure that the government received the most economical price for the airfare. According to the Administrative Assistant, Government of Guam travel regulations did not have to be followed because the trip was not funded by local appropriation.

Second, the current Administrator was reimbursed \$3,200 for travel expenses and a battery purchase in September 2011. The attached receipts totaled \$1,020 for the conference fee (\$250), lodging (\$564), and car rental (\$206). We received a copy of the \$132 battery purchase receipt in March 2012. However, the remaining \$2,048 was supposedly for per diem, but there was no support for how the per diem was calculated.

Whenever government officials are required to travel for official business, best practices call for a travel authorization form to be prepared indicating the traveler's destination, duration of stay, and per diem calculation. Said travel authorizations are kept on file with necessary supporting

documentation. In this case, we did not find any travel authorization and could not determine how per diem was calculated. We also could not find any meeting minutes indicating that the Commission explicitly approved the travel.

In March 2012, we received a copy of the Administrator's administrative leave form approved by the Chief of Staff, but we still were not provided an approved and signed travel authorization form.

Petty Cash Reimbursements Not Reconciled

The current Administrator established a petty cash fund of \$500 to pay for small expenditures and acts as the petty cash custodian. While we recognize the impracticality of paying by check for every purchase, particularly small purchases, any petty cash fund should be protected from misuse. Every petty cash withdrawal should be evidenced by a receipt or other justification and payments to petty cash should equal withdrawals to restore the funds original total.

VAO's petty cash fund had three replenishments totaling \$2,000, two of which did not equal the receipts provided. For instance:

- Various cash receipts totaling \$876 were used to support a \$1,000 check to the Administrator for reimbursement of food and supplies in January 2011; the \$124 difference was not explained;⁴ and
- Various cash receipts totaling \$433 were used to support a \$500 check written in June 2011 to "Cash" for the replenishment of petty cash. There was no explanation on file as why there was a variance of \$67.

We recommend the Commission and the Administrator ensure that petty cash replenishments match the receipts provided as support prior to repayments to restore the funds.

Bank Reconciliation Not Performed

Bank reconciliations should be performed in a timely manner, ideally upon receipt of monthly bank statements. Reconciliations are an important part of cash control as they verify the balance reported in accounting records and point out mistakes and irregularities such as theft.⁵ The cash balance on the books may not agree with the balance on bank statements because of delays in posting checks and deposits and credits that have not been recorded, in the debiting of automatic bank charges, and in errors in the books. After preparing the bank reconciliation and resolving any unreconciled differences, one can be comfortable that the account balance reported in the books is accurate.

The Administrative Assistant claimed that she performed reconciliations prior to the tenure of the former Administrator. However, we found no evidence that any reconciliations occurred under either the former or current Administrator. We recommend that a person not involved in

⁴ VAO purchases lunch for DOC inmates who assist in maintaining the cemetery grounds.

⁵ Source: CCH toolkit, a small business guide: <http://www.toolkit.cch.com>.

recording and depositing cash be designated to perform monthly bank reconciliations and, subsequently, for the Administrator to review the reconciliations.

Incomplete Records

While the Administrator is responsible for maintaining records for all funds and keeping a complete and accurate record of receipts and disbursements, we found poor record keeping practices at VAO. Our review of the two non-appropriated checking accounts was limited because VAO's files were incomplete and there were gaps in the financial records provided. Because no bank statements were available, we subpoenaed the bank statements for the two non-appropriated checks accounts in order to review and prepare schedules of cash receipts and disbursement transactions.

According to the present Administrator, who assumed the position in January 2011, the office was in disarray. He noted in his initial observation that (1) files, records, bank statements, receipts, and other documents were kept either at the main office in Asan or at the Veterans' Cemetery office in Piti and (2) the former Administrator managed all the funds himself, with no accounting of the funds and donations being received or of the checks being written for purchases.

The Administrative Assistant said she also used to maintain the records of the accounts, recorded donations, and prepared vendor checks, but she was relieved of these functions as well. She said she did not know where the former Administrator kept things.

The current Administrator has applied for a federal grant to computerize and automate VAO information. We recommend VAO utilize an electronic spreadsheet or an accounting software program to prepare its monthly financial reports.

Designation of Administrator

Title 10 G.C.A. § 67100 calls for the VAO Administrator to be a classified employee to serve as administrative head yet subject to the direction and control of the Governor. In practice, the Governor appoints an unclassified Special Assistant to fill the Administrator position. As unclassified employees, the former Administrator served from February 2003 to December 2010 and the current Administrator began his appointment in January 2011. Given that the Administrator serves at the Governor's pleasure and remains subject to his direction and control, the position is better suited to be in the unclassified service. We recommend the Commission review the matter further to determine whether a change in law is needed to reflect current practice.

Mandated Financial Reports Not Submitted

Upon transferring the Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund from the Guam Parks Commission to the Guam Veterans Commission, 10 GCA § 67105.1 also mandated the deposit of any federal money paid to Guam for use of the cemetery. Trust Fund deposits are reserved for cemetery maintenance. The Veterans Commission directs expenditures from the Fund and must account

annually to the Governor for use of the Fund. Section 67106 requires the Administrator to submit quarterly reports of his solicitation, acceptance, utilization, and administration of gifts, bequests and donations. Those reports are to be submitted to the Governor and the Public Auditor and to be posted on VAO's website.

To date, no annual or quarterly financial reports have ever been submitted. The Commission has not filed its mandated annual reports to the Governor nor has it pressed the Administrator to prepare and submit the required quarterly financial reports. The VAO has a website, but no financial reports are posted.

Commission officers share the responsibility for implementing and monitoring the checks and balances over cash transactions. The officers should initiate an appropriate oversight process and adopt a level of awareness because cash can be easily misappropriated and is susceptible to theft. Ongoing communication should occur to ensure that officers are aware of their respective responsibility in performing their monitoring duties. Any suspected breakdown or deficiencies in the checks and balances should be reported at Commission meetings, properly documented, and appropriate corrective action taken.

Non-Filing of Required Tax Form 1099-Miscellaneous Income

Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income, must be issued to all entities or individuals who receive at least \$600 for goods or services unrelated to their regular income. Copies of the form must also be submitted to the Department of Revenue and Taxation (DRT). We found no records that 1099-MISC forms were issued to anyone or to DRT, even though there were 14 disbursements totaling \$29,217 made to various individuals or businesses for over \$600. For example:

- Three checks totaling \$2,025 were made to an individual to supply refreshments for VAO events;
- One check totaling \$2,100 was made to an individual for catering services for a VAO event; and
- Ten checks totaling \$25,092 (over \$600 each) were made to unnamed individuals or businesses. We were unable to determine the nature of the purchases.

The Commission members, former and current Administrators, and the Administrative Assistant we spoke with said they were unaware that both federal and local tax laws require Form 1099-MISC to be issued to payees and DRT. The Administrative Assistant said she would contact DRT for information regarding the required tax filing. We recommend VAO prepare Form 1099 - Miscellaneous Income for the 14 individuals or businesses that received over \$600 and submit copies to DRT.

Other Matters

One Senator asked OPA to look into VAO's water bill, which purportedly was in excess of \$65,000. We were informed that VAO experienced severe water leaks at the cemetery and that

the Governor's Office eventually paid the water bill. According to the current Administrator, water leakages are still a continuing problem.

Another Senator asked about how the \$150,000 appropriated in 2010 was used. In FY 2009, P.L. 30-09 appropriated \$200,000 from Territorial Highway Fund revenues to VAO for the operations and maintenance of the Veteran's Cemetery. According to the Senator, the appropriated funds were not used and reverted back to the Territorial Highway Fund. Subsequently, in March 2010, P.L. 30-101 appropriated \$150,000 to VAO to purchase supplies, materials, and equipment, as well as to procure services for cemetery maintenance. The Senator stated that the \$150,000 was to be used to obtain a conceptual plan for the cemetery's expansion. The current Administrator said he was not aware of any previous conceptual plans and expansion of the Veterans Cemetery, and documents such as requisitions and purchase orders could not be located. Based on Department of Administration records, we confirmed that a total of \$136,361 was paid out using the \$150,000 appropriation. Of this amount:

- \$97,600 was paid for contractual services;
- \$17,118 was paid for supplies; and
- \$21,643 was paid for equipment.

The same Senator was also concerned about VAO's inconsistent equipment inventory. The Administrator said VAO has since implemented strict controls on the handling of equipment and return policies to minimize the loss of equipment.

Conclusion

We concluded that VAO non-appropriated funds (NAF) were not properly managed and accounted for in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The Commission did not perform its fiduciary responsibility to provide oversight or adequately monitor VAO's finances and operations. Instead the Commission relied extensively on the former and present Administrators. Among the deficiencies uncovered were: (1) the nature of \$9,391 in deposits could not be determined; (2) \$952 in donations were not deposited, (3) procurement regulations were not followed for 91 disbursements totaling \$65,500; (4) 17 bank checks were signed in advance and later redeemed for payments totaling \$12,261; and (5) bank reconciliations were not performed. As a result, and due to the poor record keeping, we were unable to accurately or completely assess or quantify the extent of loss (if any), misuse, and misappropriation at VAO. However, based on available records, we did not find evidence or deliberate attempts to misuse or misappropriate VAO funds. This was VAO's first audit with findings similar to other audits conducted on NAF.

Cash is the most liquid and necessary of all assets and can be easily misappropriated. Because of the diverse nature of the cash management processes involved (i.e., collections, deposits, and disbursement), and the fragmented oversight responsibilities generally associated with these procedures, application of effective internal control principles over cash is vital. A sound system of checks and balances provides adequate procedures for both controlling cash receipts and disbursements. However, even the best designed internal controls are negated when those responsible to oversee and administer the system fail to understand their roles in making them work effectively and consistently.⁶ The need for checks and balances may seem burdensome and restrictive, but their value in managing the inherent risks of fraud, misuse and abuse should always be considered. Refer to Appendix 8 and 9 for guidance on internal control principles (i.e. checks and balances) and internal control checklist.

⁶ Excerpts from An Elected Official's Guide to Internal Controls and Fraud Prevention and Snyder, H. and Clifton, J., "Stealing from the Collection Plate," Fraud Magazine, December 2005.

Recommendations

We recommend the following to the Commission and the VAO Administrator to correct the deficiencies:

1. Establish policies and procedures for handling and accounting for financial data, such as:
 - a. Utilize an electronic spreadsheet or accounting software program to prepare monthly financial reports, including an electronic database for burial claims.
 - b. Use pre-numbered receipts to record all cash and checks received.
 - c. Perform monthly bank reconciliations and prepare monthly financial statements to ensure that all cash collected and disbursed are accurately accounted for.
 - d. Promptly deposit all cash receipts into the bank, preferably no later than a few days after being received.
 - e. Immediately discontinue signing blank checks and require the Administrator to provide supporting documentation prior to disbursement of funds.
 - f. Petty cash replenishments match the receipts being provided as support.
2. Maintain a list and the copies of all claims submitted to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; upon receipt, reimbursements should be reconciled against the claims submissions and immediately contact USDVA to resolve any discrepancies.
3. Issue Form 1099 Miscellaneous Income to individuals and/or businesses that were paid more than \$600 annually and submit copies to DRT.
4. Determine whether a change in law is needed to amend 10 GCA Section 67100 to make the Administrator's position unclassified to be consistent with current practice for Agency Heads.

VAO Management & Commission Responses & OPA Reply

A draft report was transmitted to VAO's Administrator and Board Chairman of the Guam Veterans Commission in February 2012 for review and response to our recommendations. We briefed the VAO Administrator and Board Chairman on the report findings and recommendations in February 2012.

The Guam Veterans Commission Board Chairman submitted a response and plan of action in March 2012 indicating general concurrence with the audit report findings. See Appendix 11 for the Commission's management response.

The current VAO Administrator submitted a response in March 2012, indicating disagreement with most of the audit findings. See Appendix 10 for the management response. Some of the Administrator's specific disagreements and our response follow.

- VAO kept all of the receipts to substantiate the 17 pre-signed blank checks resulting in \$12,261 in expenditures. In addition, the defunct Commission President and Treasurer were experiencing health problems and could not always come down to VAO when summoned.
 - We disagree. We verified that \$9,828 of the \$12,261 in disbursements was supported with receipts or invoices. However, the bigger concern here is the practice of pre-signing blank checks. Signing blank checks was an abdication of the Commission's fiduciary responsibility, which is a highly risky means of ensuring efficient operations. Therefore, the finding remains.
- Guam Procurement Law and Regulations require at least three positive written quotes to be obtained for small purchases of \$500 to \$15,000 and that only three purchases totaling \$4,404 out of the 17 totaling \$12,261 under his watch should be subjected to this requirement.
 - We disagree. While Guam Procurement Law and Regulations require at least three positive written quotes for small purchases of \$500 to \$15,000, small purchases under \$500 should still have evidence of competition, such as soliciting at least three telephonic quotes. Since none of the transactions tested totaling \$65,500 (\$53,239 and \$12,261 under the former and current Administrators, respectively) had evidence that either three positive written quotes or three telephonic quotes were obtained, this finding remains with total questioned costs of \$65,500.
- Disagreed with the finding that \$46,391 (\$35,808 and \$10,583 under the former and current Administrators, respectively) in disbursements did not have supporting documentation, claiming that there is support for the \$10,583 made during his time in office. In addition, the transactions in this finding are nearly identical to those noted in the pre-signed blank checks and Guam Procurement Laws and Regulations not followed.

- We disagree. Our review of the subsequently provided information indicated that \$8,240 has been cleared, but \$2,342 remains unsupported under the current Administrator. Further, no supporting documentation was submitted to clear the transactions questioned under the former Administrator. Therefore, the finding remains with questioned costs totaling \$38,150.
 - We conducted multiple tests, each using 100% of the expenditures incurred through VAO's two checking accounts from FY 2008 to 2011. Thus, we have multiple findings. However, we performed additional procedures to ensure that we did not double-count when compiling the questioned costs in Appendix 1.
- The Administrator's travel in question was approved, since he personally briefed both the Governor and the Commission, and the Chief of Staff approved his administrative leave.
 - We disagree. While we were provided a copy of an approved administrative leave form, there was neither a signed and approved government travel authorization form nor Commission minutes to document the travel approval. Therefore, the finding remains. Additionally, the expenses related to this travel were made through two pre-signed blank checks.
- The Administrative Assistant made sure that supporting documents match all petty cash reimbursements to the Administrator.
 - We disagree. We verified that of the three reimbursement checks made to the current Administrator totaling \$2,000, only \$1,809 has been substantiated and \$191 remains unsupported. Therefore, this finding remains.
- The Administrative Assistant performed monthly bank reconciliation when the bank statements come out.
 - We disagree. During our review, there was no evidence that bank reconciliations were performed. Further, we subpoenaed the bank statements from the bank in order to begin our review. The monthly bank reconciliation was only implemented after it was brought to VAO's attention and occurred after September 2011, which is the end of our audit scope. Therefore, the finding remains.

The legislation creating the Office of Public Accountability requires agencies to prepare a corrective action plan to implement audit recommendations, to document the progress in implementing the recommendations, and to endeavor to have implementation completed no later than the beginning of the next fiscal year. Accordingly, we will be contacting VAO to provide the target date and title of the official(s) responsible for implementing the recommendation.

We appreciate the cooperation shown by the Guam Veterans Commission and staff and management of the Veterans Affairs Office during the course of this audit.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY



Doris Flores Brooks, CPA, CGFM
Public Auditor

Appendix 1:
Classification of Monetary Amounts

Finding Area	Lost/Potential Revenues	Lost Exceptions⁷	Unsupported Costs⁸
1) Pre-Numbered Receipts Not Used	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2) Incomplete Deposits	\$ 952	\$ -	\$ -
3) Lack of Segregation of Duties	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4) Burial Reimbursement Claims Listing Not Maintained	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
5) GovGuam Procurement Law and Regulations Not Followed	\$ -	\$ 24,023 ⁹	\$ -
6) Pre-Signed Blank Checks	\$ -	\$ 12,261 ¹⁰	\$ -
7) No Travel Authorization	\$ -	\$ 4,705 ¹¹	\$ -
8) Petty Cash Reimbursements Not Reconciled	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 191 ¹²
9) Bank Reconciliations Not Performed	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10) Incomplete Records	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
11) Designation of Administrator	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
12) Mandated Financial Reports Not Submitted	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
13) Non-Filing of Required Tax Form 1099-Micellaneous Income	\$ -	\$ 29,217 ¹³	\$ -
14) Other Matters	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 952	\$ 65,500¹⁴	\$ -

⁷ These are expenditures that have been determined unallowable or otherwise improper based on available legal criteria.

⁸ These expenditures may be allowable. However, the accounting records or other documents available to the auditors did not provide adequate support for the costs.

⁹ We found that 91 disbursements totaling \$65,500 did not comply with Guam Procurement Law and Regulations. However, because we conducted multiple tests on 100% of the expenditures, certain amounts were also questioned as part of other findings as noted within these footnotes.

¹⁰ A total of 17 blank checks were pre-signed, resulting in \$12,261 in expenditures; however, this was also questioned as part of the "GovGuam Procurement Regulations Not Followed" Finding. Of this \$12,261, \$9,828 was subsequently supported, but the finding remains because the bigger concern is the practice of pre-signing checks.

¹¹ The two checks totaling \$4,705 related to the current Administrator's travel is being questioned because we found no approved travel authorization or meeting minutes of the Commission indicating travel approval. This amount was also part of the "Pre-signed Blank Checks" Finding.

¹² Of the \$2,000 used to replenish the petty cash fund, only \$1,809 was subsequently substantiated with supporting documents. However, the \$2,000 was also questioned as part of the "GovGuam Procurement Regulations Not Followed" Finding.

¹³ There were 14 disbursements totaling \$29,217, where VAO did not prepare and file the required 1099 forms. However, this was also questioned as part of the "GovGuam Procurement Regulations Not Followed" Finding.

¹⁴ The total questioned cost of \$65,500 excludes the \$4,705, which was already counted under the "Pre-Signed Blank Checks" Finding.

Appendix 2:**Objective, Scope, and Methodology**

Our audit objective was to determine whether VAO non-appropriated funds were properly managed and accounted for in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The scope of this engagement is from October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2011 (FY 2009, 2010, and 2011).

The effectiveness of the internal controls (checks and balances) system is the sole responsibility of VAO management and Commission members and is designed to ensure all transactions are properly authorized, and that data contained in financial reports are reliable. To evaluate the adequacy of VAO's system, we performed the following procedures:

- Interviewed VAO employees and the Guam Veterans Commission members to gain an understanding of VAO's financial processes;
- Utilized internal control checklists and management questionnaires to gather data we determined relevant in evaluating the financial processes;
- Reviewed pertinent financial and administrative documents such as bank statements, bank deposit slips, checking account register, board meeting minutes, etc.;
- Subpoenaed bank statements for the Veterans Affairs Fund and the Guam Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund;
- Compiled schedules on deposits, receipts and disbursements; and
- Tested 100% of the cash receipt and disbursement transactions to ascertain whether these transactions were accounted for and recorded timely, accurately, and with supporting documentation.

We conducted this review in accordance with the standards for performance audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of America. These standards require that we plan and perform the assessment to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

Appendix 3:
Prior Audit Coverage

Office of Public Accountability

The Office of Public Accountability has not performed any audits, studies, or reviews of the Guam Veterans Affairs Office.

Government of Guam Financial Audits

From fiscal years 2009 to 2011, VAO received total appropriations of \$1,006,095 and had total expenditures of \$924,742. Note that VAO's non-appropriated funds (NAF) are not reported as a part of the government-wide financial audits.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
2009	\$246,357	\$237,629
2010	\$255,827	\$240,024
2011	<u>\$503,911¹⁵</u>	<u>\$447,089</u>
Total	\$1,006,095	\$924,742

Governor's Transition Report on the Guam Veterans Affairs Office

In December 2010, the incoming Governor's transition team identified various challenges and issues facing the VAO, to include:

- Budget for additional staff at VAO and the Commission
- Improve office automation
- Acquire additional vehicles
- Additional offices needed to handle increase of services
- VAO is two years behind in submitting reimbursement claims
- On-going project to address deficiencies outlined in the Triennial Assessment by the National Cemetery Administration

¹⁵ Appropriations of \$494,533 derived from two funding sources: \$353,911 from the General Fund and \$150,000 from the Territorial Highway Fund. Of the \$150,000 from the THF, VAO expended \$136,361.

Guam Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund Bank Balances Compiled by OPA

	Month Ending	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance
FY 2009	October-08	\$ 574.82	\$ -	\$ 1.50	\$ 573.32
	November-08	\$ 573.32	\$ -	\$ 1.50	\$ 571.82
	December-08	\$ 571.82	\$ -	\$ 1.50	\$ 570.32
	January-09	\$ 570.32	\$ 22,800.00	\$ -	\$ 23,370.32
	February-09	\$ 23,370.32	\$ 15,600.00	\$ 6,847.13	\$ 32,123.19
	March-09	\$ 32,123.19	\$ -	\$ 15,737.40	\$ 16,385.79
	April-09	\$ 16,385.79	\$ 7,800.00	\$ 117.38	\$ 24,068.41
	May-09	\$ 24,068.41	\$ -	\$ 2,524.91	\$ 21,543.50
	June-09	\$ 21,543.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,543.50
	July-09	\$ 21,543.50	\$ -	\$ 989.36	\$ 20,554.14
	August-09	\$ 20,554.14	\$ -	\$ 2,217.51	\$ 18,336.63
	September-09	\$ 18,336.63	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,336.63
FY 2009 Total			\$ 46,200.00	\$ 28,438.19	

	Month Ending	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance
FY 2010	October-09	\$ 18,336.63	\$ -	\$ 9,507.31	\$ 8,829.32
	November-09	\$ 8,829.32	\$ -	\$ 439.86	\$ 8,389.46
	December-09	\$ 8,389.46	\$ -	\$ 123.10	\$ 8,266.36
	January-10	\$ 8,266.36	\$ -	\$ 2,147.60	\$ 6,118.76
	February-10	\$ 6,118.76	\$ -	\$ 1,069.78	\$ 5,048.98
	March-10	\$ 5,048.98	\$ -	\$ 365.33	\$ 4,683.65
	April-10	\$ 4,683.65	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,683.65
	May-10	\$ 4,683.65	\$ -	\$ 1,793.71	\$ 2,889.94
	June-10	\$ 2,889.94	\$ -	\$ 626.58	\$ 2,263.36
	July-10	\$ 2,263.36	\$ -	\$ 179.97	\$ 2,083.39
	August-10	\$ 2,083.39	\$ -	\$ 94.36	\$ 1,989.03
	September-10	\$ 1,989.03	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,989.03
FY 2010 Total			\$ -	\$ 16,347.60	

Source: Veterans Affairs Office Bank of Hawaii Statements for the periods October 2008 through September 2011.

Guam Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund Bank Balances Compiled by OPA

	Month Ending	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance
FY 2011	October-10	\$ 1,989.03	\$ -	\$ 205.31	\$ 1,783.72
	November-10	\$ 1,783.72	\$ -	\$ 69.95	\$ 1,713.77
	December-10	\$ 1,713.77	\$ -	\$ 491.97	\$ 1,221.80
			\$ -	\$ 767.23	

FY 2009, 2010 thru Dec 2010 Total

\$ 46,200.00	\$ 45,553.02
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	Month Ending	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance
FY 2011	January-11	\$ 1,221.80	\$ -	\$ 1,001.50	\$ 220.30
	February-11	\$ 220.30	\$ -	\$ 2.50	\$ 217.80
	March-11	\$ 217.80	\$ 450.00	\$ 233.50	\$ 434.30
	April-11	\$ 434.30	\$ 350.00	\$ 1.50	\$ 782.80
	May-11	\$ 782.80	\$ -	\$ 1.50	\$ 781.30
	June-11	\$ 781.30	\$ 9,900.00	\$ 2,053.27	\$ 8,628.03
	July-11	\$ 8,628.03	\$ -	\$ 1,119.00	\$ 7,509.03
	August-11	\$ 7,509.03	\$ -	\$ 4,354.96	\$ 3,154.07
	September-11	\$ 3,154.07	\$ 600.00	\$ 3,303.00	\$ 451.07
FY 2011 Total (Jan to Sept 2011)			\$ 11,300.00	\$ 12,070.73	

FY 2009, 2010 & 2011 GVC Trust Fund Total

\$ 57,500.00	\$ 57,623.75
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Activities for the GVC Trust Fund from the period October 2008 through December 2010 was under the former VAO Administrator and the period January 2011 through September 2011 was under the present VAO Administrator.

Appendix 5:
Guam Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund Receipts and Disbursements
Compiled by OPA

	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	Total
Receipts:				
Donations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Fundraising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Burial Claims	\$ 46,200.00	\$ -	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 56,700.00
Other-unknown	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total receipts	\$ 46,200.00	\$ -	\$ 11,300.00	\$ 57,500.00
Disbursements:				
Food	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 103.00	\$ 103.00
Travel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,704.96	\$ 4,704.96
Equipment	\$ -	\$ 2,851.10	\$ 799.00	\$ 3,650.10
Services	\$ 350.00	\$ 7,687.62	\$ 3,429.30	\$ 11,466.92
Supplies & Materials	\$ 4,983.64	\$ 5,808.88	\$ 552.23	\$ 11,344.75
Bank charges	\$ 96.63	\$ -	\$ 9.50	\$ 106.13
Other-unknown	\$ 23,007.92	\$ -	\$ 3,239.97	\$ 26,247.89
Total disbursements	\$ 28,438.19	\$ 16,347.60	\$ 12,837.96	\$ 57,623.75
Excess of receipts over disbursements	\$ 17,761.81	\$ (16,347.60)	\$ (1,537.96)	\$ (123.75)
Cash at beginning of year	\$ 574.82	\$ 18,336.63	\$ 1,989.03	\$ 574.82
Cash at end of year	\$ 18,336.63	\$ 1,989.03	\$ 451.07	\$ 451.07

**Appendix 6:
Veterans Affairs Fund Bank Balances Compiled by OPA**

	Month Ending	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance
FY 2009	October 2008	\$ 766.44	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 766.44
	November 2008	\$ 766.44	\$ 560.00	\$ 660.00	\$ 666.44
	December 2008	\$ 666.44	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 766.44
	January 2009	\$ 766.44	\$ 434.00	\$ 392.00	\$ 808.44
	February 2009	\$ 808.44	\$ 627.49	\$ 650.00	\$ 785.93
	March 2009	\$ 785.93	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 785.93
	April 2009	\$ 785.93	\$ 800.00	\$ -	\$ 1,585.93
	May 2009	\$ 1,585.93	\$ -	\$ 1,324.11	\$ 261.82
	June 2009	\$ 261.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 261.82
	July 2009	\$ 261.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 261.82
	August 2009	\$ 261.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 261.82
	September 2009	\$ 261.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 261.82
FY 2009 Total			\$ 2,621.49	\$ 3,126.11	

	Month Ending	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance
FY 2010	October-09	\$ 261.82	\$ 825.00	\$ -	\$ 1,086.82
	November-09	\$ 1,086.82	\$ 150.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 361.82
	December-09	\$ 361.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 361.82
	January-10	\$ 361.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 361.82
	February-10	\$ 361.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 361.82
	March-10	\$ 361.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 361.82
	April-10	\$ 361.82	\$ 960.00	\$ -	\$ 1,321.82
	May-10	\$ 1,321.82	\$ 375.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 896.82
	June-10	\$ 896.82	\$ 1,860.00	\$ -	\$ 2,756.82
	July-10	\$ 2,756.82	\$ -	\$ 44.65	\$ 2,712.17
	August-10	\$ 2,712.17	\$ -	\$ 1,290.00	\$ 1,422.17
	September-10	\$ 1,422.17	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 922.17
FY 2010 Total			\$ 4,170.00	\$ 3,509.65	

Source: Veterans Affairs Office Bank of Hawaii Statements for the periods October 2008 through September 2011.

**Appendix 6:
Veterans Affairs Fund Bank Balances Compiled by OPA**

	Month Ending	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance
FY 2011	October-10	\$ 922.17	\$ -	\$ 782.49	\$ 139.68
	November-10	\$ 139.68	\$ 700.00	\$ 438.52	\$ 401.16
	December-10	\$ 401.16	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 401.16
			\$ 700.00	\$ 1,221.01	
FY 2009, 2010 thru Dec 2010 Total			\$ 7,491.49	\$ 7,856.77	

	Month Ending	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance
FY 2011	January-11	\$ 401.16	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 401.16
	February-11	\$ 401.16	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 401.16
	March-11	\$ 401.16	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 201.16
	April-11	\$ 201.16	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 201.16
	May-11	\$ 201.16	\$ 950.00	\$ -	\$ 1,151.16
	June-11	\$ 1,151.16	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,151.16
	July-11	\$ 1,151.16	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 1,251.16
	August-11	\$ 1,251.16	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,251.16
	September-11	\$ 1,251.16	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 1,301.16
Jan to Dec 2011 Total			\$ 1,100.00	\$ 200.00	
FY 2011 Total			\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,421.01	

FY 2009, 2010 & 2011 VA Fund Total \$ 8,591.49 \$ 8,056.77

Activities for the Veterans Affairs Fund for the period October 2008 through December 2010 was under the former VAO Administrator and the period January 2011 through September 2011 was under the present VAO Administrator.

Appendix 7:
Veterans Affairs Fund Receipts and Disbursements Compiled by OPA

	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	Total
Receipts:				
Donations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fundraising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other-unknown	\$ 2,621.49	\$ 4,170.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 8,591.49
Total receipts	\$ 2,621.49	\$ 4,170.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 8,591.49
Disbursements:				
Food	\$ -	\$ 700.00	\$ 285.00	\$ 985.00
Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Services	\$ 650.00	\$ 200.00		\$ 850.00
Supplies & Materials	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 782.49	\$ 882.49
Bank charges	\$ -	\$ 44.65	\$ 30.00	\$ 74.65
Other-unknown	\$ 2,476.11	\$ 2,465.00	\$ 323.52	\$ 5,264.63
Total disbursements	\$ 3,126.11	\$ 3,509.65	\$ 1,421.01	\$ 8,056.77
Excess of receipts over disbursements	\$ (504.62)	\$ 660.35	\$ 378.99	\$ 534.72
Cash at beginning of year	\$ 766.44	\$ 261.82	\$ 922.17	\$ 766.44
Cash at end of year	261.82	922.17	1,301.16	1,301.16



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INTERNAL CONTROL PROCEDURES

The following information on the fundamental principles of internal controls and cash is taken from a chapter of the Fundamental Accounting Principles, 15th edition written by Larson, Wild and Chiapetta. It has been adapted to fit a small government entity. Please note that the information is not all-inclusive of internal controls and should be used as a general guide to ensure basic internal controls are in place.

OVERVIEW

It is management's responsibility to set up policies and procedures to safeguard an agency's assets, especially cash. To do so, directors and government employees must understand and apply the basic principles of internal controls.

PURPOSE OF INTERNAL CONTROL

Directors of small government entities often control the entire operation. They supervise employees, participate in all activities, and make major decisions. At some point, directors must delegate responsibilities and rely on formal procedures rather than personal contact in controlling and knowing all operations of the entity.

Directors use an internal control system to monitor and control the entity's operations. An internal control system is all the policies and procedures directors use to:

- Protect assets
- Ensure reliable accounting
- Promote efficient operations
- Urge adherence to government policies, rules and regulations, and laws

A properly designed internal control system is a key part of systems design, analysis and performance. Directors should place a high priority on internal control systems because they can prevent avoidable losses, help directors plan operations, and monitor agency and employee performance. While internal controls do not offer guarantees, they reduce the agency's risk to fraud, waste, and abuse.

PRINCIPLES OF INTERNAL CONTROL

Internal control policies and procedures vary from entity to entity. They depend on factors such as the nature of the entity's operations and its size. Yet certain fundamental internal control principles apply to all entities. The principles of internal control are:



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1. **Establish responsibilities.**
 - Control is most effective when each task is clearly established and assigned to one person.
2. **Maintain adequate records.**
 - Good recordkeeping helps protect assets and ensures that employees use prescribed procedures.
 - Reliable records are a source of information that directors use to monitor the entity's operations.
3. **Separate recordkeeping from custody of assets.**
 - The person who controls or has access to an asset must not keep that asset's accounting records.
 - This principle reduces the risk of theft or waste of an asset because the person with control over the asset knows that records of the asset are kept by another person. The recordkeeper doesn't have access to the asset and has no reason to falsify records. Both persons must agree to commit a fraud, called collusion, for the asset to be stolen and theft is hidden from the records.
4. **Divide responsibility for related transactions.**
 - Good internal control divides responsibility for a transaction or a series of related transactions between two or more individuals or departments, often called separation of duties.
 - This is to ensure that the work of one acts as a check on another.
5. **Apply technological controls.**
 - The use of technological devices can improve internal control (i.e., accounting softwares or programs, cash registers, check protectors, time clocks, mechanical counters, and personal identification scanners).
6. **Perform regular and independent reviews.**
 - Management should review monthly financial reports of the agency's operations.
 - Independent reviews should be done by internal auditors or by someone who is not directly involved in operations.
 - The independent review should be done periodically or on a surprise basis.
 - The entity should have external auditors test the agency's financial records to determine whether they are presented fairly in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
7. **Insure assets and bond key employees.**
 - Assets should be adequately insured against casualty, and employees handling cash and negotiable assets should be bonded.



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- An employee is *bonded* when the entity purchases an insurance policy, or bond, against losses from theft by that employee.
- For the Government of Guam, bonding of employees may not be cost effective.

These procedures minimize the risk of fraud and theft as well as increase the reliability and accuracy of accounting records.

LIMITATIONS OF INTERNAL CONTROL

All internal control policies and procedures have limitations. Probably the most serious source of these limitations is the human element. Internal control policies and procedures are applied by people and often impact other people. This human element creates several potential limitations that we can categorize as either:

- (1) Human error, which can occur from negligence, fatigue, misjudgment, or confusion, or
- (2) Human fraud, which involves intent by people to defeat internal controls for personal gain.

Another important limitation on internal control is the cost-benefit principle, which means the costs of internal controls must not exceed their benefits. The bottom line is that no internal control system is perfect, and that the directors must establish internal control policies and procedures with a net benefit to the entity.

CONTROL OF CASH

Cash is a necessary asset of every entity. It is important to apply principles of good internal control to cash. Cash is the most liquid of all assets and are easily hidden and moved. A good system of internal control for cash provides adequate procedures for protecting both cash receipts and cash disbursement. These procedures should meet three basic guidelines:

1. Handling of cash is separate from recordkeeping for cash.
 - This guideline aims to minimize errors and fraud by division of duties.
 - When duties are separated, two or more people must collude to steal cash and conceal this action in the accounting records.
2. Cash receipts are promptly (daily) deposited in a bank.
 - This guideline aims to use immediate (daily) deposits of all cash receipts to produce a timely independent test of the accuracy of the count of cash received.
 - Cash theft or loss is reduced as well as the risk of an employee personally using the money before depositing it.
3. Cash disbursements are made by check.



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- This guideline aims to use payment by check to develop a bank record of cash disbursements
- This guideline also reduces the risk of cash theft.

The deposit of cash receipts and the use of checks for cash disbursement allows an entity to use bank records as a separate external record of cash transactions. For small entities, use of prenumbered cash receipts as well as the requirement of dual signatures on checks are also essential procedures for good internal control for cash.

VOUCHER SYSTEM OF CONTROL

A voucher system is a set of procedures and approvals designed to control cash disbursements and acceptance of obligations. The voucher system of control establishes procedures for:

- Accepting obligations resulting in cash disbursements.
- Verifying, approving, and recording obligations.
- Issuing checks for payment of verified, approved, and recorded obligations.
- Requiring obligations be recorded when incurred.
- Treating each purchase as an independent transaction.

A good voucher system follows these procedures for every transaction. This applies even when many purchases are made from the same vendor during a period.

BANK RECONCILIATION

When an agency deposits all receipts and when all payments except petty cash payments are by check, the bank statement is a device for proving the accuracy of the depositor's cash records. The agency tests the accuracy by preparing a bank reconciliation. A bank reconciliation explains the difference between the balance of a checking account according to the depositor's records and the balance reported on the bank statement.



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INTERNAL CONTROL CHECKLIST

This internal control checklist is designed to help Directors assess their agency's internal controls and to provide guidance in implementing controls where weaknesses are presented. This is not an all-inclusive list of internal controls and should be used as a general guide to ensure that basic internal controls are in place. Please note that answering "yes" indicates that a desired control is in place; answering "no" indicates that a control weakness may be present, and corrective action may be necessary. Keep in mind that some questions may not be applicable to all operations.

	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
General Controls				
• Does the entity have an accounting system such as QuickBooks, Peachtree, MAS 90, etc.?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Does the entity have adequate written statements and explanations of its accounting policies and procedures?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are accounting policies and procedure manuals updated as necessary?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are manuals distributed to appropriate personnel?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Is there a periodic review of accounting procedures with all staff?	_____	_____	_____	_____
Cash Receipts				
• Are responsibilities for collecting, depositing, and recording cash receipts performed by different individuals?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are cash receipts recorded on pre-numbered duplicate receipt forms with the original copy given to the payer?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are deposits compared on a daily basis to pre-numbered receipt forms by someone other than employee initially receiving cash?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Is "For Deposit Only" stamped on incoming checks as soon as received?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are all checks received made payable to the entity?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are adequate physical facilities provided for safeguarding cash until it can be deposited (locked away)?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Does adequate accountability exist to identify who is responsible for cash at any given time (Is responsibility for cash receipts fixed from the time they are received until sent to the bank)?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are cash receipts deposited on a daily basis?	_____	_____	_____	_____

Appendix 9: Internal Control Checklist

	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
• Are Deposit, Receipt Forms and supporting documentation reviewed by an employee not involved with the cash collection process?				
• Are cash overages or shortages reported?				
• Are employees prohibited from using cash receipts to make cash disbursements?				
• Is a comparison of daily reported receipts conducted on a test basis to bank statements to verify timeliness of deposits?				
Cash Disbursements				
• Are responsibilities for disbursement preparation and disbursement approval functions segregated from those recording or entering cash disbursements information?				
• Are all cash disbursements made by check?				
• Are pre-numbered triplicate checks used where the original check is given to Payee, the duplicate filed in the vendor file and triplicate saved as the check register copy?				
• Are dual signatures required on all checks?				
• Are disbursements made only when approved by authorized persons?				
• Are all bills or disbursement vouchers presented together with the checks for signature?				
• Are all supporting documents properly marked "Paid" at time of signature to prevent duplicate payment?				
• Are all bills or disbursement vouchers approved by someone other than the check signer?				
• Are voided checks preserved and filed after appropriate mutilation?				
• Is there a written prohibition against drawing checks payable to cash?				
Financial Records				
• Is a monthly review and reconciliation of all bank statements and correspondence performed (preferably within 15 days after the statement date)?				
• Is a monthly review and reconciliation of all bank statements and correspondence performed by someone unrelated to the cash receipts or disbursement functions?				
• Does a responsible official, other than the preparer, review completed bank reconciliations?				
• Is the completed bank reconciliation initialed and dated by both the preparer and the reviewer?				

**Appendix 9:
Internal Control Checklist**

	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
• Does the entity's accounting system allow management to record financial transactions, view the data by category, and create timely reports to maintain accountability for the government's assets?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Is computerized data backed up daily and source documents retained?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are all financial recording documents sequentially pre-numbered, retained, and accounted for, including spoiled or voided forms?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are records properly guarded from fire, theft and manipulation?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are monthly financial statements (e.g. Trial Balance, Balance Sheet, Income Statement, etc.) prepared?	_____	_____	_____	_____
• Are monthly financial statements reviewed and approved by the director?	_____	_____	_____	_____

Management Response – Office of Veterans Affairs

 Eddie B. Calvo Governor Ray Tenorio Lieutenant Governor	OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Guam Veterans Cemetery 172 South Marine Corps Drive Asan, Guam 96910 Telephone: (671) 475-8389/90/92/94 Facsimile: (671) 475-8396	 John S. Unpingco Governor's Special Assistant	
March 1, 2012	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> RECEIVED OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS DATE: <u>3/5/12</u> TIME: <u>3:27 pm</u> BY: <u>Vince D.</u> </td> </tr> </table>	RECEIVED OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS DATE: <u>3/5/12</u> TIME: <u>3:27 pm</u> BY: <u>Vince D.</u>	
RECEIVED OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS DATE: <u>3/5/12</u> TIME: <u>3:27 pm</u> BY: <u>Vince D.</u>			
<p>We write to you to give our comments to the audit you recently conducted on the Office of Veterans Affairs. While we agree that tax reports were not filed and quarterly and were not made, we disagree with most of the other findings. We shall first give a brief description of the condition or the state of affairs of the Office of Veterans Affairs on January 3, 2011 so that things are placed in the proper perspective. Then, we shall furnish comments in the order presented in the "executive summary." What is not covered in the "executive summary" will be covered in the "results of audit."</p> <p>On January 3, 2011, the Office of Veterans Affairs was a complete mess. There was no accountability for tools, equipment and hand issued items. There were few records and receipts were haphazardly kept. There was a big problem with respect to vendors not being paid for goods furnished and services performed in prior years, maintenance of the Veterans Cemetery was a source of constant complaints and operational supplies for the cemetery were badly needed. Water leakage at the cemetery was and still is a continuing problem. Thousands of dollars were spent with no resolution. Veterans were screaming for action to be taken. The present Administrator began prioritizing the problems and went to work on solving them.</p> <p>This brings us to the first comment we have on the audit. The audit findings are based on the time period from October, 2008 to September 2011. The present Administrator's time period was from January 3, 2011 to September 2011 (9 months out of the 36 total). The audit in the Executive Summary should at the outset make this delineation as it seems this audit seems focused on my tenure as Administrator while the prior Administrator (who had a longer period) is ignored.</p> <p>The second general comment is that the Guam Veterans Commission had been defunct for well over two (2) years. The new slate of officers were elected on January 13, 2011.</p>			

The responsibility for the oversight of the Office of Veterans Affairs' finances should not be shouldered by all of the present officers of the Guam Veterans Commission. The terms of the Guam Veterans Commission is only for two (2) years under the Bylaws of the Guam Veterans Commission. Its members do not hold office until their successors have been duly elected and sworn in by the Governor of Guam. The present Veterans Commission was not elected until January, 2012. This was the third attempt at elections, as the first two had procedural defects. In the July meeting, for instance, it was decided to postpone the elections to give the veterans organizations a chance to get their non-profit tax certificates from Department of Revenue and Taxation. In the second one, a veteran at the meeting complained that people ineligible to vote, voted and that proper notice was not given by the Office of Veterans Affairs in the Pacific Daily News as required by the By-Laws. The present Administrator remedied these problems and the new Commission was voted in on January 13, 2012

We now turn to the findings of the Office of Public Auditor in the "executive summary."

FINDINGS ONE AND TWO ARE VALID: We shall take corrective steps to follow these recommendations in the future.

FINDINGS THREE: Seventeen (17) checks signed in blank totaling Twelve Thousand Two Hundred Sixty One Dollars (\$12,261) under the current Administrator. It is true that these checks were pre-signed. What is not mentioned is that the defunct Commission President and Treasurer were experiencing health problems and could not always come down to the Office of Veterans Affairs when summoned. In the meantime we still need trash bags, caulking to line the crypt covers at the Guam Veterans Cemetery and other bills from operations of the cemetery were still coming in. We asked for the source document upon which this finding is based. It is attached as Attachment 1.

We kept all of the receipts for which the expenditures of \$12,261 were incurred (see Attachment 2). Every cent of the \$12,261 was accounted for. Yet, this important fact was not mentioned in the report.

FINDING FOUR: Guam procurement laws and regulations were not followed, resulting in the \$65,500 in disbursements without the minimum three (3) quotes. Of this amount, \$53,293 and \$12,261 were under the former and current Administrator, respectively. The source document upon which the auditor based her finding is attached as Attachment 1.

Management Response – Office of Veterans Affairs

First, of the 17 items listed arguably three meet the criteria for having a minimum of three quotes. These were: a) the \$799 expenditure to ERC; b) the \$2,100 to Connie's; and c) the \$1,504.96 to Travel Bag. The other expenditures totaling \$500 or less were to me for the petty cash fund. The three expenditures totaled \$4,403.96 not the \$12,261.23. (see Attachment 3)

Second, governmental body is defined in the procurement law in 5GCA subsection 5030(k) as "any department, commission, council, board, bureau, committee, institution, agency, government corporation, authority, or other establishment or establishment (SIC) or official of the executive branch of the government of Guam, except for Guam Community College, the University of Guam, the Department of Education, and the Guam Memorial Hospital. Emphasis added. Thus, the definition does not squarely encompass the Office of Veterans Affairs. It can be interpreted as including the Office of Veterans Affairs but this is an interpretation. We recommend that what the Office of Veterans Affairs should be defined by law in its enabling act. Only with such certainty can we know that it is bound by the procurement law.

Third, the Small Purchase procedure is authorized by 5GCA subsection 5213. The procedure itself is stated in 2GARDIV4 subsection 3111. It states in section 3111 (c) (1):

"(1) Procedure. Insofar as it is practical for small purchase of supplies or services between \$500 and \$15,000, no less than three positive written quotations from businesses shall be solicited, recorded, and placed in the procurement file" . . . Emphasis added.

The requirement is for small purchases of \$500 to \$15,000 there should be 3 quotes. But, most of the expenditures were for less than \$500. Therefore the requirement does not apply to most of the \$12,261. The requirement also speaks to when it is practical to do so, i.e., when the 3 quotes requirement comes into play.

And who determines when it is practical to include three written quotations in the file? The answer is found in section 3111(b) which states:

"(b)... Authority to make Small Purchases.

1) Amount. The Chief Procurement Officer, The Director of Public Works, or the head of a Purchasing Agency may use this Section if the Procurement is to be less than \$15,000 for supplies or services and less than \$50,000 for construction. Emphasis added.

The Head of the Purchasing Agency makes the determination. The three quotes were not necessary because most of the alleged purchases were petty cash transactions and they were used for purchases of less than \$500. The remainder of the small purchases (*three purchases*) would have been the one ones that I could arguably need the three quotes on, if the quotes were practical.

FINDING FIVE. \$46,391 in disbursement did not have supporting documentation of which \$35,808 and \$10,583 were disbursed by the former and current Administrator, respectively. Completely disagree with this finding with respect to the present Administrator. It should be noted that most of the entries in this source document are identical to the entries in Attachment 1. The auditor's source document for the \$10,583 is Attachment 4. There are supporting documents that show why each disbursement is made. Attachment 2 is the receipt binder. Consumable supplies for the cemetery was the primary reason for the expenditure. On page 24 of the audit, the receipts for the period of the present Administrator are more than the disbursement by \$900. This is where the unaccounted for cash receipts from donations, such as car washes went. The present Administrator applied the cash to supplement the petty cash fund and reimbursed the receipts presented. Each reimbursement is fully substantiated by a receipt. The records (*Attachment 2*) above should be reviewed. For the disbursements to John Unpingco and Tony Guzman the sub-disbursements under each category should be reviewed. The breakdown of how these disbursements were made is attached as Attachment 5.

FINDING SIX. No comment, as it was prior to my administration

FINDING SEVEN: The current Administrator's travel was not approved by the Commission. Completely disagree. The Commission is limited to Two a (2) year term. The Commission is not in office until relieved. See Constitution and By Laws of Commission (*Article III, Section 2; Attachment 6*). This travel was briefed by the present Administrator personally to the Governor and the Chief of Staff approved for administrative leave. The present Administrator briefed the Commission on July 28, 2011. See my briefing notes (*Attachment 7*). Finally, the Commission had been defunct for over two (2) years. So, who was the proper person to seek permission from? It was imperative that I attend the conference. Went through the Governor as part of his austerity program and he approved. The Chief of Staff at the Governor's Office also signed off and approved my travel. (*see Attachment 8*). Is there anyone else that I could go to for approval? The agenda for the meeting of the National Association for State Directors of Veterans Affairs is attached. (*Attachment 9*) It was an opportunity to meet face to face with officials from the National Association of State Cemeteries and network with them on our two potential grants for our cemetery of \$175,000 and \$4 million respectively. (*See Trip Report, Attachment 10*)

Management Response – Office of Veterans Affairs

FINDING EIGHT. Petty cash reimbursements under the current Administrator were not reconciled to the receipts. Disagree. Documents are available for inspection. Our Administrative Assistant made sure these matched.

FINDING NINE. Bank conciliation's were not performed. The Administrative Assistant performed bank reconciliation monthly when the bank statements come out. Documents are available for review.

FINDING TEN. Quarterly and annual financial reports were not prepared and submitted. Could not submit annual reports because not in office as present Administrator for a year. Administrative Assistant was not aware of spending decisions as prior Administrator excluded her from all spending decisions. So we could not file prior years.

FINDING ELEVEN. Tax filing reports were not prepared and submitted. See response to Finding Ten.

FINDING TWELVE. The Administrator had sole custody and complete control over the handling and recording of cash received and disbursed. Disagree.

The By laws, Article V, Section 2 (Attachment 6) states:

" The Treasurer shall maintain two (2) separate Bank of Hawaii accounts: (1) Guam Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund; and (2) Veterans Affairs Trust Fund. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds and property records of both active accounts; receive and collect monies turned to the "Commission" and deposit into bank accounts in a timely manner; a true and correct report of receipts and disbursements and balances....."

Management Response – Office of Veterans Affairs

The present Administrator by default, had to assume the duties of the Treasurer, otherwise, the cemetery operations would come to a standstill. The present Administrator was given a cursory briefing on what his duties were. Here, we come to a discrepancy. The President of the Guam Veterans Commission wants the Commission to act in a supervisory role to the Administrator. How the cemetery is run is up to the Administrator. The problem is Article VI, Section 1 (see Attachment 6), which states:

"This constitution and By laws are adopted pursuant to Public Law 28-46 and are to remain in effect until the Public Law is amended or the "operational" needs of the "Commission" make them necessary. All changes require majority vote and shall be in writing.

This is another area where legislative action is in order.

The Introduction to the audit results will now be covered. The first paragraph on page 4, several corrections are in order. First, the staffing of the Office of Veterans Affairs consists of "three" not "four" Health Benefits Service Representatives. Currently, only one (1) instead of three positions are filled, with two being vacant.

The second paragraph under the heading of "Guam Veterans Commission" states in the last line that there are 10 members of the Commission. The correct number is seven (7) on the Commission.

Under the paragraph denoted as "non-appropriated Funds", the first full line of paragraph 1 should read "The Office of Veterans Affairs Administrator, manages two non-appropriated funds: the Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund for the maintenance of the veterans cemetery and the Veterans Affairs Fund for various purposes."

There is a conflict here between Article V, Section 2 and 10GCA subsection 7106 (see Attachment 6). Normally, a statute trumps a By Law. But, if the By Law is that of a private organization and is adopted pursuant to Public Law 28-46, we are uncertain. Therefore to cure the uncertainty we request legislative action clarifying this matter.

We now turn to the "Results of Audit" segment of the Office of Public Auditor's report. Under the subsection entitled "Receipts not reconciled to deposits" the Office of Public Auditor found that \$952 could not be traced to specific deposits. What the auditor did not mention was that the \$952 was used to supplement the petty cash funds by the present Administrator of the Veterans Affairs Funds so that in Appendix 6 (page 24) the receipts were greater than the disbursements by \$900.

With respect to Appendix 4 of the Office of Public Auditor report we requested the data from the Office of Public Auditor from which these were derived. The data shows that from January 2011 to September 2011 the disbursements are largely duplicative. The source documents for the \$12,261 and the \$10,583 referred to in Finding 4 and Finding 5 are duplicative. As mentioned previously, there are receipts for each expenditure made and they do balance out. (See Attachment 2).

With respect to the heading entitled "burial reimbursement claims listing not maintained." The report stated on page 8, the paragraph beginning with "For example":

"In March 2011., the present Administrator submitted 38 burial claims, totaling \$11,400, for the months of June 2008 and January (SIC) to April 2009. In April 2011, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs approved 24 burial claims for \$7,200. Some of the claims were not processed because prior payments were made."

Besides prior payments having already been made and because the prior Administrator worked out of three (3) offices all of which were a mess of records, the records had to be gleaned from the documents of the prior Administrator. Most importantly, some of the claims may not have been honored was because the statute of limitations had expired on the claims. The present Administrator made a decision on which claims were to be filed. The decision was to file all claims and if the Department of Veterans Affairs gave us the benefit of the doubt and honor the claims on which the two (2) year statute of limitations had run. If the Department of Veterans Affairs was to reject the claims because of the statute we would nonetheless have tried to get the claims approved. We had nothing to lose.

Management Response – Office of Veterans Affairs

The present Administrator cannot be faulted for having filed claims that were not honored. For two years, the claims had not been filed. Had it not been for the present Administrator we would not have filed for any claims at all because the excuse would be that the records of the prior Administrator were too messed up to file any claims.

On Table 2 on page 8, it shows we filed a total of 139 claims of which 126 were approved, we were finding some of the older claims from the time of the prior Administrator was included in our claims. It should be noted that there is a two (2) year interval between the prior Administrator filing claims back in January 6, 2009 till the present Administrator started filing again in March 8, 2011. During the intervening two years, the statute of limitations had run on a number of claims. The present Administrator put his foot down and "all hands turned to" cleaning out the three (3) offices of the prior Administrator and filing, in addition, the claims for the current burials.

With respect to not keeping records on the burial claims reimbursed, we kept the claim forms which had the individual burials listed. (*see Attachment 11*). Thus, we do have records, albeit, not the way the Office of Public Auditor would prefer. When we get the proper computer equipment from a grant we are getting from the Department of Interior we shall comply.

With respect to the section entitled "Guam Procurement Laws and Regulations not followed" the last paragraph is worthy of comment (*the others having been commented on earlier*). The \$2,180 in per diem was based on the Department of Administration's per diem rate for the area visited. While the opinion that the government of Guam's travel regulations need not be followed was attributed to the Administrative Assistant, this in fact was not the case. The government of Guam travel regulations with respect to per diem were indeed followed, this is how the rate was determined.

With respect to the battery, the price of \$131.99 and the receipt was in the file.

With respect to the excess of receipts over disbursements, it should be noted that there is an excess of \$378.99 in Appendix 7.

It should also be noted that past invoices (*Attachment 12*) such as for the Tiger Dump and for the trailer that we use to transport the riding mowers were incurred in prior years but were paid this year.

Management Response – Office of Veterans Affairs

There are at least two other troubling aspects of this audit. The first is that no attribution is made of prior year's encumbrances such as the "Tiger Dump" and others (see page 13 of audit) which were procured in prior years but was not paid till this year. There are other purchase orders such as this (see Attachment 12). We had to find monies from which three obligations could be paid from. We had to deal with these because the prior Administrator did not turn in the proper documents.

Second, although the present Administrator was in office for only 9 months out of the 36 months this audit encompassed, it appears the focus of the audit is on him and not the prior Administrator. What happened to the prior Administrator's 26 months? Is the dismissal of his shortcomings appropriate? Does the lack of records therefore absolve him from further liability for his actions?

In sum, the audit was hurriedly prepared. The audit were prepared as one of the last acts of the responsible auditor before she started her new duties at Department of Education. The double counting for the \$12,261 and \$10,583 figures and their not being adequately documented were not borne out by the receipts in the file. And, while the receipts were being explained to the auditor, she was also training a young newcomer. The focus of her attention was divided and therefore a proper and objective audit was not accomplished.

In short, I disagree with the present Veterans Commission Chairman's assessment that this was a professional and thorough audit. This audit was far from "professional and thorough". It was a hastily prepared audit that is not of the usual calibre or standards of the Office of Public Accountability's.

Management Response – Guam Veteran’s Affairs Commission

March 5, 2012

Doris Flores Brooks, CPA, CGPM

Public Auditor

Hagatna, Guam 96910

Subject: Response to Guam Veterans Affairs Office’s Non-Appropriated Funds Audit

Dear Ms. Brooks:

Except for the findings the GVAO Administrator is currently validating, I concur with all other audit report findings of the Guam Veterans Affairs Office’s Non-Appropriated Funds. The audit scope was between October 1, 2008 and September 30, 2011.

The following will be done to prevent future reoccurrences of the findings and to ensure greater accountability and transparency:

1. The Guam Veterans Commission (GVC) and the Guam Veterans Affairs Office (GVAO) will work closely as a team to ensure that the GVAO operations and non-appropriated financial system are sound and transparent ensuring services to our U.S. military veterans are nothing but top-notch.
2. The GVC will ensure that it performs its fiduciary responsibility to provide oversight of the GVAO’s finances and operations. A quarterly audit will be performed by the GVC designee. Audit report will be provided in writing to the GVAO administrator and GVC chairman during a GVC meeting.
3. The GVAO and GVC designee will establish policies and procedures for financial accounting transactions and transparency. The ASO or designee will be trained on the established procedures. A checklist will be established and processed by the ASO or designee for every financial transaction made. The processed checklist will be filed with

Management Response – Guam Veteran’s Affairs Commission

the financial transaction. Training will be provided by either the GVAO Administrator or GVC designee.

4. The ASO or designee, the GVAO Administrator and a GVC designee will work in tandem to establish financial accounting transactions and transparency performance standards for the ASO or designee. The Administrative Services Officer (ASO) or designee will be trained on the established performance standards either by the GVAO Administrator or GVC designee. A quarterly performance standards audit will be conducted and documented by the GVAO Administrator. The performance standards audit results will be discussed with the ASO or designee and GVAO Administrator. The results will be provided in writing to the GVC chairman during a GVC meeting.
5. The ASO or designee must maintain a list and copies of all claims submitted to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Reconciliation must be conducted when claims are received to resolve any discrepancies. All actions to resolved discrepancies must be documented. A checklist will be made and processed for every batch claim made and filed with each batch. Results will be reported in writing to the GVC chairman during a GVC meeting.
6. The GVAO Administrator must file Form 1099 for donations received over \$600.00 annually. A checklist will be made and processed for all donations received or made to include Form 1099 when donations exceeds \$600.00 annually. The results will be provided in writing to the GVC chairman during a GVC meeting.
7. Established checklists will be processed on the last work day of each quarter (March/June/Sep/Dec) by the GVC designee. Results will be provided in writing to the GVAO Administrator and to the GVC chairman during a GVC meeting. Explanation for not processing checklist on time as prescribed will be made at a GVC meeting.
8. The Public Auditor will be consulted to ensure that established financial accounting transaction system and transparency procedures and checklists are in accordance with financial and transparency best practices.

Management Response – Guam Veteran’s Affairs Commission

9. I am not sure what benefits would be derived from making the GVAO Administrator’s position unclassified other than uniformity with other agency directors. I will further research and make a response to this item at a later date.

I would to thank you and your team for conducting a professional and thorough audit. The audit results will serve as a benchmark for the GVAO and GVC to launch from to ensure that services for our veterans and their families are consistently professional and that hard earned tax dollars are judiciously used and properly accounted for.

With Respect,

Signed

William (Bill) Cundiff, Chief Master Sergeant, USAF, Retired

Guam Veterans Affairs Commission Chairman



**Guam Veterans Affairs Office
Non-Appropriated Funds
OPA Report No. 12-01, March 2012**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Contributions to this report were made by:
Rodalyn May G. Marquez, CIA, CGFM, CPA, CGAP, Audit Supervisor
Vincent Jon G. Duenas, Quality Assurance Reviewer
Doris Flores Brooks, CPA, CGFM, Public Auditor

MISSION STATEMENT

**To improve the public trust,
we audit, assess, analyze, and make recommendations
for accountability, transparency,
effectiveness, efficiency, and economy of the government of Guam
independently, impartially, and with integrity.**

VISION

Guam is the model for good governance in the Pacific.

CORE VALUES

Integrity **Independence** **Impartiality**
Accountability **Transparency**

REPORTING FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE

- Call our **HOTLINE** at 47AUDIT (472-8348)
- Visit our website at www.guamopa.org
- Call our office at 475-0390
- Fax our office at 472-7951
- Or visit us at Suite 401, DNA Building in Hagåtña;

All information will be held in strict confidence.



OFFICE OF SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Chairman, Committee on Guam US Military Relocation,
Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs and Judiciary
Miria Trental Dos Na Lheslaturan Guahan | 32nd Guam Legislature



PUBLIC HEARING THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 | 9:00AM

Bill No. 99-32 (LS) - An act to amend §80.60 of Article 4, Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to clarifying minimum sentences for crimes.

Bill No. 107-32 (LS) - An act to add a new Section to Chapter 80, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, relative to creating a "Two Strikes" provision for habitual offenders of serious crimes.

Bill No. 116-32 (COR) - An act to amend §§ 65102 and 65103 of Chapter 65, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated and to add a new § 65103.1 to the same Chapter, relative to the establishment of operational continuity plans for each agency of the government of Guam.

Bill No. 134-32 (COR) - An act relative to recognizing the Office of Veterans Affairs as the official local agency for establishing and maintaining the "Guam Veterans Registry" which shall be utilized for enumerating the population of veterans on Guam, and for the use of such information for increasing or acquiring necessary healthcare and other relevant services to benefit veterans and their families; through adding a new §67110 to Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

Bill No. 135-32 (COR) - An act relative to increasing the representation of the number of veterans serving on the Guam Veterans Commission, to initiate efforts toward the eventual establishment of the "Sengsong Betéranun Guahan - Guam Veterans Village", which shall serve as a one-stop veterans services center, and for other purposes; through the repeal and re-enactment §67107 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated.

The public hearing will be broadcasted on MCV Channel 13 or GUM TV Channel 21. If you require any special accommodations, please contact the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. at 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or e-mail committee@frankaguonjr.com. *This ad paid for with government funds*



COMMITTEE ON RULES

I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan • The 32nd Guam Legislature
155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com
E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator
Rory J. Respicio
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MAJORITY LEADER

Senator
Thomas C. Ada
VICE CHAIRPERSON
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

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Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
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V. Anthony Ada
Member
MINORITY LEADER

Senator
Aline Yamashita
Member

October 16, 2013

Memorandum

To: Rennae Meno
Clerk of the Legislature

From: Senator Rory J. Respicio
Majority Leader & Rules Chair

Subject: Fiscal Notes /Waivers

Hafa Adai!

Attached please find the waiver for the bill numbers listed below.
Please note that the fiscal notes, or waivers, are issued on the bills as introduced.

FISCAL NOTES:

Bill No. 135-32(COR)

Bill No. 151-32(COR)

Bill No. 163-32(COR)

Bill No. 166-32(LS)

Bill No. 168-32(LS)

WAIVERS:

Bill No. 162-32(LS)

Bill No. 175-32(COR)

Please forward the same to MIS for posting on our website. Please contact our office should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

2013 OCT 16 AM 11:05

**BUREAU OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT RESEARCH**

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Post Office Box 2950, Hagåtña Guam 96932

EDDIE BAZA CALVO
GOVERNOR

JOHN A. RIOS
DIRECTOR

RAY TENORIO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

SEP 11 2013

Senator Rory J. Respicio
Chairperson, Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Unu na Liheslaturan Guåhan
The 31st Guam Legislature
155 Hesler Place
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

Hafa Adai Senator Respicio:

Transmitted herewith is Fiscal Note on the following Bill Nos.: 135-32(COR), 151-32(COR), 166-32(LS), 168-32(LS) and Fiscal Note Waiver on the following Bill Nos.: 162-32(LS), and 175-32(COR).

If you have any question(s), please do not hesitate to call the office at 475-9412/9106.


JOHN A. RIOS
Director

Enclosures
cc: Senator Vicente (ben) Pangelinan

**Bureau of Budget & Management Research
Fiscal Note of Bill No. 135-32**

AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, TO INITIATE EFFORTS TOWARD THE EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN- GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE" WHICH SHALL SERVE AS A ONE-STOP VETERANS SERVICES CENTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; THROUGH THE REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT §67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.

Department/Agency Appropriation Information

Dept./Agency Affected: Guam Veterans Affairs Office		Dept./Agency Head: John S. Unpingco	
Department's General Fund (GF) appropriation(s) to date:		691,794	
Department's Other Fund (Specify) appropriation(s) to date:		-	
Total Department/Agency Appropriation(s) to date:A45		\$691,794	

Fund Source Information of Proposed Appropriation

	General Fund:	(Specify Special Fund):	Total:
FY 2012 Unreserved Fund Balance			
FY 2013 Adopted Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 2013 Appro.(P.L. 31-233)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sub-total:	\$0	\$0	\$0
Less appropriation in Bill	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total:	\$0	\$0	\$0

Estimated Fiscal Impact of Bill

	One Full Fiscal Year	For Remainder of FY 2013 (if applicable)	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
(Specify Special Fund)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

- Does the bill contain "revenue generating" provisions? // Yes /x/ No
If Yes, see attachment
- Is amount appropriated adequate to fund the intent of the appropriation? /x/ N/A // Yes // No
If no, what is the additional amount required? \$ _____ /x/ N/A
- Does the Bill establish a new program/agency? // Yes /x/ No
If yes, will the program duplicate existing programs/agencies? // N/A // Yes /x/ No
Is there a federal mandate to establish the program/agency? // Yes /x/ No
- Will the enactment of this Bill require new physical facilities? // Yes /x/ No
- Was Fiscal Note coordinated with the affected dept/agency? If no, indicate reason: /x/ Yes // No
// Requested agency comments not received by due date // Other: _____

Analyst: Matt Quinata Date: SEP 11 2013 Director: John A. Rios, BBMR Director Date: SEP 11 2013

Footnotes:

The intent of this bill is to increase the number of representatives in the Guam Veteran's Commission from six (6) to nine (9). The bill also recommends for the Office of Veteran's Affairs to be responsible for providing administrative support to the Commission. Currently, §67107 specifically notes that members of the Commission are volunteers and shall not receive compensation; however, the bill eliminates this verbage and is silent on board stipends. With the additional responsibility, the Office of Veteran Affairs, in its testimony bill, share its funding concerns in reference to the Guam Veterans Village. The Office questions how the village is to be build, what funds will be used to build, administer, maintain and operate the village. Cost impact can not be determine for the village at this time as plans have not been created.



COMMITTEE ON RULES

I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan • The 32nd Guam Legislature
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E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

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Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Member
MINORITY LEADER

Senator
Aline Yamashita
Member

June 11, 2013

VIA E-MAIL
john.rios@bbmr.guam.gov

John A. Rios
Director
Bureau of Budget & Management Research
P.O. Box 2950
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

RE: Request for Fiscal Notes– Bill Nos. 131–140(COR)

Hafa Adai Mr. Rios:

Transmitted herewith is a listing of *I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan's* most recently introduced bills. Pursuant to 2 GCA §9103, I respectfully request the preparation of fiscal notes for the referenced bills.

Si Yu'os ma'åse' for your attention to this matter.

Very Truly Yours,

Senator Rory J. Respicio
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Attachments (1)

Cc: Clerk of the Legislature

2013 JUN 11 AM 11:12
RJR

Bill Nos.	Sponsor	Title
131-32 (COR)	T. C. Ada	AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTION (f) AND ADD A NEW SUBSECTION (g) TO §3301 AND OF CHAPTER 3, TITLE 16 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING SPEEDLIMITS.
132-32 (COR)	Dennis G. Rodriguez,Jr.	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW SECTION 11 TO PUBLIC LAW 30-200 RELATIVE TO EXPANDING THE BORROWING ABILITY OF THE GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BY INCLUDING THE AUTHORIZATION TO ALSO ENTER INTO REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS, AND DIRECT LOAN FUNDS.
133-32 (COR)	v.c. pangelinan B.J.F. Cruz	AN ACT TO ADD SUBSECTION 6206(c) AND TO AMEND SUBSECTION 6210(a) AND TO ADD SUBSECTION 6210(c) TO TITLE 5 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED CHAPTER 6 ARTICLE 2; TO AMEND SUBSECTION 6401(b) TO TITLE 5 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 4; TO AMEND SUBSECTION 10102(d) AND SECTION 10113 TO TITLE 5 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE 1; AND TO AMEND SECTION 1820 TO TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, CHAPTER 18, ARTICLE 2 RELATIVE TO PROHIBIT THE SEALING OF SETTLEMENTS OF CLAIM AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT
134-32 (COR)	Frank B. Aguon,Jr	AN ACT RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AS THE OFFICIAL LOCAL AGENCY FOR ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING THE "GUAM VETERANS REGISTRY" WHICH SHALL BE UTILIZED FOR ENUMERATING THE POPULATION OF VETERANS ON GUAM, AND FOR THE USE OF SUCH INFORMATION FOR INCREASING OR ACQUIRING NECESSARY HEALTHCARE AND OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES TO BENEFIT VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES; THROUGH ADDING A NEW §67110 TO CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.
135-32 (COR)	Frank B. Aguon, Jr.	AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, TO INITIATE EFFORTS TOWARD THE EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN - GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE", WHICH SHALL SERVE AS A ONE-STOP VETERANS SERVICES CENTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; THROUGH THE REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT §67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.
136-32 (COR)	T. R. Muña Barnes R.J. Respicio	AN ACT TO REZONE LOT NO. 2174, LOCATED IN TIYAN IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BARRIGADA, FROM AGRICULTURAL ZONE (A) TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ZONE (M1).
137-32 (COR)	B.J.F. Cruz	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §1115 TO CHAPTER 1 OF TITLE 12 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO PROVIDING NO COST SPACE TO THE GUAM CUSTOMS AND QUARANTINE AGENCY IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL LAW.
138-32(COR)	Vicente (ben) C. Pangelinan	AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 1515(i)(2)(G), ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER 1, TITLE 5 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO THE REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GUAM FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVE.

139-32 (COR)	Frank B. Aguon, Jr	AN ACT RELATIVE TO REMOVING ANY REFERENCE OF SLOT MACHINES IN THE DEFINITION OF GAMING DEVICES; THROUGH DELETING SUB-ITEM "(1)" OF SUBSECTION "(N)" OF §7102, CHAPTER 7, TITLE 3 OF THE GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS
140-32 (COR)	Tommy Morrison	AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 1515(i)(2)(G), ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER 1, TITLE 5 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO THE REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GUAM FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVE.



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Member

Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Member
MINORITY LEADER

Senator
Aline Yamashita
Member

June 4, 2013

MEMORANDUM

To: Rennae Meno
Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Therese M. Terlaje
Legislative Legal Counsel

From: Senator Rory J. Respicio
Majority Leader & Rules Chair

Subject: Referral of Bill No. 135-32(COR)

As the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding my referral of **Bill No. 135-32(COR)**.

Please ensure that the subject bill is referred, in my name, to the respective committee, as shown on the attachment. I also request that the same be forwarded to all members of *I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 472-7679.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse!

Attachment

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2013 (First) Regular Session

Bill No. 135-32 (COR)

Introduced by:

FRANK B. AGUON, JR.



AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NUMBER OF VETERANS SERVING ON THE GUAM VETERANS COMMISSION, TO INITIATE EFFORTS TOWARD THE EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE “*SENGSONG BETERANUN GUAHAN - GUAM VETERANS VILLAGE*”, WHICH SHALL SERVE AS A ONE-STOP VETERANS SERVICES CENTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; THROUGH THE REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT §67107 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.

2013 JUN -4 PM 12:38


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

2 Section 1. §§67107 of Chapter 67 of Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, relative to
3 the Guam Veterans Commission is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as
4 follows:

5 **“§67107. Guam Veterans Commission.**

6 **A.) Commission Membership.**

7 There is hereby established a Guam Veterans Commission which shall, at a
8 minimum, be composed of a total of nine (9) members to include the following
9 representation:

10 (1) Four members, each of whom shall be representative of a veterans
11 or retirees association for each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces to consist
12 of,

- 13 a. U.S. Army Retirees (or Veterans) Association,
- 14 b. U.S. Air Force Retirees (or Veterans) Association,
- 15 c. U.S. Navy Retirees (or Veterans) Association,

1 d. U.S. Marine Corps Retirees (or Veterans) Associations;
2 (2) Two (2) members from the officially chartered Guam chapters of
3 multi-service Veteran Service Organizations.

4 Organizations to be represented on the Guam Veterans Commission,
5 pertaining to subsection 1 and 2 above, are required to be duly registered as a non-
6 profit organization with the Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation in
7 accordance with Title 18 of Guam Code Annotated and *shall* furnish the Guam
8 Veterans Affairs Office with a copy of an official documentation reflecting such
9 requirement.

10 (3) A maximum of three (3) members, whom each shall be a veteran,
11 may be appointed from other veteran organizations on Guam, to include the Coast
12 Guard. Should a Veteran Service Organization have *more than* one (1) Chapter,
13 each Chapter may recommend a representative to serve as a member of the
14 Commission, of which said appointment may be authorized to serve as provided
15 herein.

16 (4) Ex-Officio Members. With the recommendation of the Guam
17 Veterans Commission, I Maga'lahaen Guahan may appoint as an ex-officio, non-
18 voting member a veteran of a foreign country who has fought alongside U. S.
19 armed forces members as allies in combat, who is representative of an established
20 veterans organization on Guam, and who has resided on Guam for a minimum of
21 three years immediately preceding the appointment. Said veteran shall serve for a
22 term of three (3) years, from date of appointment.

23 **B.) Commission Membership Terms and Conduct of Business.**

24 1.) Veteran Organization Appointments.

25 The Commander *or* designee of Veteran Service Organizations

1 shall present in writing to the Chairman of the Commission the name of the
2 individual who shall represent their organization to serve on the Commission,
3 which shall be subject to the aforementioned provisions above.

4 2.) Terms of Commission Members.

5 Every member of the Commission *shall* serve for a term of
6 three (3) years, to commence on the date of appointment. Should the
7 representative terminate his/her term prior to the conclusion of the three (3) years,
8 the Veteran Service Organization *shall* appoint a successor to serve for a new three
9 (3) year term, which shall commence upon the date of appointment. Said
10 appointment shall be in writing and presented to the Chairman of the Guam
11 Veterans Commission, with a copy to be furnished to the Veterans Affairs Officer
12 of the Office of Veterans Affairs.

13 3.) Quorum Requirements.

14 For purposes of a quorum and for the official conduct of
15 business, a minimum of five (5) voting members on the Commission *shall*
16 constitute a quorum. For the official conduct of business, a majority of the
17 members present, following the constituting of a quorum, shall be required to
18 conduct official business.

19 4.) Scheduled Meetings.

20 The Commission *shall* meet monthly and *shall* advise the
21 Veterans Affairs Officer regarding matters affecting veterans and related issues.
22 Said meeting times, place and dates shall be decided to allow the greatest level of
23 participation and attendance by Commission members.

24 5.) Veteran Community Participation.

25 The Commission *shall* provide veterans and their families with

1 the opportunity to air grievances for the purpose of effecting corrective action *or*
2 change to existing policies that affect delivery of benefits and services to the Guam
3 veteran population.

4 6.) *Sengsong Beteranun Guahån - Guam Veterans Village.*

5 The Commission shall be tasked with the planning and
6 development of the *Sengsong Beteranun Guahån-Guam Veterans Village* facility,
7 which shall be utilized as the permanent home for the Office of Veterans Affairs
8 and as a one-stop center for veterans to acquire services or information on veterans
9 benefits, programs and activities; and further serve for use by the Guam Veterans
10 Commission and veteran organizations for the conduct of their meetings and
11 activities. The Office of Veterans Affairs shall be responsible, upon its completion,
12 for the maintenance, administration and operation of the *Sengsong Beteranun*
13 *Guahån-Guam Veterans Village facility.*

14 The Commission is hereby authorized, with the support of the Office of
15 Veterans Affairs, to pursue private, federal or local funds for the purposes of
16 addressing the provision contained herein. Any and all funds generated through
17 the application of this provision and in support of the *Sengsong Beteranun*
18 *Guahån-Guam Veterans Village* shall be reported on an annual basis to I
19 Maga'lahaen Guahan and I Liheslaturan Guahan, no later than the 30th day of
20 January each year. Such pursuit of external funding sources, wherever applicable,
21 shall be conducted in accordance with established laws and regulations.

22 7.) *Administrative Support.*

23 The Office of Veterans Affairs, through the direction of the
24 Veterans Affairs Officer, shall provide administrative support to the Guam
25 Veterans Commission in the conduct of its meetings.

26 8.) *Commission Activities.*

1 Upon official written request by the Chairman of the
2 Commission for information or action by the Veterans Affairs Officer (VAO) on
3 issues affecting the Commission or Veterans, the Veterans Affairs Officer shall
4 provide a written response to the Commission within four (4) weeks from the date
5 of receipt of such communication. Should the Veterans Affairs Officer require
6 additional time to provide a sufficient response to the matter, the VAO shall
7 request in writing a time extension, not to exceed an additional four (4) weeks, and
8 further provide justification for the need for such time extension in said written
9 communication. Such request shall be granted upon receipt by the Chairman of the
10 Commission.

11 **Section 2. Effective Date.**

12 The provisions contained herein shall be effective upon enactment of
13 this Act.