

I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2011 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 161-31 (COR)

Introduced by:

Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.
T. C. Ada
R. J. Respicio
V. Anthony Ada
F. F. Blas, Jr.
B. J.F. Cruz
Chris M. Dueñas
Sam Mabini, Ph.D.
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA
T. R. Muña Barnes
v. c. pangelinan
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
M. Silva Taijeron
Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to commending Attorney Mike Ancheta Nisperos, Jr., for the outstanding contributions he has made to the people of Guam as the Executive Director of the Public Defender Service Corporation (PDSC); and to further extending a sincere *Un Dangkolo' Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* him for his major accomplishments and service with the government of Guam.

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

3 **WHEREAS, Mike Ancheta Nisperos, Jr., graduated from the University of**
4 **California, Berkeley, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Rhetoric in June 1975;**

1 and he then went on to earn his Juris Doctorate from the Boalt Hall, School of Law,
2 also at the University of California, Berkeley, in May 1978; and

3 **WHEREAS**, in May 1979, Mike was admitted to practice law with the U.S.
4 District Court's Northern District in the state of California. In May 1982, Mike
5 worked for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and later that same year in
6 September, with the United States Court of Military Appeals; and he then worked
7 with the United States Supreme Court in October 2002; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos was the Chief Trial Counsel for the State Bar
9 of California, where he served a four (4)-year term, and was responsible for
10 supervising a staff of two hundred thirty-five (235) consisting of prosecutors,
11 investigators, and support personnel with offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles,
12 which was primarily responsible for the California Attorney Discipline enforcement
13 system. For this position, Attorney Nisperos was unanimously selected by the Board
14 of Governors, and he was unanimously confirmed by the California State Senate; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in 2005, Attorney Nisperos retired from the Public Employees
16 Retirement System, and in March 2005 opened the Law Office of Mike Nisperos, Jr.,
17 where he focused on cases regarding felony criminal defense, professional
18 responsibility and legal ethics; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos assumed the position of the Executive Director
20 of the Public Defender Service Corporation (PDSC) on October 6, 2008, and during
21 his three (3) year tenure he successfully led the department towards professional
22 growth, beginning with placing a "Team Model" reorganization of the Attorney's
23 Division in regards to case assignments. This approach resulted in a better attorney-
24 client relationship and better attorney accountability to the judges; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos continued the "Team Model" in the
26 preparation of the organization's Annual Fiscal Year Budget. All divisions within the

1 PDSC, through respective supervisors, were given opportunities to provide input as to
2 their various needs in order to effectively and efficiently accomplish the missions of
3 their sections. Ultimately, the department's legislative appropriation provided for
4 additional staff and other resources which were requested. Thus, with additional
5 staffing, overwhelming attorney caseloads were reduced, which allowed for greater
6 case-preparation and client time. These changes helped invigorate PDSC staff
7 confidence and resolve, which made for more efficient public service; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos undertook all cases appearing before Superior
9 Court Judge Honorable Linda Ingles, providing early intervention services for at-risk
10 clients, usually those detained at Cottage Homes; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos' presence at arraignments, usually on
12 Wednesdays of each week, allowed him to monitor the flow of cases into the office,
13 and free team attorneys from administrative appearances; and

14 **WHEREAS**, for many years PDSC cases remained on "Active Pending" status,
15 which had not reached final disposition by the courts for various reasons. Attorney
16 Nisperos' leadership helped to ensure that cases were reviewed and proper action was
17 taken for final disposition. This provided for a more accurate report on "active" vs.
18 "closed" cases; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos successfully re-negotiated the agency's
20 contract with Westlaw, an internet service provider for legal research sites, which
21 expanded research tools for PDSC attorneys, all within approved budgetary levels;
22 and

23 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos worked towards ensuring that the PDSC
24 updated its filing and records system, and eliminated clutter by digitizing old files;
25 and

1 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos established direct deposit payroll for employee
2 convenience and office efficiency; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos had supervised a favorable lease and helped
4 design the layout of a new office facility that will enable the Public Defender's Office
5 to serve the public for years to come; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos supervised the move into the new office, a
7 move which was accomplished without missing any appearances in court; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos took the lead in handling several high-profile
9 cases, and in the case of The People of the Territory of Guam vs. Isaac Kaipat,
10 Attorney Nisperos represented the defendant. While the case was in progress,
11 Attorney Nisperos was able to provide litigation training, as a model for other PDSC
12 attorneys. The ultimate acquittal of defendant Kaipat enhanced the PDSC's image and
13 status, and reinforced the organization's mission of "providing quality legal
14 representation" to their clients; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Attorney Nisperos had committed much of his time to ancillary
16 activities, such as serving on the Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Court Executive
17 Committee; the Family Violence Court Executive Committee; the Private Attorney
18 Panel; as a Board Member of the Office of the Public Guardian; the Jury Instructions
19 Revision Committee; as a Mock Trial Judge; and the Adult/Juvenile Drug Court
20 Graduations; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in July 2011, the staff at the Public Defender Service Corporation
22 will bid a fond farewell to Attorney Nisperos as his tenure at the department
23 concludes, thus ending yet another exciting and productive chapter of Attorney
24 Nisperos' commitment to public service; now therefore, be it

25 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trentai Unu na*
26 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people

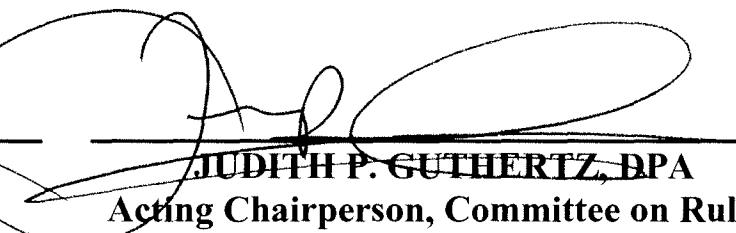
1 of Guam, commend Attorney Mike Ancheta Nisperos, Jr., for the outstanding
2 contributions he has made to the people of Guam as the Executive Director of the
3 Public Defender Service Corporation; and does further extend a sincere *Un Dangkulo'*
4 *Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase'* to him for his major accomplishments and service with the
5 government of Guam; and be it further

6 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
7 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
8 the same be thereafter transmitted to Attorney Mike Nisperos, Jr., Executive Director
9 of the Public Defender Service Corporation; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo,
10 *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 27TH DAY
OF JULY 2011.**



BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ
Acting Speaker



JUDITH P. GUTHERTZ, DPA
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules



ADOLPHO B. PALACIOS, SR.
Acting Legislative Secretary