

MINA' TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2012 (SECOND) Regular Session

2012 MAY -9
LUCAS
PM 3:41

Resolution No. 411-31(cor)

Introduced by:

B.J.F. Cruz



**Relative to commending and congratulating Leo
and Connie Slotnick as the recipients of the 2012
Guam Business Hall of Fame Laureates Award**

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

3 **Whereas,** Leo and Connie Slotnick are the founders of Slotnick
4 Enterprises, Inc., Construction Resources, and former owners of Hafa
5 Adai Theaters, Marine Drive Exchange, ConRos, Inc., and Corals
6 Dress Shop, Laureates have been investing in Guam for 63 years
7 beginning in 1949; and

8 **Whereas,** following the aftermath of World War II, the U.S.
9 Navy launched an effort that would rebuild and rehabilitate Guam's
10 infrastructure from the devastating effects of the Japanese
11 occupation. It was in this period that Leo Slotnick would arrive on
12 Guam with a group of naval builders to assist in these efforts; and

1 **Whereas**, in 1948, Leo met Connie Torre Tenorio, a nurse at the
2 U.S. Naval Hospital, and immediately began courting her and by
3 1951 they became Mr. and Mrs. Leo Slotnick; and

4 **Whereas**, in 1949, Connie saw a need to address the fashion
5 needs of the “discriminating woman” and opened a boutique called
6 the Corals Dress Shop off Marine Drive in Tamuning where she
7 personally ran the day-to-day operations, including purchasing,
8 merchandising and sales; and

9 **Whereas**, Leo, meanwhile, was in charge of overseeing the
10 island’s liquor distribution for both the Navy and Guam’s civilian
11 population and would continue in this capacity for two decades until
12 1970 when he managed construction for the Guam Hotel Okura,
13 becoming one of the hotel’s initial investors; and

14 **Whereas**, Leo then managed the operations of Universal Pacific
15 – a movie theater company on island until 1983, when Leo and
16 Connie along with their business partners formed an alliance known
17 as ConRos, Inc., and purchased the theater operations, which became
18 the entertainment of choice for many residents on the island for over
19 twenty years; and

20 **Whereas**, in 1984, the group formed Marine Drive Exchange,
21 Inc., a facility that would allow for small independent businesses and
22 hundreds of entrepreneurs an opportunity to build their own
23 businesses with relatively low overhead; and

1 **Whereas,** Leo and Connie remained the owners and operators
2 of both entities until 1997 when they sold their shares to their
3 remaining partners and started Slotnick Enterprises, a sole
4 proprietorship to manage their real estate purchases, their small
5 business and private investments; and

6 **Whereas,** Leo and Connie both individually and together have
7 built an enterprise based on pure entrepreneurial spirit and strict
8 business practices; and

9 **Whereas,** their determination, hard work, humble dispositions
10 and keen business sense was recognized by key government officials
11 who appointed Leo Slotnick to the Board of the Guam International
12 Airport Authority from 1987-1993, where he oversaw the Airport
13 Authority's expansion project live up to its investment, turning it
14 from an unpopular investment project to an operation "bursting at
15 the seams" as Guam experiences monumental visitor arrivals due to
16 major foreign investment in Guam's tourism industry; and

17 **Whereas,** Connie Slotnick served on the Board of the Guam
18 Memorial Hospital from 1969 – 1975 and she was actively involved in
19 the establishment and development of the Republican Women's
20 Association of Guam; and

21 **Whereas,** Following Leo's passing in 2005, Connie took the
22 helm of Slotnick Enterprises and introduced the next generation of

1 family members to the company and eventually incorporated
2 Slotnick Enterprises into SEI Guam; and

3 **Whereas,** in 2009, Connie was awarded the Guam
4 Businesswoman of the Year Lifetime Achievement Award by First
5 Hawaiian Bank; and

6 **Whereas,** at age 93, Connie is still managing the company
7 disbursements and maintains a daily presence in the office;

8 **Whereas,** from humble beginnings to local business
9 entrepreneurs who paved the way for others to fulfill their own
10 entrepreneurial dreams, these Laureates are exceptional role models
11 who built and established a livelihood for future generations; now,
12 therefore be it;

13 **RESOLVED,** *I Mina Trentai Na Liheslaturan Guahan*, on behalf of
14 the people of Guam, does hereby commends and congratulates Leo
15 and Connie Slotnick for earning the 2012 Guam Business Hall of
16 Fame Business Laureates Award; and be it further

17 **RESOLVED,** that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the
18 Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
19 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter
20 transmitted to Connie Slotnick, The Guam Chamber of Commerce,
21 and to the Honorable Eddie Baza Calvo, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.