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***I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2012 (SECOND) REGULAR SESSION**

**Resolution No. 603-31 (LS)**

Introduced by:

Aline A. Yamashita, PhD 

**Relative to commending and congratulating Mr. Joseph John Salas Diaz on the occasion of his retirement after thirty-one (31) years of service with the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services; and to further thanking him for his dedication to the many lives he has saved, inspired, encouraged, guided and built.**

1        **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I**

2        ***MINA' TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***

3        **WHEREAS**, Mr. Joseph John Diaz is the eldest of eight (8) siblings

4        and is the son of the late Jose Tanaka Diaz and Lourdes Salas Diaz; and,

5        **WHEREAS**, Joseph John Salas Diaz graduated from John F.

6        Kennedy High School, Guam in 1979; and,

7        **WHEREAS**, Joseph John Diaz attended Honolulu Community

8        College in Hawaii from 1978-1979 before moving to the University of San

9        Francisco and graduated with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Sociology in

10       1982 in which receiving his degree, returned to Guam; and,

11       **WHEREAS**, in 1982, Joseph John Salas Diaz began his career as a

12       Social worker with the Guam Department of Public Health and Social

Services and placed at the division of Bureau of Social Services; and,

**WHEREAS**, under the division of Bureau of Social Services, Joseph John Salas Diaz was assigned to work with long term foster care cases; prepare inventory and statewide Information System for Foster Children, as required by federal regulation for Title IV-E Foster Care Program; Process the monthly foster care payments for all foster parents and provided documentation for record keeping purposes; participated in the CPS intake and on-call schedule; and,

**WHEREAS**, in that same year, 1982, Joseph was tasked to escort and place the first male minor to an off-island residential facility in Florida and received recognition from his administrator and director for his extraordinary mission in completing this task. At the time, Guam lacked the services and residential treatment facility for children with serious emotional disturbances and other mental health needs. To date, this consumer remains off-island in residential care and in adult services. He continues to be a Ward of Guam under the care of the Office of the Public Guardian; and,

**WHEREAS**, in September 1984, Joseph John Salas Diaz was promoted to Social Worker II; continued his work as the foster care worker to include assignments as a Social Worker I in addition to receiving CPS referrals for investigation; and,

1           **WHRERAS**, in December 1985, Joseph John Salas Diaz was  
2 promoted to Social Worker III; in addition to his promotion his assignments  
3 as Social worker I & II and was assigned more complex cases for  
4 investigation; he responded to the majority of the crisis cases that occurred  
5 late in the evenings or early mornings being the only male Social worker at  
6 that time; he was also assigned to participate in the Inter-agency case  
7 conferences to coordinate services for children in foster care; and,

8           **WHEREAS**, Joseph John Salas Diaz received recognition for his  
9 volunteer work with the preparation and establishment of the facility for the  
10 Child Care Cooperative Program in Mangilao, in which the bureau received  
11 a federal grant in 1985 and was able to open a child care center which  
12 catered to low income parents who are working, participating in a training  
13 program or attending school; and,

14           **WHEREAS**, in March 1990, Joseph John Salas Diaz was promoted to  
15 Social Services Supervisor I and assigned to oversee the CPS Investigation  
16 Unit having to review all referrals of child abuse and neglect and assign for  
17 case investigation; and,

18           **WHEREAS**, Joseph John Salas Diaz selected to represent the DPHSS  
19 director in the Inter-Agency Case Review Committee, this committee was  
20 tasked to review all referrals of children for residential care on and off-

1 island, this committee was also tasked to monitor all of Guam's children  
2 placed in off-island residential facilities and prepare after care services for  
3 their return to Guam; and,

4 **WHEREAS**, Joseph John Salas Diaz participated in the MAST  
5 (Multi-Agency Sexual Treatment Team), the committee's role was to review  
6 and assess the progress of all minors who are victims of sexual abuse and  
7 ensure they are receiving the appropriate services from all agencies; and,

8 **WHEREAS**, in February 1992, Joseph John Salas Diaz was selected  
9 by the Governor to be a member of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council  
10 with the Department of Youth Affairs; and,

11 **WHEREAS**, Joseph John Salas Diaz assigned students from UOG  
12 Social Work and Psychology practicum programs; and,

13 **WHEREAS**, in September 1990, he was invited to Palau to  
14 participate in their National Parent Convention and conducted a presentation  
15 on the prevention of child abuse and neglect; and,

16 **WHEREAS**, in 1997, Joseph John Salas Diaz was transferred to the  
17 Division of Senior Citizens (DCS) and supervised the Adult Protective  
18 Services Unit, his responsibilities was to review and assign all referrals  
19 received of disabled adults and seniors citizens who are alleged of being  
20 abused and neglected, another responsibility was to monitor the emergency

1 home contracted by DPHSS/DSC; and,

2 **WHEREAS**, Joseph John Salas Diaz continued working with DSC  
3 for six months and at the request of the director was asked to oversee the  
4 Health Professional Licensing Bureau as the Acting Administrator, he was  
5 tasked to oversee the health professional boards for compliance and  
6 licensing of professionals; and,

7 **WHEREAS**, in November 1999, Joseph John Salas Diaz was  
8 transferred to the Division of Environmental Health ,his assignment was to  
9 supervise public health inspectors, this section was tasked to ensure that all  
10 eating and drinking establishments were in compliance with health codes, to  
11 inspect massage parlors and all businesses requiring a sanitary permit; he  
12 remained with DEH for about two (2) years; and,

13 **WHEREAS**, Joseph John Salas Diaz transferred to the Work  
14 Programs Section, Division of Public Welfare, where he supervised social  
15 workers who worked with clients receiving public assistance and help them  
16 complete their education and seek employment; and,

17 **WHEREAS**, in February 12, 2001, Joseph John Salas Diaz was  
18 promoted to Social Services Supervisor II and then tasked with the overall  
19 supervision of the Work Program Section (WPS) which included the Child  
20 Care Block Grant Program; as the SSS II for WPS, he was tasked the

1 administrative duties for all programs and having to work closely with the  
2 FEDS to ensure continuation of our federal grants, his duties also included  
3 coordination of services with the Department of Labor, WPS was successful  
4 in ensuring compliance with the requirements and continuation of the Block  
5 Grant which provided assistance to parents with Child Care and encouraging  
6 families to seek employment and not rely on public assistance; and,

7       **WHEREAS**, in 2006, Joseph John Salas Diaz moved to the Bureau of  
8 Economic Security in our Northern Satellite Office for three months to  
9 supervise the Eligibility Specialist Workers, he provided the staff with  
10 guidance and clean up problems and address the complaints from clients, the  
11 ES workers are responsible for determining eligibility of clients applying for  
12 SNAP (Food Stamps), welfare and medical assistance; and

13       **WHEREAS**, Joseph John Salas Diaz was detailed as the Acting  
14 Administrator for the Bureau of Economic Security and tasked to oversee  
15 the administrative duties and was responsible for three (3) satellite offices in  
16 Mangilao, Dededo and Inarajan; and,

17       **WHEREAS**, at that time, the team was working with an outdated  
18 computer system and working on upgrades which became a challenge with  
19 staff shortage and meeting compliance from the FEDS, Joseph John Salas  
20 Diaz was successful with the renovation of the northern and central offices

1 and continued to work with the vendor for the new computer system, it was  
2 during this time that he was challenged with the food stamp error rates; he  
3 was able to improve staff morale providing them with the support and the  
4 tools they needed to make their work a little easier; his three months  
5 extended to two years, he accomplished his task and then requested for a  
6 transfer to the Bureau of Social Services Administration; and,

7       **WHEREAS**, in November 1, 2008, Joseph John Salas Diaz transfer  
8 request was approved and returned to BOSSA and was assigned as the  
9 section supervisor for Child Protective Services, where he oversees the  
10 Intake, Crisis, Investigation and Case Management Units; and,

11       **WHEREAS**, in January 2009, Joseph John Salas Diaz was asked to  
12 sit in as a board member of the Public Guardian, the role of this board is to  
13 review the care and protection of those persons who are under guardianship  
14 by the Office of the Public Guardian; his duty as a board member also  
15 reviews sample cases, advocate for system change, makes recommendations  
16 to the public guardian, review the public auditor's report and visits with the  
17 wards to ensure they are properly cared for by their caretakers; and,

18       **WHEREAS**, in September 2010, Joseph John Salas Diaz was  
19 nominated and selected to be the chairperson for the Office of the Public  
20 Guardian board; and,

1           **WHEREAS**, since 2011, Joseph John Salas Diaz is a member of the  
2   Family Drive Care Work group, this group is to address barriers to family  
3   participation in workgroups, committees, evaluation activities, training  
4   events, and to provide opportunities for families from diverse backgrounds  
5   and cultures to be involved in Guam's Early Childhood System of Care; and,

6           **WHEREAS**, in 2008, Joseph John Salas Diaz in his absence from  
7   BOSS/CPS, he always had the need to return and work with children and  
8   families, the work at CPS continues to be a challenge but seeing their  
9   successes is rewarding beyond words; and, now, therefore, be it

10          **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules, on behalf of *I*  
11   *Mina'trentai uno Na Liheslaturan Guahan* and the people of Guam do  
12   hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, highly recognize and thank Joseph  
13   John Salas Diaz on the occasion of his retirement after thirty-one (31) years  
14   of service with the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services;  
15   and to further thanking him for his dedication to the many lives he has  
16   saved, inspired, encouraged, guided and built; and, be it further

17          **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee  
18   on Rules, and the Secretary of the Legislature attests to, the adoption hereof  
19   and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mr. Joseph John  
20   Salas Diaz; and to the Honorable Edward J. Calvo, *I Maga'lahen Guahan*.



**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU***  
***NALIHESLATURAN GUAHAN* ON THIS DAY \_\_\_\_\_ OF**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ 2012**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED.D**  
**Speaker**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES**  
**Legislative Secretary**