

I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Resolutions Log Sheet

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Referred	Committee / Ofc Referred	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	Date Adopted
398-33 (LS)	T. R. Muña Barnes B. J.F. Cruz Frank F. Blas, Jr. V. Anthony Ada	Relative to recognizing and commending Captain Jeannie B. Comlish for her dedication and selfless service in caring for the medical needs of the military personnel and civilians at the U.S. Naval Hospital Guam; and to further extending Un Dângkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase' to her for her support and vast exemplary contributions to the military community and the people of Guam.	06/14/16 11:46 a.m.	06/20/16 1:00 p.m.					06/14/16

I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2016 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 398-33 (LS)

Introduced by:

T. R. Muña Barnes
B. J.F. Cruz
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
V. Anthony Ada
R. J. Respicio
T. C. Ada
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
James V. Espaldon
Brant T. McCreadie
Tommy Morrison
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Mary Camacho Torres
N. B. Underwood, Ph.D.
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to recognizing and commending Captain Jeannie B. Comlish for her dedication and selfless service in caring for the medical needs of the military personnel and civilians at the U.S. Naval Hospital - Guam; and to further extending *Un Dângkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to her for her support and vast exemplary contributions to the military community and the people of Guam.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**
3 **WHEREAS, Captain Jeannie B. Comlish is a native of Washington, D.C., and**
4 **she received her Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing with honors from Georgetown**

1 University in 1986. She then began her medical career serving as a Staff Nurse at
2 George Washington University Hospital, and she worked in a variety of civilian
3 clinical nurse settings over the next four (4) years; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Captain Jeannie B. Comlish was commissioned as a Lieutenant
5 Junior Grade in September of 1990, and she was accepted into the U.S. Navy's Full
6 Time Out-Service Training (FTOST) Program for graduate school. Upon graduating,
7 she earned a Master of Science and Clinical Nurse Specialist (Trauma/Critical Care
8 Nursing) degree; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in 1992 after her graduation, Captain Jeannie B. Comlish
10 completed Officer Indoctrination School in Newport, Rhode Island; and she served as
11 a Staff Nurse in the ICU and Emergency Departments at the U.S. Naval Hospital -
12 Camp Pendleton. While assigned there, she deployed with Fleet Hospital SIX and
13 served as a trauma/critical care/medevac nurse in support of Operation Provide
14 Promise at Zagreb, Croatia, from March to August 1994; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in 1995, Captain Comlish reported to the U.S. Navy Recruiting
16 District in San Francisco as a Nurse Recruiter, and she went on to become the Medical
17 Programs Officer and the Department Head of Officer Programs for the district. In the
18 fall of 1998, Captain Comlish reported to the U.S. Naval Hospital in Okinawa, Japan,
19 where she served as the Nurse Manager of the Emergency Department; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in January of 2000, Captain Comlish reported aboard the USS
21 Carl Vinson (CVN-70) for duty as the Ship's Nurse. In the fall of 2001, while
22 deployed to the Western Pacific, she participated in the initial phases of Operation
23 Enduring Freedom, the nation's response to the events of 9/11. She then qualified for
24 Assistant Command Duty Officer (in Port) and earned her designation as a Surface
25 Warfare Medical Department Officer; and

1 **WHEREAS**, from 2002 to 2004, Captain Comlish was assigned to serve as the
2 Service Manager - Colorectal, Vascular, Plastic and Pediatric Outpatient Surgery
3 Clinics at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. She then
4 assumed her duties as a Senior Nurse Executive/Director of Nursing Services aboard
5 the USNS Mercy (TAH-19) in December 2004. She deployed a month later in support
6 of Operation Unified Assistance for the tsunami and earthquake disaster relief in
7 Indonesia; and for humanitarian assistance in Indonesia, East Timor, and Papua New
8 Guinea. She led a unique team which included the U.S. Public Health Service, allied
9 military medical personnel, and civilian volunteers from various non-governmental
10 organizations; and

11 **WHEREAS**, through the direct leadership of Captain Comlish, the Command
12 received accreditation by several distinguished organizations. Each mock and actual
13 survey validated her ongoing efforts to ensure the Command remained inspection-
14 ready as a strategy for delivering high quality healthcare; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in April of 2006, Captain Comlish deployed again for
16 humanitarian assistance missions in the Philippines, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and East
17 Timor. During this time, she served as the Senior Nurse Executive of a multi-national
18 and multi-organizational healthcare team; and later served as the USNS Mercy's
19 Liaison Officer to the U.S. Embassies in Jakarta, Indonesia and Dili, East Timor; and

20 **WHEREAS**, from 2006 to 2009, Captain Comlish served as the Division
21 Officer of a twenty (20)-Bed Hematology/Oncology Unit; and the Department Head
22 of Critical Care Nursing, where she was responsible for over one hundred fifty (150)
23 personnel in a sixteen (16)-bed intensive/coronary care unit, and a twenty-four (24)-
24 bed telemetry unit. In 2009, she reported to the U.S. Naval Hospital - Camp Pendleton
25 to serve as the Senior Nurse/Executive Director of Nursing Services, where she was
26 responsible for all nursing care throughout a one hundred eighteen (118)-bed tertiary

1 care hospital and eight (8) branch clinics which provided health care to one hundred
2 fifty thousand (150,000) beneficiaries and field medical support of the world's largest
3 U.S. Marine Corps training base. She reported to serve as the Executive Officer of the
4 U.S. Naval Hospital - Oak Harbor in August of 2012; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish had a proactive approach and unique solutions
6 to educate the staff in the process of improvement initiatives, high reliability
7 principles, transparency, and general healthcare issues, which attributed to the success
8 of the Command. Through her mentorship, she insured that the Command was audit
9 ready at all times; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish effectively led the Command through two
11 hundred fifty-seven (257)-line item POA&M that was developed to assist and prepare
12 the Command for the Joint Commission Survey and Navy Inspector General taking
13 place in the spring of 2016. Mock inspections, unit level training and many formal
14 presentations were conducted to enhance staff awareness of Joint Commission
15 standards, to include weekly multidisciplinary leadership rounds that were focused on
16 quality, safety, accountability and education across multiple disciplines for all patient
17 care areas; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish led the development of a comprehensive
19 diabetes clinic and nurse-run diabetes self-management program, resulting in a
20 hemoglobin A1C drop of twenty-two percent (22%) (11.1 to 9.1) in a three (3)-month
21 period for a sixty-four (64)-patient cohort of the hospital's most at-risk population,
22 those with hemoglobin A1C > 9. This initiative was recognized as a "Best Practice" in
23 the USNH Guam Business Plan presented to NAVMEDWEST in April 2015; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish decreased the enrollee ER utilization by thirty-
25 five percent (35%) through robust process improvements, to include the initiation of
26 weekend primary care clinics. Her efforts enabled the reduction of Command no-show

1 rates (many clinics from over 12% to less than 5%), and an increase of registration
2 and utilization of Relay Health by twenty percent (20%). The Command has been a
3 consistent top performer in Navy Medicine's HEDIS composite metrics and in the top
4 three (3) for access to care; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish leveraged healthcare resources and technology
6 to provide the highest quality care to the Command's beneficiaries. The Command
7 during this period provided two hundred twenty thousand (220,000) outpatient visits,
8 had four thousand (4,000) admissions, and attended to nine hundred (900) births; and

9 **WHEREAS**, under her direction and in collaboration with 36th Medical Group,
10 Captain Comlish implemented a new Command SARP Level II program, resulting in
11 One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) in travel cost savings for multiple
12 commands across the region. This program reduced the time away from station as the
13 closest SARP Level II was in Okinawa prior to the implementation of this program in
14 Guam. The Command executed 2.4 Million Dollars in critical service and support
15 projects, utility plant and clinics, improving the environment and quality of patient
16 care. The Command remediated the final Life Safety Environment of Care issue,
17 ensuring that the smoke evacuation system was able to receive full National Fire
18 Protection Association compliance. Additionally, the Command completed its facility
19 warranty program for the new hospital, correcting five hundred eighty-two (582)
20 contractor deficiencies and saving Four Hundred Twelve Thousand Dollars
21 (\$412,000); and

22 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish directed the administration of twenty thousand
23 (20,000) flu vaccines for over two thousand (2,000) patient encounters; each year the
24 Command and region was above ninety percent (90%) prior to December 15; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish signed over fifty (50) revised or new command
26 instructions, to include four (4) manuals; and more instructions were revised in her

1 time as Commanding Officer than the previous two (2) COs combined. She
2 overhauled the Command's AMD, which required a four hundred (400)-line item
3 manpower change request, resulting in BUMED standardization; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish was a key contributor to the opening of a new
5 Navy Exchange at the Command, resulting in a variety of food service options for
6 patients and staff. She also worked with MWR Guam in the opening of a Gourmet
7 Bean Cafe within the hospital, providing healthy food services for patients and their
8 family members unable to use the Command galley, and improving the overall patient
9 experience; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish focused on Lean Six Sigma, and the Command
11 trained twenty-six (26) new LSS green belts and facilitated twenty-six (26) LSS
12 projects; and

13 **WHEREAS**, a CPI champion, Captain Comlish empowered robust CPI
14 engagement from senior leadership to the deck plate, resulting in three (3) successful
15 PI Fairs with nineteen (19) entrants in the December 2014 event, and an increase to
16 thirty (30) entrants for the June 2015 event, and twenty-four (24) entrants for the
17 December 2015 event; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish established a focused tracking system for non-
19 personal service contract burn rates to avoid unauthorized commitments (UAC),
20 resulting in zero (0) UACs to date for FY 2015 and FY 2016; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish's Command led NMW for its size in Service
22 Treatment Records (STR) uploads, processing over five thousand (5,000) STRs in
23 support of this Navy initiative. She supported countless Navy Medicine activities in
24 this endeavor, ensuring the timely upload of these documents into HAIMS; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish initiated electronic training records for the entire
2 Command, reducing paper and hard copy files and providing improved continuity and
3 accountability of training records of personnel PCS; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish understands the vital role the Command plays in
5 the larger strategic picture. Captain Comlish made readiness a top priority for the staff
6 and the tenant commands she served. She deployed thirty-one (31) staff members in
7 support of missions in Afghanistan, Africa, Pacific Partnership (PP-14, 15 and 15),
8 and other theaters, all while ensuring that there was no impact to the Command's
9 primary healthcare delivery mission; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish is a role model for physical fitness, and her
11 policies and personal example resulted in ninety-eight percent (98%) of staff being
12 within Navy standards while decreasing the Fitness Enhancement Program Enrollment
13 by twenty percent (20%). She implemented a weekly command PT training with over
14 one hundred (100) military staff attending regularly. Under her leadership, she
15 ensured full partnership with tenant commands to ensure medical readiness
16 compliance that resulted in a region-wide fully medical ready sustained rate of eighty-
17 seven percent (87%); and

18 **WHEREAS**, in support of the dynamic Defense Policy Review Initiative and
19 the evolving requirements of the USMC buildup on Guam, Captain Comlish was a
20 key facilitator between USNG Guam stakeholders and the project delivery teams that
21 worked on developing the new clinics on Naval Base Guam and Anderson Air Force
22 Base; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish championed bi-monthly meetings with the
24 Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (GMHA) and the Guam Regional Medical City
25 (GRMC) to work jointly on topics such as cross-credentialing of providers for disaster
26 preparation, cross-training of specialties, capabilities reporting, and improvement of

1 hand-offs, feedback on care across organizations, and standardization of equipment.
2 She initiated monthly meetings with the USAF 36th Medical Group to discuss medical
3 capabilities, cross-credentialing, clinical cross-coverage, joint training opportunities,
4 and ER utilization. She worked closely with the Office of Veteran Affairs as their
5 specialty referral organization, and she partnered during periods of VA provider gaps
6 to assist them with their access to care shortfalls; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Captain Jeannie Comlish partnered with the University of Guam
8 School of Nursing for its senior year leadership practicum. She leveraged “free labor”
9 of college students to identify and complete PI projects for USNH Guam and
10 presented the projects to leadership. This opportunity served as an excellent
11 recruitment tool for Navy Medicine; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Captain Jeannie Comlish implemented the inaugural Guam
13 Healthcare Coalition, uniting civilian and military healthcare preventive medicine
14 professionals in developing a common all-hazards response framework. She
15 coordinated island-wide preparations for potential emerging infectious disease
16 outbreaks, including Ebola and MERS. She developed the first Common Operating
17 Picture for Guam’s medical for government and non-government use. She developed
18 plans for all hazard responses for the USNH Guam, coordinated operational DSCA
19 plans, supported JRM Annex Q, and played a vital role in Guam’s pandemic response,
20 to include Ebola; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Captain Comlish provided assistance to Task Force 71, Naval
22 Special Warfare Unit One via Mental Health Response Team, offering psychological
23 first aid, stress response prevention, support, psycho-education, resources and referrals
24 following a critical incident, resulting in a foreign friendly-force death. She supported
25 PACFLT in the development of an ERSS capability for the sub-community on Guam.

1 Additionally, she supported PACFLT with multiple operational planning efforts and
2 information; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the USNH Guam staff supported the Joint Region Marianas,
4 Naval Base Guam and SUBPAC/MSC in multiple joint efforts that saved these
5 commands 1.5 Million Dollars in reductions of contract costs; and efforts included
6 occupational safety and health support, mishap investigation support, environmental
7 surveys, and industrial health surveys; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Captain Jeannie Comlish is a superb and devoted mentor. She
9 ensured the success of the Command's Officer Career Development Boards (CDBs)
10 across all Corps and enlisted staff, considered a best practice with NMW. During her
11 time, over five hundred (500) enlisted and officers received CDBs; and Captain
12 Jeannie Comlish ensured command personnel were recognized for their efforts as over
13 two hundred fifty (250) end-of-year awards were signed during her tenure; and

14 **WHEREAS**, throughout her inspections period, Captain Jeannie Comlish has
15 had command of over twenty (20) inspections with each of these inspections
16 achieving superior results even with these inspections being done during the first year
17 after the move into the new hospital facility. A few of the results include: Safety and
18 Occupational Health Management Evaluation (SOHME) Inspection APR 2015:
19 demonstrated success in all aspects of the program (safety, industrial hygiene,
20 occupational medicine, and hearing conservation) with both Safety and Occupational
21 Medicine receiving a rating of "Commendable." Specific comments included the
22 observation that "Safety was an inherent part of doing business" and that during
23 personal interviews, "staff could identify the organization's focus to becoming a high
24 reliability organization and their role in a culture of safety"; identified the use of
25 ESAMS as "one of the best in Navy Medicine"; earned recertification for the next
26 three (3) years; Radiation Safety Audit APR 2015 - passed, noting Radiation Safety

1 Officer and skilled tech support as positive outliers; Navy Blood Bank Program
2 Technical Assist Visit APR 2015 - Consumable tracking log noted as a “Best
3 Practice”; NMW Audit Readiness Inspection May 2015 - 92%; NMCR Public
4 Health/Radiation Safety Inspection May 2015 - successfully completed with only one
5 (1) level five (5) deficiency; achieved renewal of USNH Guam’s Nuclear medicine
6 safety permit for the next ten (10) years; CAP Inspection May 2015 - successfully
7 recertified with user-friendly processes and training noted as positive outliers; Cyber
8 Security Inspection - although USNH Guam scored a sixty-seven percent (67%) (with
9 70% required to successfully pass for this inspection); Category I vulnerabilities have
10 been decreased from twenty (20) to zero (0), Category II have been reduced from two
11 hundred eighty-seven (287) to less than twenty (20) in less than four (4) months, and
12 the IT Department has identified and corrected firewall configuration issues,
13 decreasing cyber-security vulnerabilities by sixty-three percent (63%); achieved
14 interim ATO but was noted for having the cleanest IT system of any command within
15 Navy Medicine; PPMAP Inspection July 2015 - successfully passed inspection with
16 satisfactory results; Mammography Quality Standards Act Inspection October 2015 -
17 with successful results; BUMED EM Audit January 2016 - with outstanding results;
18 and the first command to achieve all green results in PREP; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Captain Jeannie Comlish’s leadership brought her Command
20 several high awards and recognition highlighting the collective efforts of the entire
21 staff in the realm of quality care, sailorization, and community service. Through
22 Captain Comlish’s extensive partnerships with area commands and local civic
23 organizations, the Command and many of its members have delivered services to the
24 community that had a significant impact on others; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Captain Jeannie Comlish received the Navy Surgeon General’s
26 Health Promotion and Wellness Award, the Gold Star 2014; the Navy Golden Anchor

1 Award for Retention Excellence; the Department of Defense Patient Safety Award;
2 and the Joint Region Marianas Village Sister Award all in the year 2014. She has also
3 received the Navy Community Service of the Year Award for Large Overseas
4 Command in 2015, the Navy Environmental Stewardship Award for 2014-2015, and
5 the CNO Campaign Drug Free Award for 2014-2015, along with the CMS National
6 Five (5)-Star Rating on Inpatient Satisfaction Survey for the 3rd quarter FY 2015; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Captain Jeannie Comlish is a Johnson & Johnson - Wharton
8 Fellow in Management for Nurse Executives and a Fellow of the American College of
9 Healthcare Executives. She has been a speaker at numerous local and national
10 conferences. Her military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (four
11 awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards), the Navy
12 Achievement Medal (three awards), the Humanitarian Assistance Medal (two awards),
13 and several joint and unit commendations; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the President of the United States has issued the Legion of Merit
15 Award to Captain Comlish. The Legion of Merit Award is given to members of the
16 uniformed services of the United States and members of the allied armed forces with
17 exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding services and
18 achievements; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the hallmark of Captain Comlish's tour has been of proven
20 excellence and a devotion to her duty. The covenant leadership style she has displayed
21 serves to elevate the accomplishments of all who serve the Command. Her legacy of
22 service to the fleet and her staff will have a lasting impact on the Command, the
23 region, the community, and her staff; now therefore, be it

24 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
25 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and commend Captain Jeannie Comlish
26 for her dedication and selfless service in caring for the medical needs of the military

1 personnel and civilians at the U.S. Naval Hospital - Guam; and does further extend *Un*
2 *Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to her for her vast exemplary contributions to the
3 military community and the people of Guam; and be it further

4 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
5 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Captain
6 Jeannie Comlish; to the Commander of the U.S. Naval Hospital; and to the Honorable
7 Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'låhen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 14TH DAY OF JUNE 2016.**



BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ
Acting Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary