

MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2006 (SECOND) Regular Session

E4e. Com.
Resolution No. 134

Introduced by:

Edward J.B. Calvo *EC*
Mark Forbes *MF*
L. F. Kasperbauer *LFK*

A. R. Unpingco

Relative to recognizing recipients of the U.S. Small Business Administration "Small Business Awards 2006": Joseph M. Crisostomo, "Small Business Person of the Year"; Kristal Koga, "Women In Business Champion of the Year"; Alfred K.Y. Lam, "Minority Small Business Champion of the Year"; and Michael J. Terlaje, "Financial Services Champion of the Year"; for exceptional achievement in their respective fields and to further recognizing their civic contributions to the community of Guam.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF *I MINA' BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:

WHEREAS, the U.S. Small Business Administration was established in 1953 to provide financial, technical, and management assistance and to help increase the number of small business start-ups and to encourage their expansion and sustained growth throughout the nation's states and territories; and

WHEREAS, America's estimated 23 million small businesses employ more than half of the nation's private work force, generate more than half of the nation's gross domestic product, and are the principal source of new jobs in the

DATE OF BIRTH:

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U.S. economy; and Guam's estimated 3,000 business establishments with employment, contribute 41 percent to the island's total monthly payroll, accounting for nearly 43,000 in private sector employment; and

WHEREAS, the SBA first opened its Guam Branch Office in 1962, and is servicing disaster loan recipients and small businesses, which ensures the recovery of disaster victims as well as the viability of small business concerns, adding to the local tax base, providing employment opportunities, and whose owners participate and support community activities as corporate citizens; and

WHEREAS, since 1990 the SBA Guam Branch Office has participated in the annual, nationwide SBA "Small Business Awards" program, recognizing the achievements of Guam's small business owners and the accomplishments of advocates of small business in Guam, and providing aspiring island entrepreneurs with successful role models to follow; and

WHEREAS, this year's "Small Business Person of the Year," Joseph M. Crisostomo, President and Owner of Cars Plus, LLC, has successfully guided his company with quality service and an affordable and reliable product in the vehicles he sells. In 2003, he earned the prestigious DaimlerChrysler "Sales Leadership Award" for continued growth and expansion, both in employees, sales, and size within just two years after securing the sales lines for DaimlerChrysler. Within the six years of operations, his company and its affiliates have grown from 35 employees to a total of 75 employees with significant increases in car unit sales and gross sales. He is a strong believer in the island's youth and continually sponsors local youth events while still partaking the time to encourage the island's young people to consider careers in

the retail and wholesale trades and taking the time to share his knowledge of small business as a board member with various restaurant, merchant, and sports associations and government agencies; and

WHEREAS, this year's "Minority Small Business Champion of the Year," Alfred K.Y. Lam, President and Owner of Ambyth Shipping and Trading, Inc., has been involved with one of the fastest growing business communities on Guam, the Chinese Community, since arriving from Hong Kong in 1972. He has been instrumental in opening several business operations as well as in the development of various community organizations such as the United Chinese Association, the Asian Pacific Lions Club, and the Chinese Merchant Association, which he encouraged his membership to change the name to the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. He unselfishly donates his time and business expertise in counseling new and existing Chinese businessmen. He encourages other Chinese businessmen to join local boards or organizations and give back to the community. As a strong believer in the American dream, he became a U.S. citizen in 1984; and

WHEREAS, this year's "Women In Business Champion of the Year", Kristal Koga, Owner of The Kristal Kollection, has been involved with various women organizations on Guam such as the Guam Council of Women's Club, the Soroptimist International of the Marianas, and the Federation of Asian Pacific Women's Association as either a member or an officer of the board. Through her experience as a business owner and involvement with non-profit organizations, she has been able to share her ideas with other women business owners and advocate for the betterment of women's lives on Guam; and

WHEREAS, this year's "Financial Services Champion of the Year", Michael J. Terlaje, Assistive Technology Project Coordinator for the Guam Center of Excellence in Development Disabilities Education, Research and Service (Guam CEDDERS), was instrumental in the development of the Get Guam Teleworking Program (GGT) which allowed the expansion of the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Grant. The \$950,000 grant provided funds to individuals with disabilities who wish to be trained for a job or who wish to start a home-based business. He recognized the challenges of the disabled and addressed the additional needs and training requirements by partnering with a local lender for micro funds as low as \$500 to start their business and with the Guam Small Business Development Center to obtain the technical assistance for their operations; and

WHEREAS, this year's recipients Ms. Koga and Misters Crisostomo, Lam and Terlaje deserve recognition for their achievements in their individual and respective industries and pursuits, and collectively, these recipients represent a truly outstanding ensemble of Guam's small business citizenry demonstrating the resiliency and the entrepreneurial spirit to prosper in an economic climate of challenges and circumstances; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina' Bente Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, congratulate the 2006 U.S. Small Business Administration "Small Business Awards" recipients Joseph M. Crisostomo, "Small Business Person of the Year;" Alfred K.Y. Lam, "Minority Small Business Champion of the

Year;" Kristal Koga, "Women In Business Champion of the Year;" and, Michael Terlaje, "Financial Services Champion of the Year; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker and Chairman of the Executive Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mr. Joseph M. Crisostomo; to Mr. Alfred K.Y. Lam; to Ms. Kristal Koga; to Mr. Michael Terlaje; to the U.S. Small Business Office, Guam Branch; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *Maga'lahañ Guåhan*.