

I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2008 (SECOND) Regular Session

Executive Committee
Resolution No. 211

Introduced by:

Frank F. Blas, Jr.
James V. Espaldon
Edward J.B. Calvo
B. J.F. Cruz
Mark Forbes
Judith Paulette Guthertz, DPA
Frank T. Ishizaki
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
J. A. Lujan
A. B. Palacios, Sr.
v. c. pangelinan
R. J. Respicio
Dr. David L.G. Shimizu
Ray Tenorio
J. T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to commending and congratulating John Finoña Blas for his most outstanding and dedicated service and contributions to the people of Guam while serving as Executive Director of the Mayors' Council of Guam, and wishing him well on his new endeavor as Executive Director of the Guam Election Commission.

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

3 **WHEREAS, John Finoña Blas was born on January 31, 1963 to Clotilde**
4 **Finoña and the late Juan Guerrero Blas. He is the third (3rd) oldest and the**

1 oldest boy of ten (10) siblings. John is a 1981 graduate of John F. Kennedy
2 High School. In pursuing a higher education, John studied Public
3 Administration at the University of Guam. John also studied Architectural
4 Engineering Science and Criminal Justice Administration at the Guam
5 Community College; and

6 **WHEREAS**, John is married to the former Catherine T. Castro and they
7 have six (6) children: Lucas, Rochelle, John Jr., Kenneth, J Anthony and Jon
8 Michael; and two (2) grandchildren Rai Jose and Elyssa Riley. John has been
9 a vocalist and bass guitarist for over twenty (20) years and is presently with
10 the band, "*Local Brew*", providing local and cultural music to the people of
11 Guam; and

12 **WHEREAS**, upon learning of the Executive Director vacancy within the
13 Mayors' Council of Guam (MCOG), John saw the opportunity to offer his
14 Mayoral and Legislative experience to the Mayors and Vice Mayors of Guam
15 and submitted his application to the Council. From a pool of seven (7)
16 applicants interviewed for the job, John was one (1) of two (2) candidates
17 selected by the Review Committee. During a Special Meeting of the Mayors'
18 Council, John Finona Blas was selected by the Council to serve as their
19 Executive Director. John has held this position since September 2001; and

20 **WHEREAS**, upon assuming his duties and responsibilities as Executive
21 Director for the Mayors' Council of Guam, John focused on ensuring that the
22 operations of the Council was in compliance with all Guam Laws, Rules and
23 Regulations, specifically those pertaining to the Mayors' Council of Guam;
24 and

1 **WHEREAS**, with respect to emergencies and disasters, John was
2 instrumental in increasing the MCOG recognition within the Guam
3 Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense by ensuring that all preparedness,
4 response and recovery operations involved the Mayors and Vice Mayors at all
5 levels, as well as ensuring that the Council was included in all on-island
6 Homeland Security/FEMA Trainings, Workshops and Exercises; and

7 **WHEREAS**, prior to assuming his duties and responsibilities as the
8 Executive Director for the Mayors' Council of Guam, John was employed with
9 the Guam Legislature and worked during the Sixteenth (16th) through the
10 Nineteenth (19th) Guam Legislatures; and

11 **WHEREAS**, in November 1988, John was elected Mayor of the
12 Municipality of Yigo, where he faithfully served in that capacity from January
13 1989 to January 1993. Being elected at the age of twenty-five (25) years old,
14 John shares with his late father the distinction of being one of the youngest
15 Mayors ever elected; and

16 **WHEREAS**, upon leaving his elected Office in January 1993, John
17 returned to the Guam Legislature, where he continued his public service in
18 the Twenty-second (22nd) through the Twenty-fifth (25th) Guam Legislatures;
19 and

20 **WHEREAS**, leaving the Guam Legislature for the last time, John was
21 then employed as a Special Projects Coordinator assigned to the Office of the
22 General Manager of the Guam Telephone Authority from January to
23 September 2001. While at GTA, John's duties and responsibilities were
24 specific to the privatization process of the Authority; and

1 **WHEREAS**, while serving as the Executive Director for the Mayors'
2 Council of Guam, John's motivation, aggressiveness and love for his job was
3 derived from his compassion for the services that the Mayors and Vice
4 Mayors provide to their constituents, and the people of Guam as a whole;
5 now, therefore, be it

6 **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na*
7 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
8 people of Guam, commend and congratulate John Finoña Blas for his support
9 and dedicated contributions to the Mayors' Council of Guam and more
10 importantly to the people of Guam; and be it further

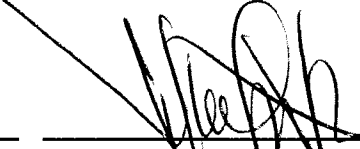
11 **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na*
12 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
13 people of Guam, acknowledge that John Finoña Blas has resigned his post as
14 Executive Director for the Mayors' Council of Guam effective the close of
15 business on Friday, May 30, 2008, and will assume his duties and
16 responsibilities as Executive Director of the Guam Election Commission on
17 Monday, June 2, 2008; and be it further

18 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Executive
19 Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption
20 hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mr. John
21 Finona Blas and his family; to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's
22 Delegate to the United States Congress; and to the Honorable Felix P.
23 Camacho, *I Maga'lahren Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 29TH DAY OF MAY 2008.



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.
Speaker and
Chairperson, Executive Committee



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Senator and
Secretary of the Legislature