

SENATOR RORY J. RESPICIO
MAJORITY LEADER

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON RULES; FEDERAL, FOREIGN & MICRONESIAN AFFAIRS;
HUMAN & NATURAL RESOURCES; AND ELECTION REFORM



I Mina'trentai Dos na Libeslaturan Guåhan
THIRTY-SECOND GUAM LEGISLATURE

News Release
For Immediate Release

FOIA Council Website Now Active

March 23, 2014– A website has been established for the Guam Freedom of Information Council with information that will assist members of the community who want to contact the newly formed organization.

The public can access the website via <http://guamlegislature.com/FOIA.htm>

On that page they will find details about the Council and can access the current Freedom of Information and Open Government Laws of Guam. Viewers will also find the names of members that have already been appointed as well as contact information for filing a complaint with the Council. Future meeting dates also will be published on the website.

Legislative Rules Resolution 330-32(COR) was authored by Senator Rory J. Respicio and established the Guam Legislative Freedom of Information Advisory Council to encourage and facilitate compliance with the Freedom of Information Act. The Council will identify which government of Guam agencies are not in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Open Government Law and they will issue advisories and opinions. The Council also will provide public training on the local Sunshine laws and will publish documents and guidelines as needed. Members will also review all local Sunshine laws and make suggestions for changes in legislation to make our government more open and transparent to the people of Guam.

On Friday afternoon Senator Respicio appointed four members to the Council including Pacific Daily News President and Publisher Rindraty Lintiaco, Guam Business Magazine Publisher Maureen N. Maratita, Senator Thomas C. Ada and Santa Rita Resident Barry Mead. Legislative Executive Director Vince Arriola appointed former journalist Bernadette Sterne Meno as his designee. The Attorney General of Guam or his designee along the Administrator of the Judiciary of Guam or his designee has also been invited to be on the Council. Governor Eddie Baza Calvo has been notified that he is invited to appoint members to the Council as well. Speaker Judith T. Won Pat is expected to make her appointments next week.

The Council's first meeting will be announced at a later date and all meetings will be announced pursuant to the open government law, broadcast live on the legislature's channel, and open to the public. For more information on the Council please contact 472-7679. Citizens wishing to file a complaint regarding the lack of government transparency can email foia.council@guamlegislature.org or visit the website at <http://guamlegislature.com/FOIA.htm>

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UNSWORN DECLARATION: I hereby declare that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, under penalty of perjury of the laws of Guam, this declaration being sworn and made in lieu of an affidavit pursuant to Title 6 Guam Code Annotated §4308, at the place and date identified herein.

Rory J. Respicio

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