

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

2008 JUL -2 PM 3:23 ekm

Res. No. 168(LS)

Introduced by:

J. V. Espaldon  
A.B. Delos Reyes

**Relative to commending and congratulating Captain William R. Marhoffer, United States Coast Guard, for his highly successful tour of duty on Guam and particularly for his efforts to promote better relations between the United States Coast Guard and the people of Micronesia.**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:**

**WHEREAS**, since arriving on Guam on July 2005, Capt. William Marhoffer has served as Commander, Coast Guard Sector Guam.

**WHEREAS**, as Sector Commander, Capt. William Marhoffer exercises statutory authority as Captain of the Port and Federal Maritime Security Coordinator for Guam and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Officer-in-Charge of Marine Inspection, Federal Scene Coordinator for maritime pollution prevention and response, and Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator for nearly 2 million square miles of the Western Pacific Ocean, including Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia; and

**WHEREAS**, Capt. William Marhoffer's duties include two 110-foot patrol boats, USCGC ASSATEAGUE and USCGC WASHINGTON, three 25-foot response boats, and a staff of 194 active duty, reservists, auxiliary and civilian personnel responsible for performing missions including Search and Rescue, Maritime Homeland Security, Commercial Vessel Safety, Maritime Law Enforcement, Environmental Protection, and Waterways Safety; and

1           **WHEREAS**, Capt. William Marhoffer initiated, planned and executed the  
2 Exercise Sea Guardian concept which combined the resources of the United States  
3 Coast Guard and the Royal Australian Navy to equip the members of the FSM  
4 Navy to better patrol their own waters and enforce Living Marine Resource  
5 treaties. His efforts in this area have empowered island states of maritime law  
6 enforcement and have fostered important collaborative friendships in the region.  
7 Through this, permanent and temporary bilateral agreements have been established  
8 with the Cook Islands, Kiribati, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the FSM and  
9 the Republic of Palau; and

10           **WHEREAS**, Capt. William Marhoffer maintained the Search & Rescue  
11 Memorandum of Agreement with the Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25. This  
12 augments Sector Guam’s surface assets with air coverage on demand and extends  
13 the range of visibility in the prosecution of SAR cases. Under his leadership,  
14 Department of Defense leadership schools have been made available to Coast  
15 Guard personnel including the Navy and Air Force Non-Commissioned Officer’s  
16 leadership academies and the Navy’s Bearings Course; and

17           **WHEREAS**, Capt. William Marhoffer initiated dialog between CG-122 and  
18 the Department of Homeland Security to allow FSM citizens to reenlist in the  
19 Coast Guard without becoming American citizens and forfeiting their land rights in  
20 the FSM; and

21           **WHEREAS**, under Capt. Marhoffer’s direction, representatives from Sector  
22 Guam met with CNMI officials (Port Police, Dept. of Public Safety and  
23 Emergency Management Office personnel from Saipan and Tinian) and created a  
24 semi-annual SAR exercise coordination group called SAR Group CNMI to mirror  
25 the quarterly exercise group in Guam called SAR Group Guam. Since that time,  
26 exercises and training have been provided at least twice per year which have

1 directly led to timely rescues and saving five lives. Improved communications  
2 have resulted in immediate asset response via air and sea. Additionally, the  
3 navigation and communications training have enabled better local response; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Capt. William Marhoffer recommended that USCG patrol  
5 boats be allowed to patrol Palau’s waters under a bilateral agreement.

6 Subsequently, temporary bilateral agreements have been also been established with  
7 the Cook Islands, Kiribati, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated  
8 States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau; now therefore be it

9 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina’Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does  
10 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam commend and congratulate Captain  
11 William R. Marhoffer, United States Coast Guard, for his highly successful tour of  
12 duty on Guam and particularly for his efforts to promote better relations between  
13 the United States Coast Guard and the people of Micronesia; and be it further

14 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify to and the Secretary of the Legislature  
15 attest the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be transmitted to Capt.  
16 William R. Marhoffer; RDML Manson K. Brown; and the Honorable Felix P.  
17 Camacho, *I Maga’lahen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA’ NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE \_\_\_\_ DAY OF JULY 2008.**

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**JUDITH T. WON PAT**  
Speaker

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**TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES**  
Secretary of the Legislature