



Office of the Governor of Guam

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Felix Perez Camacho
Governor

Kaleo Scott Moylan
Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Legislative Secretary
Legislative Council Building

DEC 31 2004

TIME: 4:40 / 12/31/04 4:40 PM
RECEIVED BY: SP

31 DEC 2004

The Honorable Vicente C. Pangelinan
Speaker
Mina' Bente Siete Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
155 Hessler Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Transmitted herewith is Bill No. 398 (COR), "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$75,000.00) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE COMPILER OF LAWS FUND OF THE UNIFIED JUDICIARY OF GUAM, FOR THE PRINTING OF THE GUAM CODE," now designated as Public Law 27-146.

Sinseru yan Magâhet,

[Handwritten signature of Felix P. Camacho]

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga'lâhen Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Attachment: copy attached of signed bill

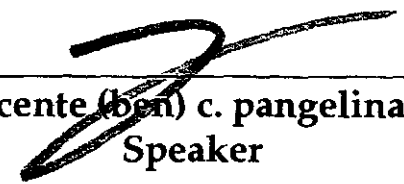
cc: The Honorable Tina Rose Muna-Barnes
Senator and Legislative Secretary

I MINA'BENTE SIETE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2004 (SECOND) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'LAHEN GUÅHAN

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 398 (COR), "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$75,000.00) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE COMPILER OF LAWS FUND OF THE UNIFIED JUDICIARY OF GUAM, FOR THE PRINTING OF THE GUAM CODE," was on the 20th day of December, 2004, duly and regularly passed.

Attested:


vicente (ben) c. pangelinan
Speaker


Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Senator and Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan* this 20 day of December, 2004,
at 5:50 o'clock P.M.


Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'lahaen's Office

APPROVED:


FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga'lahaen Guåhan

Date: December 30, 2004

Public Law No. 27-146

I MINA'BENTE SIETE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2004 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 398 (COR)

As substituted by the Committee on Appropriations
and Budgeting, General Governmental
Operations, Reorganization and Reform.

Introduced by:

Committee on Appropriations and
Budgeting, General Governmental
Operations, Reorganization
and Reform

**AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF SEVENTY-FIVE
THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$75,000.00) FROM THE GENERAL
FUND TO THE COMPILER OF LAWS FUND OF THE
UNIFIED JUDICIARY OF GUAM, FOR THE PRINTING OF
THE GUAM CODE.**

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*
3 finds that the Unified Judiciary of Guam intends to absorb the salary of the
4 Compiler of Laws, one staff employee, and the expenses for the office
5 equipments within its existing budget. Additional funds have been
6 requested by the Chief Justice to fund the estimated cost of printing the
7 updated Guam Code. For several years now, updates have *not* been
8 printed due to lack of funds.

9 Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to appropriate the
10 sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) from the General Fund
11 to the Unified Judiciary of Guam for the purpose of printing updates of the
12 Guam Code.

1 **Section 2. Appropriation.** The sum of Seventy-Five Thousand
2 Dollars (\$75,000.00) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the
3 Compiler of Laws Fund of the Unified Judiciary of Guam for the purpose
4 of funding the publication and printing of an updated and revised Guam
5 Code Annotated, as set out in Section 1602(2) of Title 1, Guam Code
6 Annotated.



FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Vice Speaker

December 15, 2004

MEMORANDUM

The Honorable ben c. pangelinan
Speaker, *I Mina' Bente Siete Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*
155 Hesler Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Via: Honorable Senator Lou Leon Guerrero, Committee on Rules & Health

Dear Speaker pangelinan:

The Committee on Appropriations and Budgeting, General Governmental Operations, Reorganization and Reform, to which was referred, Bill No. 398 (COR) as substituted by the Committee - An act to appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) from the General Fund to the Unified Judiciary of Guam, Compiler of Laws, for the printing of the Guam Code, has had the same under consideration, and now wishes to report back the same with the recommendation **TO DO PASS**.

The voting record is as follows:

TO PASS	<u>6</u>
NOT TO PASS	<u>0</u>
TO ABSTAIN DUE TO POTENTIAL CONFLICT	<u>0</u>
TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE	<u>0</u>

Copies of the Committee Report and other pertinent documents are attached. Thank you for your attention to this matter. **Dangkolo' Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase.**

Respectfully,

FRANK BLAS AGUON, JR.

Vice Speaker/Senator
I Mina' Bente Siete Na Liheslaturan Guåhan



Respetu Para Todu (Respect for All)

I Mina Bente-Siete Na Liheslaturan Guåhan * Twenty-Seventh Guam Legislature
Suite 101-A * Ada's Commercial and Professional Center * 118 East Marine Drive * Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Phone (671) 479-4GUM (4486/4828) * Fax (671) 479-4827





FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Vice Speaker

December 15, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Committee on Appropriations and Budgeting, General Governmental Operations, Reorganization and Reform

FROM: Vice Speaker Frank B. Aguon, Jr.
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations and Budgeting, General Governmental Operations, Reorganization and Reform

SUBJECT: Committee Report – Bill No. 398 (COR) as substituted by the Committee: An act to appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) from the General Fund to the Unified Judiciary of Guam, Compiler of Laws, for the printing of the Guam Code.

Transmitted herewith for your information and action is the report on Bill No. 398 (COR) as substituted by the Committee from the Committee on Appropriations and Budgeting, General Governmental Operations, Reorganization and Reform.

This memorandum is accompanied by the following:

1. Committee Voting Sheet
2. Committee Report
3. Bill 398 (COR) as substituted by the Committee
4. Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
5. Notice of Public Hearing

Please take the appropriate action on the attached voting sheet. Your attention and cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

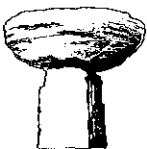
Should you have any questions regarding the report or accompanying documents, please do not hesitate to contact me. **Dangkolo' Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase.**

Respectfully,

FRANK BLAS AGUON, JR.

Vice Speaker/Senator

I Mina Bente-Siete Na Liheslaturan Guåhan



Respetu Para Todu (Respect for All)

I Mina Bente-Siete Na Liheslaturan Guåhan * Twenty-Seventh Guam Legislature
Suite 101-A * Ada's Commercial and Professional Center * 118 East Marine Drive * Hagåtña, Guam 96910

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FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Vice Speaker

**Committee on Appropriations and Budgeting, General Governmental
Operations, Reorganization and Reform
VOTING SHEET**

Bill No. 398 (COR) as substituted by the Committee An act to appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) from the General Fund to the Unified Judiciary of Guam, Compiler of Laws, for the printing of the Guam Code.

Committee Members	To Pass	Not to Pass	To Abstain due to potential Conflict	To place in Inactive File
 FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chair	_____	_____	_____	_____
 ANTOINETTE D. SANFORD Vice Chair	✓	_____	_____	_____
 LOU LEON GUERRERO Member	✓	_____	_____	_____
 TINA R. MUÑA-BARNES Member	✓	_____	_____	_____
 JOHN M. QUINATA Member	_____	_____	_____	_____
 RORY J. RESPICIO Member	_____	_____	_____	_____
 CARMEN FERNANDEZ Member	_____	_____	_____	_____
MARK FORBES Member	_____	_____	_____	_____
LAWRENCE F. KASPERBAUER Member	_____	_____	_____	_____

Respetu Para Todu (Respect for All)





FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Vice Speaker

I MINA' BENTE SIETE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

Committee on Appropriations and Budgeting,
General Governmental Operations,
Reorganization and Reform

VICE SPEAKER FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
CHAIRMAN

Committee Report
On
Bill No. 398 (COR)
As substituted by the Committee

"AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$75,000.00) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE UNIFIED JUDICIARY OF GUAM, COMPILER OF LAWS, FOR THE PRINTING OF THE GUAM CODE."



Respetu Para Todu (Respect for All)

I Mina Bente-Siete Na Liheslaturan Guåhan * Twenty-Seventh Guam Legislature
Suite 101-A * Ada's Commercial and Professional Center * 118 East Marine Drive * Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Phone (671) 479-4GUM (4486/4828) * Fax (671) 479-4827



I. Overview

The Committee on Appropriations and Budgeting, General Governmental Operations, Reorganization and Reform held a public hearing on Bill No. 398 (COR) at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, December 13, 2004 in the Public Hearing Room, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. Public notice for this hearing was made on: Friday, December 3, 2004 and Thursday, December 9, 2004 in the Pacific Daily News in the form of a paid advertisement. A press article also appeared in the Marianas Variety on December 10.

Senators present at the public hearing were:

Vice Chair Antoinette D. Sanford (presiding), and non-members Speaker pangelinan and Senator Robert Klitzkie.

II. Summary of testimony

Mr. Andrew S. ("Serge") Quenga, Compiler of Laws for the Unified Judiciary, appeared personally before the committee in support of Bill 398, and submitted written testimony (Attachment A). Mr. Quenga offered technical amendments to clarify the substantive Section 2. Also included in his testimony was his report to a Guam Code Advisory Committee meeting on November 23, 2004.

There was discussion of the merits of hard-copy publication of the Guam Code when files in electronic format are so widely accessible.

Speaker pangelinan asked about the status of the revolving fund for publishing the Guam Code, and requested that the Judiciary of Guam provide details on how this appropriation would be used. The Committee received the Judiciary's response on December 15 (Attachment B). In it, respondent Daniel J. Tydingco cited the public law that requires free distribution to over 80 public offices. He also listed hard copy publication unit costs in other jurisdictions and the cost of indexing the Guam Code Annotated several years ago, in his appeal for the Speaker's support.

III. Findings and recommendation

The Committee on Appropriations and Budgeting, General Governmental Operations, Reorganization and Reform finds that the appropriation of \$75,000 will allow the Judiciary to commence publishing an updated Guam Code. Technical amendments suggested in testimony were incorporated into the substituted bill.

Accordingly, the Committee on Appropriations and Budgeting, General Governmental Operations, Reorganization and Reform, to which Bill No. 398 (COR) was referred does hereby submit to *I Mina' Bente Siete Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* **TO DO PASS** Bill No. 398 (COR) *As Substituted* by the Committee: "An act to appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) from the General Fund to the Unified Judiciary of Guam, Compiler of Laws, for the printing of the Guam Code".

ATTACHMENT A



SUPREME COURT OF GUAM COMPILER OF LAWS



Suite 300 Guam Judicial Center, 120 West O'Brien Drive, Hagatna, Guam 96910-5174
Telephone: (671) 475-3395 Facsimile: (671) 475-3140

F. PHILIP CARBULLIDO
Chief Justice

ANDREW S. QUENGA
Compiler of Laws

Testimony of Andrew S. Quenga Compiler of Laws on Bill No. 398 Monday, December 13, 2004

Hafa Adai Chairman Aguon and members of the Committee on Appropriations and Budgeting, General Governmental Operations, Reorganization and Reform. This testimony is submitted in support of Bill No. 398 which will appropriate \$75,000 from the General Fund to the Compiler of Laws Office for the printing of the Guam Code Annotated.

As you know in April of this year, P.L. 27-77 transferred the Compiler of Laws Office from the Attorney General's Office to the Supreme Court of Guam. In August, I was appointed to the position of Compiler of Laws by Chief Justice F. Philip Carbullido and confirmed by the Judicial Council of Guam.

It is important to note at the outset that Public Law 27-77 did not appropriate any funds to the Supreme Court for personnel or equipment to fulfill the duties required of the Compiler of Laws. It is equally important that prior to the passage of P.L. 27-77, the Supreme Court did not request any funds for those purposes. The intent was for the judiciary to absorb personnel and equipment within its existing budget and resources and to seek funding through grants to minimize the economic impact on the general fund.

Since the transfer of the Compiler's Office to the Supreme Court, and at no additional cost to the General Fund, the judiciary constructed the Compiler's Office in the second floor of the Judicial Center and hired Mr. Larry Roberto who worked for many years under the former Compiler and who has much institutional knowledge of the functions of the Compiler's Office. The Judiciary has also applied for over \$70,000 in federal funds from the FY2004 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant for the integration and upgrading of the Guam Criminal Justice Information System. If we are successful in this grant application, we will be able to purchase all the computer hardware and software necessary to equip the Compiler's Office so that the codes, and rules and regulations can be updated in a timely manner for use by Guam's law enforcement and criminal justice community.

Last month, the Guam Code Advisory Commission, created by P.L. 27-77, met for the first time in an organizational meeting to begin the process of determining how the Code will be revised. I have attached hereto for your review the report that I submitted to the Guam Code Advisory Commission, which includes the present status of the Compiler's Office and our efforts to date.

It is worth noting that although P.L. 27-77 required all the computer and office equipment in the possession of the former Compiler to be transferred to the Supreme Court, the former Compiler had no such equipment which was over the past several years transferred along with Compiler personnel to other divisions of the Department of Law. Thus, the judiciary is bearing all the start-up costs of the Compiler's Office. The willingness of the Judiciary to bear the costs of personnel and equipment without requesting funds for such from the legislature indicates our firm determination to finally get the Guam Code back to where it should be, and to officially publish court decisions, agency rules and regulations, Executive Orders and Attorney General Opinions.

However, the judiciary can only do so much and we ask for the \$75,000 which will be used only for the printing and publishing of an updated Guam Code Annotated and nothing else, not personnel costs and not equipment costs. While the Compiler will be able to update the Code electronically without additional funds, the actual provision of a physical product in the form of hardbound volumes will require money. Hardbound volumes are absolutely necessary for the preservation of the official code. Electronic copies are subject to technical glitches and failures during data entry, software conversions and transmissions. Moreover, new technology is constantly and rapidly developing rendering existing hardware, software and data storage methods very quickly obsolete. I do not know of any jurisdiction in the America which has done away with official printed publications of codes and court decisions.

Since becoming Compiler, I have heard from members of the Guam Bar, Judges and Justices, agency directors and employees including a police officer sitting in a precinct office requesting an updated GCA. The last time the legislature funded the Compiler was in 1997. Not surprisingly, the last printed GCA update was issued by the Compiler in 1998. The Code is in dire need of revision and the funds provided in Bill No. 398 will ensure that the Code is finally revised and updated.

Because the Guam Code Annotated is in need of a complete revision and republication, I suggest the following amendment to Bill No. 398:

Section 2. Appropriation.

The sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) from the General Fund is hereby appropriated to the Compiler of Laws Fund of the Unified Judiciary of Guam for the purpose of funding the publication and printing of an updated and revised project of the Compiler of Laws to print updates of the Guam Code Annotated as set out in Section 1602(2) of Title 1 Guam Code Annotated.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Bill No. 398.

[Attachment to Testimony of Andrew S. Quenga in support of Bill 398. This report was submitted to the Guam Code Advisory Committee at its first meeting on November 23, 2004]

**Guam Code Advisory Commission Meeting
Tuesday November 23, 2004**

Public Law 27-77 enacted on April 26, 2004 moved the Compiler of Laws from the Office of the Attorney General to the Supreme Court. Andrew S. Quenga was appointed Compiler of Laws on August 19, 2004.

Agenda

1. Guam Code Advisory Commission Organization, Duties and Responsibilities
2. Compiler Organization, Duties and Responsibilities
3. Compiler Status Report
4. Compiler Goals

I. Guam Code Advisory Commission (GCAC) per 1 GCA § 1611 (P.L. 27-77)

Members of the GCAC are:

- Chief Justice of Guam, or designee, Chairperson
- Presiding Judge, or designee
- Attorney General, or designee
- Public Defender, or designee
- Governor's Legal Counsel
- Legislative Counsel
- President of the Guam Bar Association, or designee

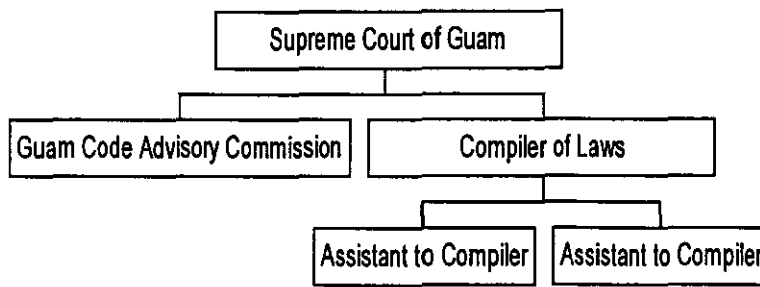
The responsibilities of the GCAC are:

- **To conduct a review of the structure, format, and organization of Guam's laws, rules and regulations, and court reports and recommend ways by which these materials may be more accessible to the general public. The Commission shall consider all means of distribution, including both paper and electronic;**

- To recommend to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Guam and the Judicial Council, ways by which such changes may be implemented both as to editorial and production issues;
- To hold hearings as necessary or relative to the duties of the Commission; and
- To recommend to the Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Guam and the Judicial Council, any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations of the Commission.

Administrative support for the Commission shall be provided through the Office of the Compiler of Laws for any assistance required by the Commission, or hearing to be held in accordance with this Chapter.

II. Compiler of Laws



The responsibilities of the Compiler are:

- Annually publish, with index, the Legislature Session Laws
- Publish periodic revisions and updates of the Guam Code Annotated, as determined by the Compiler of Laws, including available annotations thereto, such as Attorney General's Opinions, Executive Orders, and Court cases, and distributed at least annually, or more often if practical, to the Legislature, the Courts of Guam, the Executive Branch, and other interested individuals or entities as determined by the Compiler of Laws
- Publish Administrative Rules and Regulations, Opinions of the Attorney General, Executive Orders of *I Maga'lahi*, and reports of cases decided in the Supreme Court of Guam; and
- Make available on CD-ROM or similar recorded medium, the publications of the Compiler of Laws and provide on the Internet, interim updates of the published material promulgated between regular publications thereof.
- Note that publication does not include the authority to create or enable any text-based searchable or researchable database of such printed or duplicated materials.

- The Compiler has the authority to number, renumber and rearrange sections and chapters; where appropriate substitute numbers for terms such as “the preceding section” or “this act”; and correct capitalization, clerical and typographical errors.
- Duties also include being the repository for laws, court opinions, AG opinions, Executive Orders.
- Funding for publications from legislative appropriation, transfer from requesting agencies, and sales. Compiler may charge a fee (approved by Judicial Council) for publishing. Compiler must provide free publications to government entities.

III. Compiler Status Report

- Electronic updates of the GCA are current through Public Law 27-108. The last GCA Premise CD was current to P.L. 27-61. Thomson-West informed me that they will release updates of the GCA Premise CD through P.L. 27-104 within the next few weeks.
- Hardcopies. The GCA has not been updated in print since 1998. The Guam Administrative Rules Books have not been updated since their publication in 1997. Publication of Session Laws stopped with the 24th Legislature. To my knowledge, Executive Orders and Attorney General Opinions have not been officially published. The Guam Reports ended in 1979.
- Former Compiler provided updates of GCA, Executive Orders, and AG Opinions in electronic formats.
- Archival hard copies are still with the former Compiler. I will retrieve those when the new office is completed and occupied.
- Current Contracts. We are presently engaged in three contracts wherein the Compiler provides updates and the legal publisher provides services.
 - Thompson-West (Westlaw). One year contract to expire September 2005 for the provision of the GCA Premise CD. The provisions of the agreement provide that the Compiler will provide updates of the GCA and other databases to West and that West will have the exclusive right to use and publish the databases in CD format and a nonexclusive right to use the information on the WestLaw database. In return, West provides copies of the CD to the Compiler and government of Guam agencies without charge and royalties in the amount of 10% of West’s yearly gross revenues from use of the databases in CD or on Westlaw.
 - Lexis. The contract date is March 1, 2002 and is for a term of five years subject to automatic renewal for successive two-year terms if not

terminated six months prior to the termination date. Under the agreement, the Compiler is to provide updates of the GCA, Administrative Rules, Public Laws, Attorney General Opinions and Supreme Court Opinions to Lexis and grants the license to Lexis to use, distribute and reproduce the information on the internet and electronically. The license excludes from Lexis the right to offer the licensed material on CD except as a method of delivering a portion of the licensed material to a user. In return, Lexis provides one Special ID for use of Lexis' online services for up to three hours per month. Lexis also pays royalties in the amount of 10% of the revenue received by Lexis for the use of Guam material on its service.

- Jurispacific. The contract date is July 25, 2002 for a term of five years subject to automatic renewal unless terminated by either party six months prior to the termination date. Under this agreement, the Compiler transmits updates of the GCA, Administrative Rules, Public Laws, Attorney General Opinions and Supreme Court of Guam Opinions to Jurispacific on CD and grants a license to Jurispacific to use, distribute and reproduce the information on the internet and electronically. The license excludes from Jurispacific the right to offer the licensed material on CD except as a method of delivering a portion of the licensed material to a user. We received 3 passwords for the use of Jurispacific online by each of the three branches of the government.
- Construction of the Compiler's office on the second floor of the Judicial Center is complete and awaiting final approval and acceptance of the contractor's work. Once the office is occupied and furnished, we can start earnest work toward new publications.
- Last month, we applied for a \$71,900 grant under the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant for the integration and upgrade of the Criminal Justice Information System. This will provide computer equipment to automate and digitize laws, codes and rules for online and immediate access by law enforcement agencies. We are still awaiting a decision on our grant application.
- Selection of the candidate for Assistant to the Compiler was made last week. We anticipate the new person starting on December 29, next Monday.
- Compiler organization. The Compiler's office will be staffed by two assistants. One will be Gloria Duenas Cruz. And the other Larry Roberto. One assistant will handle Court and AG Opinions and the other will be responsible for the Code, Executive Orders and Administrative Rules. Each of these assistants is already extremely well versed in the areas they will cover.

IV. Compiler Goals

- Publication of the GCA in electronic and written form is the first priority. GCAC should consider the present format and determine whether it should be changed. Foremost consideration must be given to changing the format to permanently bound volumes with pockets for subsequent amendments, updates and revisions. For example, should we continue with the 22 Titles or should they be rearranged and consolidated. In the meantime, the annotations and comments beginning with 1 GCA § 100 are being reviewed and revised to reflect the mandates of P.L. 27-77. Annotations will be strictly limited to applicable case law and AG Opinions if possible, and statutory sources.
- Publication of the Guam Reports. The GCAC should consider opinion formats and whether the opinions should include headnotes. There are over 200 filed Supreme Court of Guam Opinions and each will need headnotes to be drafted.
- Publication of updated Guam Administrative Rules, Executive Orders and AG Opinions and Session Laws will be undertaken as well.
- Outsourcing. We have received inquiries from Lexis, West and Weil Publishing who have all heard of our intent to publish both the GCA and Guam Reports. We hope to consolidate the publishing of both to achieve the best contract terms possible. An RFP will be issued when the GCA and Guam Reports are ready for publication.
- Website. We have begun work on a Compiler of Laws website which will contain the most up to date Guam Code Annotated. We hope to launch the website in December. We will add as we go along Executive Orders, AG Opinions, Administrative Rules and Regulations and Court Opinions.

V. Next GCAC Meeting

- Review of the GCA format.
- Addition of Guam Bar Members (auxiliary)
- Goals and time frames



JUDICIARY OF GUAM

Administrative Office of the Courts
 Guam Judicial Center • 120 West O'Brien Drive • Hagåtña, Guam 96910
 Telephone: (671)475-3544 • Facsimile: (671)477-3184



F. PHILIP CARBULLIDO
 Chief Justice

ALBERTO C. LAMORENA III
 Presiding Judge

PERRY C. TAITANO
 Administrator of the Courts

December 14, 2004

The Honorable Vicente C. Pangelinan
 Speaker
 27th Guam Legislature
 155 Hesler Street
 Hagatna, Guam 96910



Dear Mr. Speaker:

During yesterday's public hearing on Bill 398, you had asked for detail on the requested \$75,000 for publication.

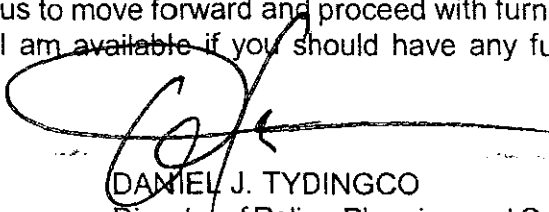
As you may recall, Public Law 27-77 requires free distribution to over 80 governmental entities: all legislators, executive branch entities and other key instrumentalities are to be provided a set. Based upon information gleaned from other jurisdictions, we anticipate the requested \$75,000 to try and accommodate this mandate.

A sample survey of costs in other jurisdictions for a published set will illustrate anticipated costs for achieving what is expected of the Compiler of Laws in furnishing hard or soft-bound sets. Considering the following, you can see that there is rhyme and reason for the requested amount:

*Revised Statutes of Nebraska 27 volumes	\$592
*Laws of Puerto Rico Annotated 41 volumes	\$1,309
*Delaware Code Annotated 20 volumes	\$592
*Virgin Islands Code Annotated 15 volumes	\$700
*Annotated Statutes of New Mexico 77 Chapters	\$500
*Wyoming Statutes Annotated 12 volumes	\$460
*Code of Laws of South Carolina	\$875

While we are cognizant of the need to utilize resources within, I note to you that we have assumed the responsibility of the Compiler of Laws' functions without any cost to the taxpayers. We have utilized existing resources internally to get this office up and running. I ask you to further take into consideration that the amount requested does not even address the variable cost of indexing: the former Compiler of Laws paid \$128,000 for indexing the Guam Code Annotated several years ago, including some editorial work.

The \$75,000 is a start that will allow us to move forward and proceed with furnishing long needed and updated codes and statutes. I am available if you should have any further questions or inquiries.


 DANIEL J. TYDINGCO
 Director of Policy, Planning and Community Relations

cc: Chief Justice
 Compiler of Laws