District Court of Guam

2014 Report

Please join us in extending a warm Hafa Adai
to our Guest of Honor
The Honorable Alex Kozinski, Chief Judge

It is an honor to once again welcome Chief Judge Alex Kozinski to our district. It is his second visit to participate in our annual District Conference, but his last visit as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Chief Judge Kozinski was born in Romania and immigrated to the United States as a child. He received both his undergraduate and law degrees from UCLA. After law school, Judge Kozinski clerked for then-Circuit Judge Anthony Kennedy and for Chief Justice Warren E. Burger. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Kozinski worked in private practice and at the White House Counsel's Office during the Reagan administration.

Judge Kozinski served as Chief Judge of the newly-created United States Claims Court before he was appointed by President Reagan to the Ninth Circuit in 1985, making him the youngest circuit judge in the country at the age of 35.

During his decades on the bench, Chief Judge Kozinski has gained a reputation as an independent-minded jurist and one of the nation's most outspoken and influential judges, known for his intellect, libertarian leanings, and sharp, creative, and insightful writing. During his tenure as Chief Judge of the Ninth Circuit, he has prioritized increasing transparency of the judicial system and increasing the public's access to the courtroom.

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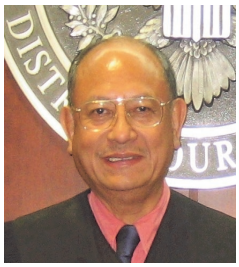
Frances Tydingco-Gatewood
Chief Judge

District Court of Guam

4th Floor, U.S. Courthouse
520 West Soledad Avenue
Hagåtña, Guam 96910



Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr.
U.S. Magistrate Judge

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

On behalf of the District Court of Guam, U.S. Magistrate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr. and I welcome you to the 2014 District Conference! We hope that you enjoy the presentations and leave with something that may help you in your practice of law. We are particularly excited to welcome to Guam three distinguished judges from the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit: Chief Judge Alex Kozinski, Judge Mary Schroeder, and Judge N. Randy Smith. In a very rare and special event, these judges heard oral arguments here on Guam in three cases on appeal yesterday.

The topic of today's conference is "Big Data, Privacy and Information Security" and it is our hope that you will find it useful and informative. In what will certainly prove to be a highlight of the conference, Daniel B. Garrie, Esq., Executive Managing Partner of Law & Forensics, LLC will present the challenges that the new "Big Data" paradigm brings to the practice of law and litigation.

Chief Judge Alex Kozinski has graciously agreed to participate in a conversation with the bar, moderated by myself and Rodney Jacob, our District's representative to the Ninth Circuit's Lawyer Representative Coordinating Committee. Circuit Judge Mary Schroeder will tell us “What I Have Learned About the Pacific That Washington D.C. Should Know”. Associate Justice Katherine A. Maraman from the Supreme Court of Guam will join Circuit Judge N. Randy Smith in a panel discussion on Standards of Review moderated by Ms. Hannah Gutierrez-Arroyo, Clerk of Court of the Supreme Court of Guam.

Cathy A. Catterson, Circuit and Court of Appeals Executive will provide us with an overview of what has been happening at the Ninth Circuit this year. Cynthia V. Ecube, President of the Guam Bar Association will brief us on the State of the Bar, and during lunch, United States Attorney Alicia A.G. Limtiaco and Federal Public Defender John Gorman will brief us on their respective offices.

Lastly, Attorneys G. Patrick Civille, Elyze M. Iriarte, Robert Keogh, Thomas Sterling, and Thomas Tarpley will participate in a panel discussion on civil practice, focusing especially on the ninety days prior to trial. That panel will be moderated by U.S. Magistrate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr.

We wish to thank all of these people for graciously agreeing to help us make this conference a success.

Office of the Clerk of Court

Case Management

Over the last year, the District Court upgraded its Civil and Criminal Case Management System (CM/ECF) to enable a variety of new features. Some of these are the management of Civil Violations Bureau cases, the management of delayed notice search warrants, improvements to docketing, and reporting. In addition, PACER functionality has been changed to easily accommodate PACER fee changes. Lastly, two new links have been added to the Utilities menu for attorneys and other users: Links to Other Courts, and a link to the PACER Case Locator, which allows users to search the Judiciary's national case index.

Online Payment of Filing Fees

By the end of 2014, filers in Civil and Bankruptcy cases at the District Court of Guam will be able to pay certain fees with credit cards or electronic check online. The Court has already completed internal testing and hopes to begin training practitioners by October 1, 2014. Upon rollout, filers will be able to pay Bankruptcy and Civil case opening fees online. Soon thereafter, the ability to pay other fees over the internet will be enabled. The service will be based upon the U.S. Treasury Department's "Pay.Gov" system and no credit card or checking account information will be stored on the Court's servers.

Local Rules of Practice

For more than a year the District Court has been engaged in the challenging project of updating its Local Rules of Practice. Seven committees have been formed, each consisting of attorneys and court staff members dedicated to one of the seven areas of rules: Admiralty, Criminal, Civil, Bankruptcy, Tax, Habeas Corpus, and General Rules. The updated Admiralty Rules were issued on November 5, 2012, and the new Habeas Corpus Rules were issued on December 1, 2013. Updated Bankruptcy Rules were issued on July 28, 2014, and were effective on August 1, 2014. All of the other rules, with the exception of the General Rules have already been put out for comment to the public and bar pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2071(b), and are being finalized for publication.

Criminal Justice Act (CJA) eVoucher System

By the end of 2014, pay vouchers for CJA Panel lawyers will be processed and managed electronically.

Jeanne G. Quinata
Clerk of Court

The system, produced by the District of Nevada, eliminates paper processing of vouchers submitted by lawyers who represent indigent defendants under the Criminal Justice Act. The entire process, from lawyers' initial submission to the court to final review by the Chief Judge or Ninth Circuit, is done electronically in shorter time and at lower total cost.

Certified Transcribers

The Court has published a list of certified transcription companies that parties may utilize at their option. See http://www.gud.uscourts.gov/?q=certified_transcription_options for more details.

National Video Teleconferencing System

The Court has upgraded its connection to the internet and its networking hardware to allow it to participate in the Judiciary's National Video Teleconferencing System (NVTC), bringing several benefits to parties and litigants. Under the NVTC, multiple parties in different locations may now appear via video at a proceeding with the permission of the Court. Parties may now dial directly into the Court's system via either IP or ISDN. All of these features make it easier than ever for multiple parties to appear by video at the District Court.

Clerk's Office staff members recognized for ten years of service to the U.S. Courts, L to R, with certificates in hand: Vergel Devera, Virginia Kilgore, Shirlene Ishizu, and Rose Nangauta. Flanked by Magistrate Judge Manibusan, Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood, Clerk of Court Jeanne Quinata and Chief Deputy Clerk Charles White.

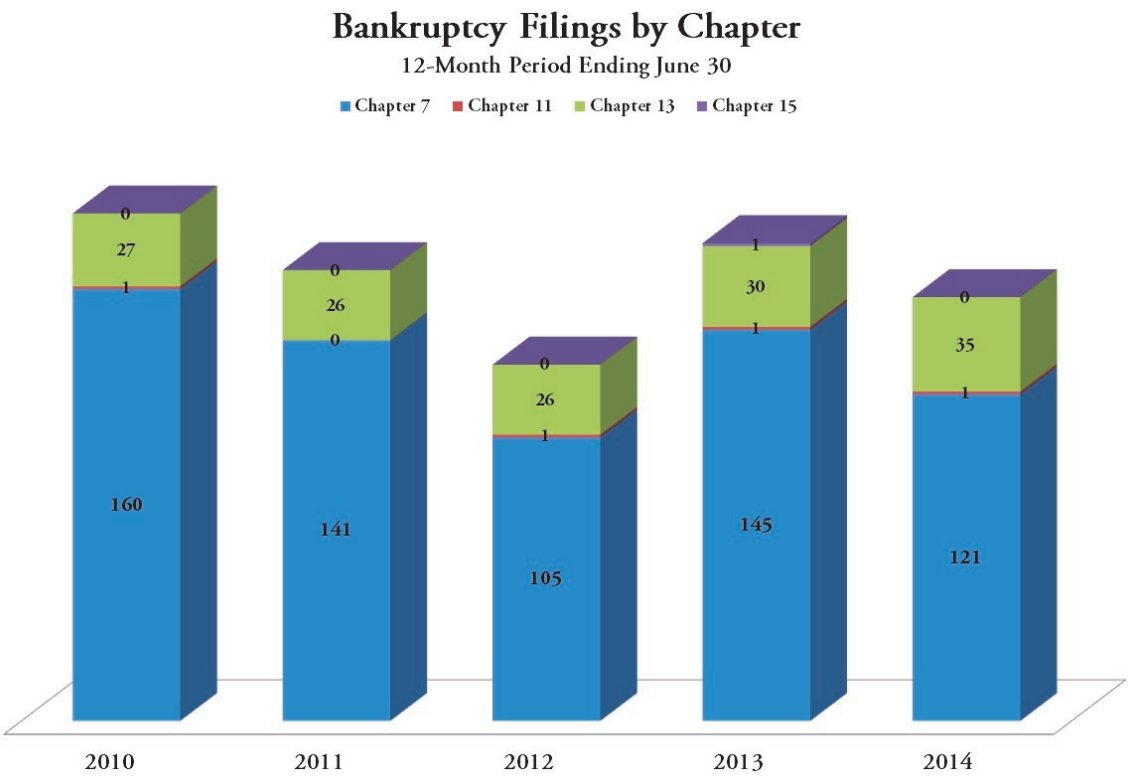
Case Statistics

For the 12-month period ending December 31, 2013, the District Court of Guam had more felony filings per judgeship than 23 other districts,

District Caseload Measures

(12-Month Period Ending June 30, 2014)

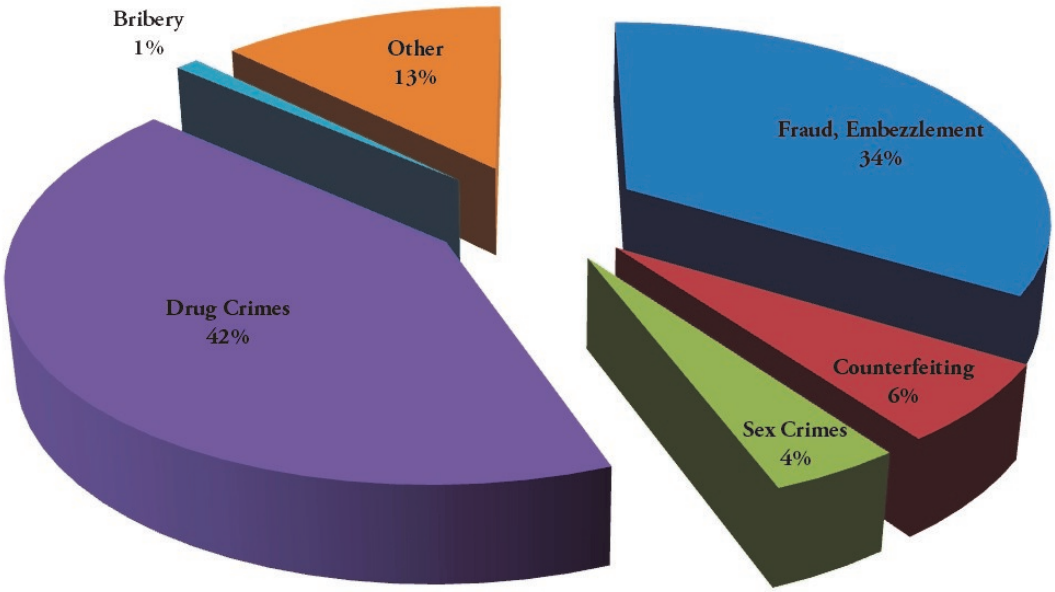
	2012	2013	2014	% Change (2014/2012)	% Change (2014/2013)
Filings					
Civil	29	38	20	-31%	-47%
Criminal Defendants	91	89	74	-19%	-17%
Bankruptcy	134	176	157	+17%	-11%
Terminations					
Civil	30	28	36	+20%	+29%
Criminal Defendants	79	118	100	+27%	-15%
Bankruptcy	129	140	152	+18%	+9%
Pending					
Civil	57	67	51	-11%	-24%
Criminal Defendants	211	182	156	-26%	-14%
Bankruptcy	147	180	185	+26%	+3%

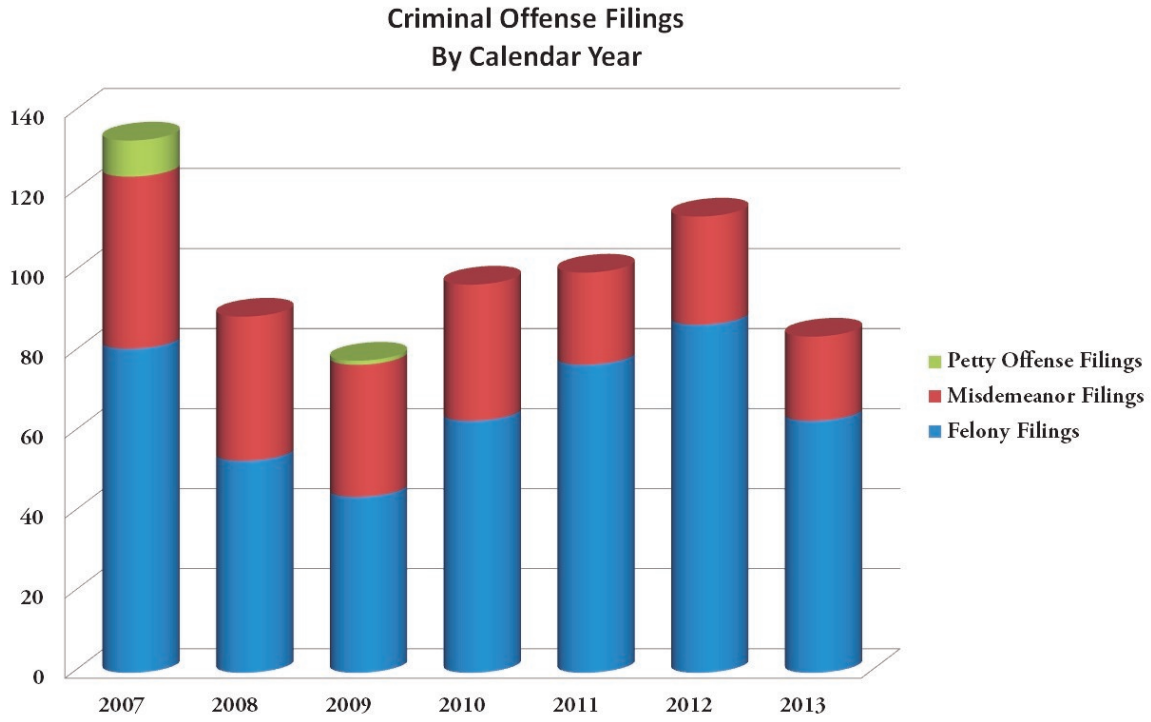


Types of Bankruptcy Cases

- **Chapter 7:** Liquidation
- **Chapter 9:** Municipality Bankruptcy
- **Chapter 11:** Reorganization
- **Chapter 12:** Family Farmer or Fisherman Bankruptcy
- **Chapter 13:** Individual Debt Adjustment
- **Chapter 15:** Ancillary and Other Cross-Border Cases

Case Statistics





Case Statistics

Magistrate Felony Proceedings

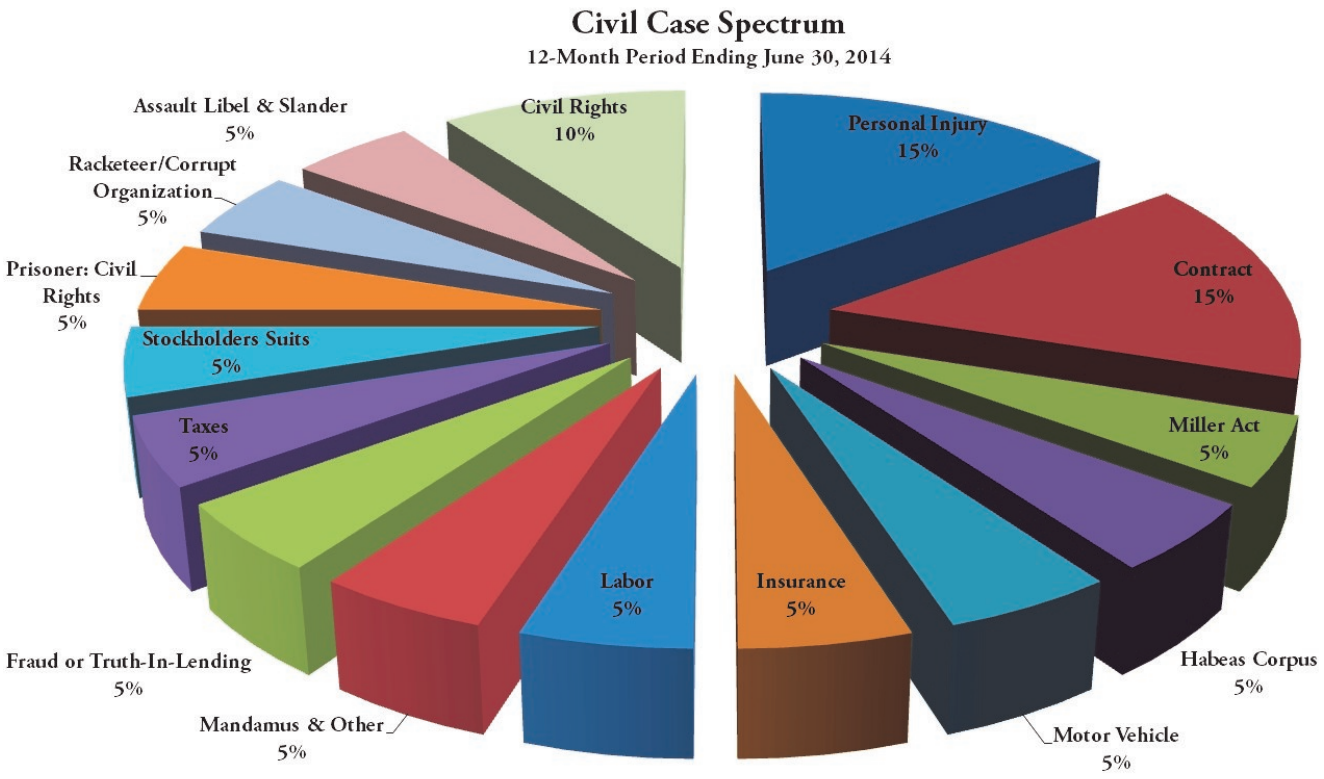
12-Month Period Ending June 30

Year	Search Warrants	Arrest Warrants	Initial Appearances	Arraignments	Detention/ Bail Hearings	Felony Guilty Pleas	Supervised Release Revocation Hearings
2011	52	22	130	57	12	43	2
2012	346	36	152	72	20	56	2
2013	146	27	129	62	21	65	5
2014	152	33	114	45	12	51	0

Other Criminal Magistrate Work

12-Month Period Ending June 30

Year	Non-Civil Violations Bureau (CVB) Petty Offenses Disposed	Class A Misdemeanors Disposed	Initial Appearances (Misdemeanor)	Jury Trials	Sentencing Proceedings
2011	2	30	46	1	1
2012	3	23	42	0	0
2013	3	20	33	0	0
2014	2	17	28	0	0



U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office

Staffing

The U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office was pleased to welcome Trina Dueñas as its newest U.S. Probation Officer on March 10, 2014. Trina was previously employed with the Superior Court of Guam as a probation officer where she served that court for six years.

Trina Dueñas
U.S. Probation Officer

Law Enforcement Notification System (LENS)

The Probation & Pretrial Services Office is required to notify the state Chief of Police and the Attorney General when an offender convicted of a drug trafficking crime, crime of violence or sex offense moves into their jurisdiction. In the past, this notification was manually typed and mailed or hand delivered, and the information was dependent on the agency to disseminate to its law enforcement officers. In July 2013, the Law Enforcement Notification System (LENS) was implemented. LENS compiles a list of offenders who meet the requirement for notification, enables the probation officer to download a photo of the offender, the offender's address, and the offender's criminal history and email the notification to the Guam Police Department and Office of the Attorney General. In addition, LENS is online and provides access to information of federal offenders on supervision to law enforcement officers in the community.

Probation Automated Case Tracking System (PACTS) Document Imaging

On December 1, 2013, the Probation & Pretrial Services Office implemented the Probation Automated Case Tracking System's (PACTS) Probation Document Imaging Module (PDIM) in its move towards automating its case files. Through PDIM, documents are uploaded into PACTS. As a result, case files can be transferred to other districts electronically instead of through the mail, and can be viewed at any time or anywhere with electronic access.

Rossanna Villagomez-Aguon
Chief U.S. Probation Officer

Supervision Techniques at Resisting Re-arrest (STARR)

The Probation & Pretrial Services Office has joined in on the third wave of the national effort to implement the Supervision Techniques at Resisting Re-arrest (STARR), which is an evidence-based technique used by probation officers in their interaction with their clients. U.S. Probation Officer Melinda Brunson Santos has taken the lead to train as a mentor coach for the district. The goal is to eventually have all of the probation officers trained in the use of STARR.

The U.S. Probation & Pretrial Office supervised 484 pretrial and post-conviction clients on Guam and the CNMI during the 12-month period ending June 30, 2014.

Staff of the U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office with Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood.

Probation/Pretrial Statistics
12-Month Period Ending June 30, 2014

	Guam # of cases (% change)	NMI # of cases (% change)
Pretrial:		
Cases Activated (regular) and Illegal Aliens:	75 (-29%)	25 (-26%)
Cases Activated (diversion):	5 (+67%)	0 (no change)
Clients Supervised During Time Period	157 (no change)	41 (+24%)
Clients Active as of June 30, 2014	109 (-4%)	19 (-32%)
Diversion Clients Supervised During Time Period	8 (-33%)	0 (no change)
Diversion Clients Active as of June 30, 2014	6 (+100%)	0 (no change)
Presentence:		
Presentence Reports Completed:	104 (+17%)	21 (-36%)
Post-Conviction:		
Probation/TSR/Parolee Clients Supervised During Time Period	228 (+5%)	58 (-5%)
Probation/TSR/Parole clients active as of June 30, 2014	178 (+11%)	38 (-16%)

Guam Bar Association President

One of the most important goals of the Guam Bar is to provide Continuing Legal Education (CLE) to our bar members for the improvement and betterment of the practice of law on Guam. Earlier this year, the Bar, in partnership with the Judiciary of Guam, conducted CLE training and education during the 2014 Annual GBA Meeting held on March 17, 2014 at the Sheraton Laguna Resort. Topics, such as the Superior Court of Guam's Interpreter program, Supreme Court Appellate Rules, and Mediation were presented during this half day conference.

Another notable aspect of the Bar's mission is the advancement of community outreach to the public to ensure access to justice and to promote the "rule of law". The Guam Bar Association, together with the Judiciary of Guam and the District Court of Guam, were once again co-sponsors of the 2014 Law Week Celebration on Guam, with its theme, "*American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters.*" Some of the many events that the Bar helped with included the 2014 Law Fair at the Micronesian Mall, the Race Judicata 5K "*Under Colors of Law*", Law Day Coloring, Art and Essay Contest for the schools, and Mock Trial performances by elementary and middle school children.

This year we are also pleased to be a co-sponsor of the 2014 District Court Conference and to welcome the Honorable Alex Kozinski, the Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Cynthia V. Ecube
President, Guam Bar Association

The Bar looks forward to providing more ongoing CLE training and education to its members, working in partnership with the Judiciary of Guam and the District Court of Guam, promoting community outreach and coordinating charitable events that serve our membership and benefit the public.

Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representative

Local Rules of Practice

Over the last year, the District Court engaged in the challenging project of updating its Local Rules of Practice. Seven committees have been formed, each consisting of attorneys and court staff members dedicated to one of the seven areas of rules: Admiralty, Criminal, Civil, Bankruptcy, Tax, Habeas Corpus, and General Rules. The updated Admiralty Rules were issued on November 5, 2012, and the new Habeas Corpus Rules were issued on December 1, 2013. Updated Bankruptcy Rules were issued on July 28, 2014. All of the other rules, with the exception of the General Rules have already been put out for comment to the public and bar pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2071(b), and are being finalized for publication.

Law Week 2014: "American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters "

We commemorated Law Week 2014 at the District Court with several special events, including a lunchtime seminar for the media, a visit by the 32nd Guam Legislature to the District Court, a special Naturalization ceremony, a Law Fair at a local mall, and an Island Leadership Day with student winners of a Law Day Essay Contest.

2013 Annual District Conference

"Taking on the Feds and Privacy, Technology and the Law"

The District Court of Guam held its 2013 District Conference on August 15, 2013 at the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa. The conference was open to all members of the Guam Bar Association and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Bar Association. Attorneys earned up to 8.5 Continuing Legal Education credits by attending.

Guest speakers at the conference included: Retired U.S. District Judge Vaughn R. Walker from the Northern District of California who participated in a conversation on "*The Constitution, Privacy, and Prop 8*"; Circuit Judge Paul J. Watford of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals who provided an update on Appellate practice; and Claims Court Judge Francis M. Allegra from the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in Washington, DC who presented a talk entitled, "*Taking on the Feds: Issues, Cases and Defenses in Proceedings By or Against the United States.*"

Other topics included a civil panel discussion on the court's new Local Rules of Practice, and a session entitled, "*Motion Practice: Developments in Rule 12(b) Motions*" led by R. Todd Thompson, Esq.

Rodney J. Jacob
9th Circuit LRCC Representative

The Effects of Budget Sequestration on Indigent Defense on Guam

In September 2013, Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood, U.S. Magistrate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr., Assistant Federal Public Defender Leilani Lujan, and I, along with the entire Criminal Justice Act Panel, met with Guam's Congressional Delegate, Madeleine Z. Bordallo. We discussed the impact that federal budget sequestration was having on the ability of the Federal Public Defender and the attorneys on our Criminal Justice Act panel to adequately defend indigent defendants in the District of Guam. Congresswoman Bordallo promised to pursue the matter.

Rodney Jacob, Matthew Herrmann, and Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo at the Federal Budget Sequestration meeting in September, 2013.

Office of the United States Attorney

In Fiscal Year 2014, the U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO) for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) prosecuted defendants who engaged in the sexual exploitation of children and adults, including possession and receipt of child pornography, and sex trafficking; violent crimes; drug trafficking; firearm crimes; bomb threats; immigration fraud; theft of federal government property; white collar crimes including federal program fraud, bank and wire fraud, bank embezzlement, illegal gambling and money laundering; and environmental/wildlife crimes. The USAO also prosecuted sex offenders who failed to register with the jurisdiction's Sex Offender Registry.

The Civil Division's caseload consisted of personal injury cases; employee discrimination and labor disputes; bankruptcies; civil rights; environmental cases; fraud; social security; immigration cases; and enforcement of tax liens. The Civil Division saw an increase in international extraditions and foreign legal assistance requests and increase in the area of financial litigation, including collecting debts owed to the government, collecting restitution for victims of crime, and enforcement of assessments and penalties. The Civil Division's Financial Litigation Unit collected $307,145.70 in criminal restitution and fines, and $209,067.50 in civil judgments.

The USAO sponsored and organized numerous community outreach events in Guam and the NMI on several related USAO and Department of Justice initiatives, including Human Trafficking, Project Safe Childhood, Project Safe Neighborhoods, Diverse Community Outreach, and National Prescription Drug Take Back. The USAO's outreach efforts included educating elementary, middle and high school students on bullying/cyberbullying, internet safety, youth and gang violence, and drug and alcohol abuse. The USAO sponsored training by distinguished professionals on the topics of "Child Torture, Fatalities and Sexual Abuse" and "Responding to Victims of Crime." Outreaches involving government agencies, faith-based, civic and other nonprofit organizations, consulate offices, and the private sector were held to improve law enforcement and community relations and address reentry programs.

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco
United States Attorney

Members of the USAO were honored with significant awards. U.S. Attorney Alicia A.G. Limtiaco was bestowed a First Women of Guam award for being the first woman U.S. Attorney and Salome Blas, LEC/VW Coordinator, was given a Ruby Award by the Soroptomist International of Guam for her dedication to and work with crime victims and witnesses. Joseph Quitano, National Security Specialist for the USAO, received the 2014 Most Distinguished Alumni Award by the Guam Community College.

Office of the Federal Public Defender

The Office of the Federal Public Defender (FPD) celebrates its 20th Anniversary this year with renewed optimism. Despite a tumultuous and painful sequestration year in 2013, which included staff furloughs and the forced retirement of our only investigator, the FPD has had a respite this year. Our funding was mainly restored this year and we are hopeful that the federal budget crisis is behind us. The Guam FPD opened in 1994 as a branch of the Hawaii FPD. In 2001, Guam became an independent office. Our office continues to provide zealous, effective representation for indigent clients charged with criminal offenses in federal court.

Staff of the Office of the Federal Public Defender: L to R: Chris Mantanoña, Leilani Lujan, Lita Dueñas, Renate Doehl, and John Gorman.

Recent policy and political developments also offer hope for long overdue and meaningful

federal sentencing reform. While we have less than 5% of the world's population, we have almost 25% of the world's prison population. Our nation's failed mass incarceration policies which have led us to be the world's largest jailer are perhaps finally being dismantled. One beginning step is that the U.S. Sentencing Commission is poised to enact an amendment this fall that will reduce all drug related penalties by approximately 11 months. (Supported by even the Department of Justice!) Even our deadlocked Congress is acting. The U.S. Senate Judiciary recently passed The Smarter Sentencing Act (SSA), the biggest overhaul in federal sentencing in recent memory. The reforms are supported by a strange bedfellows group of senators including Mike Lee (R-Utah), Rand Paul (R-Kentucky), Ted Cruz (R-Texas), Patrick Leahy (D-Vermont) and Dick Durbin (D-Illinois). The SSA would reduce mandatory minimums and restore power to judges to consider the unique facts of each case and each individual before them. It is clear that both liberal stalwarts and Tea Party favorites recognize that our country incarcerates too many people, for too much time, at too much expense to taxpayers, for no good reason.

The recent U.S. Supreme Court decision in Riley v. California is also cause for optimism, especially for our beleaguered Fourth Amendment. In a welcome and well-deserved victory for digital privacy, Justice Roberts wrote, "Our answer to the question what police must do before searching a cell phone seized incident to an arrest is accordingly simple - get a warrant." Our favorite quote in this judicial benchslap to overzealous police was in response to the government's claim that no operable distinction exists between a cell phone and the usual contents of your pocket (keys, lint, etc). "That is like saying a ride on horseback is materially indistinguishable from a flight to the moon," Justice Roberts quipped. "Both are ways of getting from point A to point B, but little else justifies lumping them together."

Biba Constitution yan Bill of Rights!

United States Marshals Service

The U.S. Marshals Service, District of Guam went through a very good, but challenging year for 2013. Fifteen Deputy U.S. Marshals from several mainland Districts were brought to the Guam District Court to assist in providing security for a trial for several high-profile defendants in a major drug case, and the trial was not without some tense moments. The trial concluded with everyone safe and no unexpected incidents occurring.

Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Cesar Torres celebrating his upcoming retirement with the entire staff of the U.S. Marshals Service Office.

Chief Deputy United States Marshal Cesar Torres served his last tour of duty in 2013. Chief Torres retired earlier this year and returned to his homeland Puerto Rico with his wife and their son.

Two-hundred-sixty five federal, state, and local fugitive arrests were made by the Guam U.S. Marshals Task Force consisting of officers from the Guam Police Department, Department of Corrections, and Superior Court of Guam Marshals. The Guam U.S. Marshals also provided off-site security for District Court Judges at the Fonte Dam and Hagatna Detention Facility.

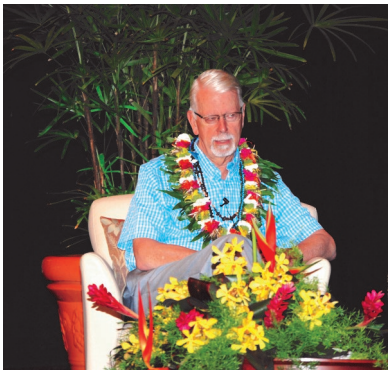
The Office of the Secretary of Defense, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) recognized our office as a "Patriotic Employer."

Frank Leon Guerrero
U.S. Marshal

Former Administrative Assistant Roger Ranson was promoted to Budget Analyst and Ms. Therese Quinata transferred to Guam as an Administrative Assistant from the District of Nevada.

Events, Outreach, and Ceremonies

2013 District Conference
August 15, 2013



Retired Chief Judge Vaughn Walker from the Northern District of California.

Chief Judge Fances Tydingco-Gatewood with retired Assistant Federal Public Defender Richard Arens, recipient of the 2013 Cristobal C. Duenas Excellence Award.

Circuit Judge Paul J. Watford speaking at the conference.

Court History Interview
August 8, 2013

Retired Deputy Clerk Soledad B. Santos, who served the Court from 1953 to 1987, with Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood.

FPD and CJA Panel Advocacy, September 9, 2013

L to R: Legislative Director Matthew Herrmann, Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo, and Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood.

Above left: Assistant Federal Public Defender Leilani Lujan, Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo, and Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood. Above right: Congresswoman Bordallo meeting with the District Court's Criminal Justice Act Panel attorneys.

Red Ribbon Campaign, October 1, 2013

Right: Governor Eddie Baza Calvo and many young students participating in the Red Ribbon Campaign.

Above: Judge Arthur Barcinas, Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, Chief Judge Tydingo-Gatewood, Superintendent of Education Jon Fernandez, U.S. Attorney Alicia Limtiaco with many participants in the Red Ribbon Campaign

Events, Outreach, and Ceremonies

Federal Public Defender Press Conference September 6, 2013

U.S. Magistrate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr., Assistant Federal Public Defender Leilani Lujan, Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, and Lawyer Representative Rodney Jacob.

Retirement of Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Cesar Torres January 3, 2014

U.S. Marshal Frank Leon Guerrero, Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Cesar Torres, and U.S. Magistrate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr.

Pacific Judicial Council Public Defender Conference February 26, 2014

Public Defenders from jurisdictions throughout the Pacific met in February 2014 for a conference sponsored by the Pacific Judicial Council.

Bisitan I Lehislatura, April 21, 2014

Legislators from the 32nd Guam Legislature visited the District Court in April 2014 in conjunction with Law Week. The distinguished visitors included Sen. Aline Yamashita, Sen. Tom Ada, Sen. Brant McCreadie, Sen. Benjamin Cruz, Sen. Frank Aguon, Jr. and Sen. Tommy Morrison.

Events, Outreach, and Ceremonies

Naturalization Ceremony Guest Speakers

**Chief Justice Robert J. Torres, Jr.
Supreme Court of Guam
(Law Day 2014)**

**Judge Vernon Perez,
Superior Court of Guam
(Independence Day)**

**Adjutant General Benny Paulino,
Guam National Guard
(Liberation Day)**

Law Fair at Micronesia Mall

U.S. Probation Officers Stephen Guilliot, Riaka McCormick, and Trina Dueñas with U.S. Probation staff members Elaine Gagarin and Mary Rasmussen. May 3, 2014.

School Tours

Oceanview Middle School. January 29, 2014.

University of Guam Criminal Justice students with their professor, Dr. Ron Aguon, U.S. Magistrate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr., Assistant U.S. Attorney Fred Black, Attorney Rodney Jacob, and Chief U.S. Probation Officer Rossanna Villagomez-Aguon. April 24, 2014.

A Mock Trial Team from South Korea, visited the District Court, February 7, 2014.

Events, Outreach, and Ceremonies

Media Seminar, April 23, 2014

Left to right: Rossanna Villagomez-Aguon, Mar-vic Cagurangan, Charles White, Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, Tom Johnson, Janela Carrera, Jasmine Stole, Krystal Paco, Gina Reilly, Frank Whitman, Rodney Jacob, Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr., and Dan Terzian.

Judicial History Seminar With Dr. Carlos Madrid February 20, 2014

Dr. Carlos Madrid, describing aspects of the judicial history of Guam.

2013—2014 Interns

Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, Nicole Cruz, Jose Mafnas

Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood and Devin Taitano

Judge Advocate Gregory Friedland, Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, Troy Fegurgur, Magistrate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr.

Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood with Joe Equilane

L To R: Peter Shigeta, Kaz Shigeta, Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood

Federal and Military Bar Admissions

Kristan K. Finney and Senior District Judge Alex R. Munson

Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen Leon Guerrero, SAUSA Sean C. McGarvey, and Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood

Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood and Ryan M. Johnson

Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, Michael Gatewood, Magistate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr.

Matthew S. Kane and Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood

Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, SAUSA Genevieve Loutinsky, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Marivic David

Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood
and
SAUSA Rafiel Deon Warfield

Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood
and
Timothy J. McLaughlin

2014 Cristobal C. Dueñas Excellence Award

Howard G. Trapp

Howard Trapp was born in San Francisco, California and received his preparatory education at the University of California, Berkeley, California with an A.B in 1956; and then his legal education at the University of California Berkeley SOL Boalt Hall, Berkeley, California, where he obtained his Juris Doctor in 1959. He arrived on Guam on August 1, 1960 on the tenth year anniversary of the signing of the Organic Act of Guam and began clerking for the Honorable Eugene R. Gilmartin, Judge for the District Court of Guam, a position he held until the untimely death of Judge Gilmartin in March of 1962.

Howard began his legal practice in 1962 and worked in various private law firms, including Trapp & Gayle, and currently continues his practice full-time as Howard Trapp Incorporated. While in private practice he defended or brought many criminal and civil cases before the local Island Court which later became the Superior Court of Guam, as well as in the District Court of Guam.

Howard was notorious in many cases he filed or defended which ultimately lead to appeals to higher courts including the Appellate Division of the District Court of Guam, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and at the Supreme Court of the United States. In 1977 in Guam v. Olsen, 431 U.S. 195 (1977), he successfully argued that the Legislature of Guam exceeded its authority under the Organic Act in creating the Supreme Court of Guam; and in 1978 in Chase Manhattan Bank v. South Acres Dev. Co., 434 U.S. 236, he successfully argued that the District Court of Guam had no diversity jurisdiction which prompted Congress to amend 42 USC § 1424 to provide for such jurisdiction; and in 2003 in Nguyen v. United States, 539 U.S. 69, he successfully argued that non-Article III territorial judges could not sit in Ninth Circuit Court appellate panels.

Howard was also instrumental in changing the status of the jurisdictions of the courts of Guam, resulting from the Court Reorganization Act of 1974 and the Unified Court system; and subsequently became a part-time Justice of the Supreme Court of Guam.

He has served in many capacities in the community such as being President of the Guam Bar Association in 1965, a member of the Northern Mariana Islands Bar Association, as well as the State Bar of California; a Fellow at the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers; a Committee Member of the Guam Bar Association; a former Trustee/ President of the Guam Territorial Law Library; a former Regent of the University of Guam; a former Member of the Guam Election Commission; and a former Member of the Land Transfer Board.

The District Court of Guam expresses its utmost gratitude with a sincere "Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase" to Howard Trapp for his outstanding dedication, ethics, and professionalism in the practice of law and in service to the District Court of Guam and to the people of Guam.

Cristobal C. Dueñas, a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, was appointed by President Richard M. Nixon on September 23, 1969 to be the first Chamorro judge for the District Court of Guam. On December 10, he was confirmed by the Senate and commissioned the next day. By December 24, 1969, he was officially sworn in as the Judge of the District Court of Guam. In June of l977, Judge Dueñas was reappointed for a second term, and he retired as a Senior Judge in 1991. He died on February 14, 2010 after a long and distinguished judicial career. He will long be remembered for his humility, courage, and keen intellect.

About the Front Cover

Title: Green Sandbar, used with permission of the artist
Artist: Ric R. Castro
Medium: Painting - Acrylic On Arches
Description: This is a view south of a sandbar on Jinapsan Beach, Guam.

About the Artist

Ric R. Castro, a native Chamorro, was born and raised on the island of Guam and is currently a tenured Professor of Art at the University of Guam. Castro was raised at the family beach also known as 'The Ranch' which continues to fuel the subject matter of many of his works both abstract and representational. Retrieved from http://fineartamerica.com/profiles/ric-castro.html, August 18, 2014.