



**ANNUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE &
GUAM BAR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING**
Hilton Guam Resort & Spa, Micronesia Room
Tuesday, April 30, 2019

PRESENTERS' BIOGRAPHIES

THE HONORABLE MARIA T. CENZON, JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

Judge Maria Teresa Bonifacio Cenzon was appointed to the Superior Court of Guam in 2012 and is the first Filipina-American to serve on the bench in Guam courts. Prior to taking the bench, she had 15 years of experience in the private sector, serving as counsel to large local and international corporations as well as some of the largest agencies of the Government of Guam. Previous civic involvement includes serving as a member of the Guam Chamber of Commerce, and its Armed Forces Sub-committee; Allied Member, Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association; member-at-large and Secretary of the Guam Bar Association Board of Governors; and past President of the Board of Directors of the Guam Legal Services Corporation—Disability Law Center.



Judge Cenzon currently presides over General Jurisdiction cases and the Veterans Treatment Court. She co-chairs the Judiciary's 2016-2019 Strategic Plan Focus Area on Court Partnerships and Community Relations.

Judge Cenzon received her B.A. from Marquette University and her J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law, where she was the Cases Editor for the Loyola University Chicago Consumer Law Review. She also received an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree, *Honoris Causa*, from the University of Maryland University College in 2015 in recognition for her scholarly attainments and distinguished service.

In 2014, the Filipina Women's Network named Judge Cenzon as one of the 100 Most Influential Filipina Women in the World. She is a member of the Guam National Sports Shooting Federation and the Guam National Team in Shooting, winning Gold and Silver in the 2015 Pacific Games in Papua New Guinea. She is also an original member of the Guam Bar Association Law Week Committee winning, for the sixth time, the 2018 ABA Law Day outstanding award for Best Public Program.

**CYNTHIA V. ECUBE, ESQ., NINTH CIRCUIT LAWYER REPRESENTATIVE
COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBER, DISTRICT OF GUAM**

Ms. Cynthia V. Ecube was appointed as the Ninth Circuit's Lawyer Representative Coordinating Committee member for the District of Guam. She is admitted to practice before the Superior Court of Guam, Supreme Court of Guam, District Court of Guam, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Ms. Ecube is a member of the American Bar Association. Her practice areas include civil litigation, family and domestic law, corporations, contracts and real estate law, administrative/employment Law; real property transactions & real estate law; administrative/employment law, creditor collections and foreclosure proceedings. Ms. Ecube served as the Guam Bar Association President from 2009 to 2015 and the Chairman of Programs and Public Relations from 1997 to 2001 for the Guam Bar Association.



Ms. Ecube served in the following committees: the Committee on Discipline, District Court of Guam; Criminal Justice Association; Standing Committee, Criminal Justice Association; the Committee on Selection of Federal Magistrate Judge, District Court of Guam; the Committee on Selection of Federal Public Defender, District of Guam; Sub-Committee on Proposed Revisions to Guam Rules of Civil Procedure for the Superior Court of Guam; and Administrative Hearing Officer for the Superior Court of Guam. Ms. Ecube was also a former mediator for the International Arbitration Center from 2006-2008.

Ms. Ecube also currently serves as Chairman for the Board of Equalization (Department of Revenue & Taxation); as a member for the Guam Chinese Chamber of Commerce Association; as Chairman for the Academy of Our Lady of Guam Advisory Board; and as a member of the Worker's Compensation Board.

From 1990 to 1992, Ms. Ecube worked as an Assistant Attorney General on Guam. She then went on to practice in the private sector as a senior associate at Carbullido & Brooks, LLP (formerly Carbullido Bordallo Brooks, LLP, and Carbullido & Pipes, P.C.), from 1992 to 2000. Thereafter, she worked as an associate at Barcinas & Terlaje, P.C. from 2000 to 2003. She has been a solo practitioner since 2003.

Ms. Ecube obtained her B.A. from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, and her J.D. from Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota.

MR. JOHN T. GORMAN, FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER OF GUAM

Mr. John T. Gorman has served as the Federal Public Defender for the District of Guam since 2003. He was an Assistant Federal Public Defender in the Guam office from 1997 to 2003. He also worked as a local public defender in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from 1992 to 1997. He received his law degree from Boston's Northeastern University in 1992.

Mr. Gorman served as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in the Republic of the Philippines from 1982 to 1985. He lived in a tribal Igorot mountain village in the Northern Philippines and helped design, build and maintain a drinking water system to ensure safe, potable water. Mr. Gorman also worked in the Bataan and Palawan Indochinese Refugee Camps in the Philippines from 1985 to 1989. He assisted in the resettlement of Lao, Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees who had fled repressive regimes in their homelands.



MINAKSHI V. HEMLANI, ESQ., LAW OFFICES OF MINAKSHI V. HEMLANI P.C.

Ms. Minakshi V. Hemlani is a first-generation immigrant whose family moved from India to Guam when she was very young. She graduated from the University of San Diego with a Bachelor's Degree in International Relations and minor in Philosophy, later obtaining her J.D. from McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific in the year 2000. Ms. Hemlani is licensed to practice law in the U.S. Territory of Guam and State of California.

In 2003, Ms. Hemlani returned to her island home to clerk for the Honorable Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson and the Honorable Richard Benson at the Superior Court of Guam. After completing her judicial clerkship, Ms. Hemlani spent two years working at the Alternate Public Defender's office, representing indigent criminal defendants in all aspects of trial litigation. She gained civil transactional and litigation experience working with different private law firms on island, and ultimately opened the Law Offices of Minakshi V. Hemlani, P.C. specializing in corporate, health care, immigration, and employment law.

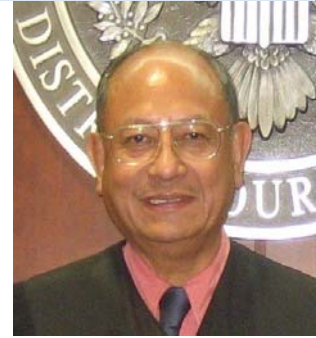
Ms. Hemlani currently serves as Vice President of the Guam Bar Association, as Secretary of the Guam Solid Waste Authority Board, and as a member of the American Cancer Society's Advisory Board. She is also a member of the American Bar Association and Pacific American Inns of Court.



**THE HONORABLE JOAQUIN V.E. MANIBUSAN, JR., U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE,
DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM**

Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr. was appointed as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the District of Guam in 2004. Prior to his appointment to the federal bench, Judge Manibusan served as a judge in the Superior Court of Guam. Judge Manibusan received his B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley in 1971 and his J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law in 1974.

Judge Manibusan is currently a member of the Magistrate Judge's Executive Board Committee of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He was reappointed to a second eight-year term by Chief Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood.



**LEONARDO M. RAPADAS, ESQ., ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, OFFICE OF
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF GUAM**

Mr. Leonardo M. Rapadas received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon. He graduated in 1989 from Willamette University College of Law in Salem. Upon graduation, he returned home to Guam and started working at the Office of the Attorney General, Prosecution Division, as an Assistant Attorney General ("AAG"). He held the position of Chief Prosecutor for almost three years. He then served as U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands from 2003 to 2010. He was then elected as Guam's Attorney General, a position he held from 2011 to 2015.

Today, Mr. Rapadas is once again serving as an Assistant Attorney General in the Office of the Attorney General of Guam, where he focuses on family and domestic violence, criminal sexual conduct, and violent crimes.



MS. DEEVA V. SHAH, LAW CLERK, UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

Ms. Deeva Shah is a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, where she was awarded the Irving Stenn graduation award for her contributions to the well-being and strength of Michigan Law. After graduation, she clerked for the Honorable Stephen V. Wilson of the Central District of California. She is currently a clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Deeva founded Law Clerks for Workplace Accountability last year to collaborate with the federal judiciary to recommend changes to reporting procedures for harassment. Deeva and other members of her organization have worked with the federal judiciary's working group and multiple district and circuit working groups to help address harassment and issues related to power dynamics in employment. That work has included helping create new policies and procedures for reporting, reviewing existing policies and working with judges and clerks to address informal ways to address these issues.



JACQUELINE T. TERLAJE, ESQ., PRESIDENT, GUAM BAR ASSOCIATION

Ms. Jacqueline Taitano Terlaje is a solo practitioner with nearly 20 years of experience as a criminal and civil attorney on Guam, practicing in diverse areas such as contract law, corporate law, criminal defense elderly law, estate planning and probate, government procurement, non-profit organization, and real property.

Ms. Terlaje is admitted to practice before the Superior Court of Guam, Supreme Court of Guam, District Court of Guam, District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the Supreme Court of the United States. Prior to Attorney Terlaje's solo practice, she was an associate with the Law Office of Arriola, Cowan & Arriola, and served as a research attorney to Judge Michael J. Bordallo of the Superior Court of Guam.

Ms. Terlaje received her B.S. in Criminal Justice from Chaminade University, Honolulu, in 1994 *Magna Cum Laude*; her J.D. from University of Washington in 1999; and her LL.M. in Taxation from the University of Alabama in 2012.

Ms. Terlaje is the Guam Bar Association President, and member of the American Bar Association, National Conference of Bar Presidents, Board of Trustees, Public Defender Services Corp., and Advisory Committee Member of the Judicial Council of Guam. She is a 1992 Notre Dame High School Alumni, and a mother of seven.



ALBERTO TOLENTINO, ESQ., ETHICS PROSECUTOR, OFFICE OF THE GUAM BAR ASSOCIATION ETHICS PROSECUTOR

Mr. Alberto Tolentino was appointed prosecuting counsel in June of 2018. Previous to that position he was a magistrate judge and referee for the Superior Court of Guam. He was an assistant attorney general for the Prosecution Division of the Office of the Attorney General, a private practitioner, a research attorney for the Supreme Court of Guam and the prosecuting counsel from 2000 to 2006. He received his J.D. from the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento, California.



THE HONORABLE FRANCES M. TYDINGCO-GATEWOOD, CHIEF JUDGE, DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM

Chief Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood obtained her BA degree in Political Science in 1980 at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1983, she obtained her J.D. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law. From 1984 to 1988, she became the first Chamorro woman Assistant Attorney General on Guam. Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood was an assistant prosecutor with the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office in Missouri from 1988 to 1990. In 1990, she returned home to become Guam's first Chamorro woman Chief Prosecutor and served in that capacity until 1994. In 1994, she was appointed to a trial judge position with the Superior Court of Guam. From February 8, 2002 to October 27, 2006, she held the position of Associate Justice at the Supreme Court of Guam. On October 30, 2006, she was sworn in as the Chief Judge of the District Court of Guam; she is Guam's first Chamorro woman federal chief judge. Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood was appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate.



Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood is a member of the following three federal conferences/committees: the Conference of United States Chief District Judges, the Conference of Chief Bankruptcy Judges, and the Ninth Circuit's Pacific Islands Committee. She was the first woman President of the Pacific Judicial Council and is a member of the Pacific Judicial Council's Education Committee.

Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood has lectured in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Palau, the Solomon Islands, and the United States Virgin Islands on topics such as complex civil litigation, family violence, sexual assault, certification of a juvenile to adult status in a murder case, human trafficking, therapeutic re-entry drug courts, the "A One Judge One Family" concept, alternative dispute resolution in the local and federal courts of Guam, Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement, bankruptcy court, and child pornography.