



## District Court of Guam

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CHAMBER OF  
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Chief Judge

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM NATURALIZATION CEREMONY Court Celebrates Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

On Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., the District Court of Guam will proudly host a special Martin Luther King Jr. Day Naturalization Ceremony. Most people become U.S. citizens by birth within the United States or to U.S. citizen parents. However, others become U.S. citizens by naturalization. This is a momentous event as the Court welcomes 27 new citizens who hail from China, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Philippines and South Korea. The soon-to-be citizens will take their oath to bear faith and allegiance to our great nation, the United States of America, which they will also proudly call their own from this day forward as fellow Americans. Citizenship is one of the most coveted gifts that the United States government can bestow. Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood states: "We extend our most heartfelt congratulations to the new citizens of our great nation."

The keynote speaker for the ceremony will be Thomas W. Krise, Ph.D. Dr. Krise is the President and Professor of English of the University of Guam and a retired military officer. He was elected the 11th President of the University of Guam and assumed office on August 6, 2018. He is also president emeritus of the Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrates the life and achievements of Martin Luther King Jr., an influential American civil rights leader in the movement for civil and economic rights and who fought to end racism in the United States. Dr. King was a Baptist minister who advocated the use of nonviolent means to end racial segregation and he also led a March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom on August 28, 1963.