

2014 Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representative Report For the District of Guam

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 and each 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 are expected to be issued by June 15, 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: "Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters"

We commemorated Law Year 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 Guam Hilton Resort and Spa. The conference was open to all members of the Guam Bar Association and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Bar



Some members of the 32nd Guam Legislature during their Law Week visit with Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood and U.S. Magistrate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr.

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 include a 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



Guam Journalists with Judges and staff at the Court's Law Week Seminar for the Media.



Rodney J. Jacob
9th Circuit LRCC Representative

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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. Congress-woman Bordallo promised to pursue the matter.



Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo, right, at our September meeting.