



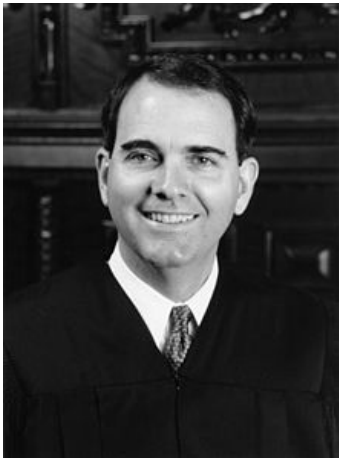
# DISTRICT UPDATE

## Events and Accomplishments

### Welcome Judge Bybee!

The District Court of Guam is pleased to welcome Circuit Judge Jay Bybee of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to the 2016 District Conference.

Judge Bybee will present a talk entitled, "Ethics: Truth in Advocacy", and will also present a review of recent cases from the U.S. Supreme Court.



**Judge Jay Bybee, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**

### Update of Local Rules of Practice

Court committees, each consisting of attorneys and court staff members, completed the update of several sets of local rules over the last year. Updated Bankruptcy Rules were issued on August 1, 2014 and updated on December 1, 2015. Updated Civil and Tax Rules were issued on February 15, 2015, and new Criminal Rules were made effective on March 1, 2015.

### Congressional Swearing-In

The Judicial Council of the United States, in an effort to strengthen relations between the Judiciary and Congress, encourages courts to hold non-partisan swearing-in ceremonies for all the newly-elected and re-elected members of their congressional delegation. Guam Congressional Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo was ceremonially sworn in by Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood and U.S.



**Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo and Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood**

Magistrate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr. on January 15, 2015 in a ceremony held at the Latte of Freedom of the R.J. Bordallo Governor's Complex at Adelup.

### Bankruptcy Voice Case Information System

The Court deployed a Bankruptcy Voice Case Information System in February, 2015. The system allows creditors, debtors, members of the bar, and the public to easily obtain basic information about any bankruptcy case filed in the District Court of Guam by accessing a toll-free number.

To use the system:

1. Dial 1-866-222-8029.
2. At the prompt, press "#56" or say "Guam".
3. You will then be given the option of getting information on a bankruptcy case by specifying a case number, by saying the two-digit year, and five-digit case number, or using the telephone keypad. Alternatively, case information may be obtained by specifying the full name of a debtor using the telephone keypad.

Basic information about any case filed since 1994 is available, including: Debtor name(s), last four digits of a debtor's social security number, case chapter, nature of debt, asset information, assigned judge, filing date, date and location of the 341 meeting of creditors, discharge date, trustee, debtor attorney (including telephone number), and case status.

### 2015 District Conference

The District Court of Guam and the Guam Bar Association held the Annual District Conference and the Guam Bar Association's Annual Meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2015, at the Hilton Guam Resort & Spa, Tumon, Guam.

The Conference, co-sponsored by the

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U.S. District Court for the NMI, the CNMI Supreme Court, and the CNMI Bar Association, was entitled, “*Warriors or Lawyers? Ethics and Professionalism*,” and included a keynote speech on ethics and professionalism by Circuit Judge M. Margaret McKeown of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Retired Superior Court Judge Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson, then-Attorney General-Elect, was the keynote speaker for the Guam Bar Association Annual Meeting, which was held during the lunch hour, along with the swearing-in of the newly elected Guam Bar Association Board members, and the presentation of the court’s Cristobal C. Duenas Excellence Award to local attorney Cynthia V. Ecube.



**Ninth Circuit Judge M. Margaret McKeown**

Other topics included, “*Am I Too Busy? Don’t Crack! Strategies for Judges and Lawyers*,” a panel discussion on time and stress management for practicing attorneys; and “*Ethical Issues Facing the Military and Local Communities*” by Harry W. Elliot IV, legal counsel for

Joint Region Marianas. Judge McKeown also facilitated two special roundtable discussions, one for lawyers and one for judges.

Participating attorneys earned up to seven and a half hours of continuing legal education credits.

### **Federal Public Defender Sworn-In**

John T. Gorman, Guam’s Federal Public Defender, was sworn in for his fourth term April 23, 2015 at the District Court of Guam by Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood.

Mr. Gorman was reappointed to a fourth term by Chief Judge Sidney Thomas of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on March 20, 2015.

The Office of the Federal Public Defender for the District of Guam was established in 1994, and is dedicated to the defense of indigent clients charged



**Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, Federal Public Defender John T. Gorman, and Fides Gorman**

with federal offenses. Mr. Gorman was first appointed Federal Public Defender for Guam by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit Court in 2003.

From 1997 to 2003, he was the Senior Trial Attorney in the Office of the Federal Public Defender.

### **Law Week 2015: “Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law”**

We commemorated Law Week 2015 at the District Court with several special events, including a lunchtime seminar for the media, several court tours, a mini mock trial for middle school students, a special Naturalization Ceremony, a Law Fair at a local mall, a 5k “Race Judicata”, and an Island Leadership Day with student winners of a Law Day essay contest.

### **Updated Jury Plan**

The Court updated its Jury Plan in May 2015, and the plan was approved by the Judicial Council of the Ninth Circuit on June 15, 2015.

These are the salient changes:

- Certain occupational classes or groups of people have been removed from the list of those to be granted excuses prior to appearing for jury selection. These are: persons having active care and custody of a child or children under ten (10) years of age, persons actively practicing or engaged full-time as an attorney, physician, dentist, registered nurse, or member of the clergy or a religious order; and any

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## Events and Accomplishments

person whose services are so essential to the operation of a business, commercial, or agricultural enterprise that it must close or cease to function if such person were required to perform jury duty.

- In any two-year period, no person shall be required to serve or attend court for prospective jury service as a petit juror for a total of more than thirty (30) days, except when necessary to complete jury service in a particular case.
- Election officials will be provided notice of persons who identify themselves as non-citizens through



**Charles E. Samuels, Jr., then-Director  
Federal Bureau of Prisons**

the juror qualification process.

### **Director of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons Visits Guam**

The then-director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Charles Samuels, and his team visited Guam in June, 2015 for a

series of meetings with Guam's leaders about the island's correctional facility's handling of federal detainees. Mr. Samuels visited four facilities that house federal detainees, including the Hagåtña Detention Facility, the women's facility in Mangilao, and two other housing units. Representatives from the Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Lieutenant Governor and federal stakeholders, such as the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Federal Public Defender, the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office, and the U.S. Marshals Service joined Mr. Samuels and Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood on the tour.

In addition to the tour, Mr. Samuels made courtesy visits to the Governor of Guam, the Judiciary of Guam, and the 33rd Guam Legislature. His trip to Guam concluded with a Question and Answer session at the District Court of Guam for all of the federal and local stakeholders.

### **Adoption of Electronic CJA Voucher Processing**

The Court implemented the CJA eVoucher Program in December 2014. The CJA eVoucher Program allows court-appointed CJA attorneys and expert service providers the opportunity to create, update and submit their CJA vouchers electronically at any time during the representation process. This billing tool provides attorneys and

service providers the ability to log their hours on a daily basis and to simply submit their voucher once the case is closed, or the services are provided. The program eliminates the calculation errors associated with manual billing and internal audit processes, and reduces audit review times for court staff. The CJA eVoucher Program is available to customers and internal staff 24 hours a day, seven days a week and overall feedback of the program is favorable.

### **Sentencing Guidelines Training**

On February 11 and 12, 2015, the District Court of Guam hosted an in-district Sentencing Guidelines training conducted by Mr. Alan Dorhoffer, Deputy Director of the United States Sentencing Commission's Office of Education and Sentencing Practice. Training participants included judges, law clerks, probation officers, as well as attorneys from the Court's Criminal Justice Act Panel, the Guam Bar, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the Office of the Federal Public Defender.

### **Workforce Development Training**

On June 16, 2015, Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood moderated a panel presentation at the "One Community Guam" Workforce Development Training sponsored by the U.S.

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## Events and Accomplishments

Attorney's Office. The panel presentation, entitled, "Re-entry Programs in Guam's Federal Court", discussed the U.S. Probation Office's Defendant/Offender Workforce Development Program and included presenters from the U.S. Probation Office, the Agency for Human Resource Development, the Federal Public Defender's Office, two private business owners, as well as one offender who had successfully completed the culinary program while serving an imprisonment term at the Bureau of Prisons.

# DISTRICT UPDATE

## Community Outreach



The District Court and its U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office was pleased to sponsor training from the U.S. Sentencing Commission on February 11-12, 2015 for approximately 40 local attorneys and probation officers. The training was conducted by Mr. Alan Dorhoffer, the Deputy Director of the U.S. Sentencing Commission's Office of Education and Sentencing.



Mock Trial teams from St. Thomas Aquinas High School and Notre Dame High School with mock trial judges Assistant Federal Public Defender Leilani Lujan, Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood and attorney Cynthia Ecube on March 17, 2015.



Drug Offender Re-Entry Program, USPO Interactive Panel Discussion with Guam Public High Schools and Launch of Drug Court Video, April 19, 2015.



Chief U.S. Probation Officer Rossanna Villagomez-Aguon at the 2015 Red Ribbon Proclamation signing on September 28, 2015.



The Court hosted a lunchtime seminar for Guam journalists on Friday, April 24, 2015. The intent of the seminar was to provide island journalists with tools that will facilitate their work and give them an inside look at the business of the District Court.



The FBI Citizens Academy held their annual session at the District Court on April 22, 2015 in conjunction with the court's celebration of Law Week 2015.

# DISTRICT UPDATE

## Court Tours



Boy Scouts from Troop 20, Andersen Air Force Base, visited the Court on Wednesday, February 4, 2015.



Participants in the Upward Bound program at the University of Guam, all local high school students, toured the District Court on Thursday, July 2, 2015.



Guam High School Street Law Class, April 29, 2015.



The District Court had the pleasure of hosting four high school Mock Trial teams from Seoul, Korea on Thursday, February 5, 2015.



Students and parents from the Guam Home School Association toured the District Court on Monday, May 4, 2015.

# DISTRICT UPDATE

## Naturalization Ceremonies



Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Charles Ellis was the keynote speaker at the Naturalization Ceremony commemorating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on January 20, 2015.



Dr. Robert A. Underwood, President, University of Guam was the Keynote Speaker at the Presidents' Day Naturalization Ceremony held on February 13, 2015.



36 people became new citizens of the United States in a special Law Day Naturalization Ceremony held on May 5, 2015.



Brigadier General Andrew J. Toth, Commander for the 36th Wing, Andersen Air Force Base delivered the Keynote Address at the Independence Day Naturalization Ceremony held on June 30, 2015.

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## Naturalization Ceremonies, continued



**The Honorable Katherine A. Maraman, Associate Justice for the Supreme Court of Guam, was the keynote speaker at the Naturalization Ceremony commemorating Constitution Day, September 17, 2015.**



**Arnold Bobalan Fojas takes part in the Veterans Day Naturalization Ceremony on November 16, 2015.**



**Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III delivered the Keynote Address at the Columbus Day and Filipino Heritage Month Naturalization Ceremony held on October 16, 2015.**



**Adjutant General Roderick R. Leon Guerrero delivered the Keynote Address at the Veterans Day Naturalization Ceremony on November 16, 2015.**



# DISTRICT UPDATE

## Federal and Military Bar Admissions



**Assistant U. S. Attorney Mohammad Khatib,  
February 2, 2015**



**Fred Nishihira,  
February 23, 2015**



**Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron Pike,  
May 21, 2015**



**Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Carina  
Podgorski, May 21, 2015**



**Theresa V. G. Rojas,  
September 18, 2015**



**Duane J. Sablan and Joseph Blas  
Gumataotao,  
September 29, 2015**



**Christopher Odaca,  
October 5, 2015**



**Special Assistant U. S. Attorney Lindsay  
McCarl, October 27, 2015**

# DISTRICT UPDATE

## Court Directory (with new telephone numbers)

**Chief Judge:** Frances Tydingco-Gatewood  
**Judicial Assistant:** Cynthia T. Palacios 969-4501  
**Fax:** 969-4492

**Magistrate Judge:** Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr.  
**Judicial Assistant:** Lolita Toves 969-4507  
**Fax:** 969-4486

**Clerk of Court:** Jeanne G. Quinata 969-4500  
**Chief Deputy Clerk:** Charles B. White 969-4510  
**Clerk's Office:** 969-4500  
**Fax:** 969-4488

**Chief U.S. Probation Officer:** Rossanna Villagomez-Aguon 969-4602  
**Deputy Chief:** Grace Flores 969-4603  
**U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office:** 969-4600  
**Fax:** 969-4601

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
<b>Civil Cases</b>	Francine Diaz 969-4511	Virginia Kilgore 969-4515
<b>Criminal Cases</b>	Marilyn Alcon 969-4513	Walter Tenorio 969-4514, Carmen Santos 969-4516
<b>Bankruptcy Cases</b>	Francine Diaz 969-4511	Holly Gumataotao 969-4512
<b>Miscellaneous Cases</b>	Francine Diaz 969-4511	Virginia Kilgore 969-4515
<b>Courtroom Activities (4th Floor)</b>	Carmen Santos 969-4516	Virginia Kilgore 969-4515
<b>Courtroom Activities (3rd Floor)</b>	Walter Tenorio 969-4514	Francine Diaz 969-4511
<b>Jury Matters</b>	Marilyn Alcon 969-4513	Walter Tenorio 969-4514
<b>Naturalization</b>	Marilyn Alcon 969-4513	Walter Tenorio 969-4514
<b>CJA Voucher (eVouchers)</b>	Gabriel Pereda 969-4519	Carmen Santos 969-4516
<b>CJA Voucher (Payments)</b>	Gabriel Pereda 969-4519	Shirlene Guerrero 969-4520
<b>Financial Matters</b>	Shirlene Guerrero 969-4520	Gabriel Pereda 969-4519
<b>Information Technology Matters</b>	Vergel De Vera 969-4517	Rose Nangauta 969-4518
<b>PACER and E-filing Matters</b>	Virginia Kilgore 969-4515	
<b>Court Reporter</b>	Veronica Reilly 472-8655	