Our Mission:

To enforce Guam’s laws fairly and impartially, ensuring justice and safety for all of her resident’s as well as providing legal advice and representation of the highest quality to agencies, officers and employees of the Government of Guam.

Attorney General Leonardo M. Rapadas serves as the 3rd elected Chief Legal Officer for the Government and People of Guam. In 2011, he proudly led and managed 155 public servants all housed under one of five divisions: Administration, Child Support Enforcement, Civil Litigation / Solicitors, Family / Juvenile and Prosecution. There are a number of functional units within the five divisions that work to support the daily operations of this Office. These include, but are not limited to, the Criminal Investigative Unit; the Consumer Complaint Unit, which serves as an advocate for the general public against deceptive business practices and identity theft and financial fraud; the Notary Unit which handles all notary licensing and renewals and the Victim Witness Ayuda Services (VWAS) advocates who aid victims and their families through the judicial process. Each division functions independently, working to guarantee its clients, representatives, victims or otherwise are afforded due process. As a collective unit, we work together to ensure the mission of this Office is upheld to the highest regard.

As the law firm that represents the People and Government of Guam, the duties and responsibilities are vast, and vary within each division. Nonetheless, as a whole, we are committed to enforcing local and applicable federal laws for our island community. We prosecute adult and juvenile criminal offenders; litigate to protect our children and man’amko from abuse; provide legal advice and guidance to the executive and legislative branches of government as well as Government of Guam agencies, boards and commissions; safeguard children’s rights to receive financial support from non-custodial parents; and defend government agencies and officers in court.
Family/Juvenile Division
Total Cases Filed: 541
- Juvenile Delinquency: 290
- Juvenile Drug Court: 137
- Juvenile Special Proceedings: 107
- Pre-Adjudicatory Diversionary Program (PADP): 7

Prosecution Division
Total Cases Filed: 2,153
- Misdemeanors: 1,300 (5.85%)
- Felonies: 727 (33.77%)
- *Other Services: Immigration- 26, Employers- 10, US Probation- 13, US FBI-12, Extraditions- 2, Superior Court- 3, GPD Internal Affairs/Records- 60 DOC-0 (60.38%)

Child Support Enforcement Division
Total Monies Collected: $11,031,814.80
- Employers of Non-Custodial Parents: $7,196,337.91 (65.23%)
- Non-Custodial Parents/ Walk-Ins: $2,323,435.95 (12.33%)
- Intercepted Tax Refunds: $1,359,954.77 (12.06%)
- Passport Denial: $101,227.34 (0.92%)
- Other: $ 50,858.83 (0.46%)

Civil Litigation Division
Total Actions: 363
- Administrative Proceedings: 141 (38.84%)
- Court Proceedings: 21 (5.79%)
- Government Claims: 107 (29.48%)
- Requests for Action Change of Status: 49 (13.50%)
- Change of Status: Administrative to Court Proceedings: 0
- Change of Status: Government Claims to Court Proceedings: 0
- Consumer Unit Cases Opened: 45

Solicitor’s Division
Total Requests: 1,191
- Administrative Proceedings: 27 (2.27%)
- Administrative Rules & Regulations: 16 (3.61%)
- Notary Transactions: 199 (16.71%)
- Attorney Assistance: 319 (44.33%)
- Contract Review: 528 (49.13%)
- Opinion & Legal Guidance Requests: 59
- Procurement: 43

*Do you feel this information is relevant? What would you like to see us report on? Please contact Carlina Charfauros at 475-3324 ext. 5020 or email her at ccharfauros@guamag.org for any suggestions on how to improve our reporting.*
The Office of the Attorney General, like other Government of Guam agencies, faced many financial difficulties and unanticipated costs for its operations during Fiscal Year 2011. The Office has however, as in previous years, managed to both operate and stay within the Fiscal Year budget. The Office has instituted and improved the financial oversight of all the operations and related costs and expenditures of its various divisions and has implemented and enforced cost-cutting measures throughout. Nonetheless, the Office continued to seek alternative sources of funding other than local general fund monies for the recruitment and hiring of much needed attorneys and support staff to meet the high caseload numbers and growing demands for legal services for the various Government of Guam agencies.

*An independent audit was conducted, resulting in a clean audit opinion. For complete financial information, please visit our website at www.guamag.org*
The new Fiscal Year gives us the opportunity to forge forward and fortify matters imperative to protecting the People and Government of Guam. In addition to other initiatives, this year brings an expansion of the Consumer Claims Unit, the development and eventual implementation of the first ever government-run Family Violence Registry, a collaborative effort among agencies and organizations to prevent and reduce child sexual abuse in our community through a task force and more autonomy in our financial and personnel decision processes.

The Consumer Claims Unit has jurisdiction over deceptive practices of private businesses who engage in false or misleading practice. The Office has seen an increase in crimes related to this and as a result, has expanded the Unit to better serve the needs of the community by assigning an assistant attorney general and an investigator to matters related to the Unit, such as receiving reports and complaints on identity theft and financial fraud.

The Office is also working diligently to institute the first ever governmental domestic violence registry. The Family Violence Registry will create a central database that will contain information on repeat domestic violence offenders and will allow free, universal access to the general public 24 hours a day. It will provide the conviction records of both men and women for domestic violence and related offenses such as physical battering, stalking, criminal confinement, intimidation and strangulation.

A little under a year ago, *The LaniKate Protehi Y Famagu’on-ta Act* was enacted, creating a task force working to prevent and reduce child sexual abuse from occurring on our island. This Office has taken the lead to spearhead this task force. With our partners, we will create goals for local policy on child abuse prevention and improve the services offered by government agencies, private organizations and community-based groups to victimized children. Through the task force, we will prevent, protect and provide for our youth.

This Office was recently granted increased autonomy relative to financial and personnel matters, allowing us to improve our operational abilities as public servants. With more control over our budgetary resources and management of personnel—including recruitment, hiring and retention processes— we’ve enhanced our independence and credibility in the rendering of legal opinions and other civil matters, increased our prosecutorial capabilities, and continue to effectuate our other duties relative to safeguarding Guam, her People and Government.