About the Office of the Attorney General of Guam

The Attorney General of Guam is the Chief Legal Officer for the government of Guam under the Organic Act of Guam, the equivalent to a constitution for the United States. The Attorney General is also the Chief Law Enforcement Officer or Public Prosecutor for Guam. The Attorney General of Guam has been an elected position since 2002. The Hon. Leonardo M. Rapadas took office in January 2011, succeeding Alicia G. Limtiaco as the third elected Attorney General of Guam.

The Attorney General proudly leads and manages the largest law firm on Guam. The staffing pattern for the office during FY2010 included a total of 150 employees. The Office of the Attorney General is comprised of five divisions: Administration Division, Prosecution Division, Family-Juvenile Division, Civil Litigation/Solicitors Division and Child Support Enforcement Division. Other functional units within the office also include the Consumer Counsel, Criminal Investigators Section, Notary Public Commission, and task forces or working groups led by the Attorney General regarding Guam Public School Systems Health and Safety Inspection, Gambling Devices, Internet Crimes Against Children, Massage Therapy establishments, Human Trafficking and Sexual Offenders Registration and Notification Act.

Leonardo M. Rapadas
Attorney General of Guam
Prosecution Division

Filed Requests
- Misdemeanors Filed - 2035 (70%)
- Felonies Filed - 762 (26%)
- *Other Services - 122 (4%)

*Other services: Immigration-44, Employers-28, US Probation-17, US FBI-12, Extradition-9, Superior Court-6, GPD Internal Affairs-3, Dept. of Corrections-3

Family/Juvenile Division

Average # of Juvenile Cases Filed
- Juvenile Delinquency - 262 (59%)
- Juvenile Drug Court - 99 (22%)
- Juvenile Special Proceedings - 74 (17%)
- Pre-Adjudicatory diversionary Program - 11 (2%)

Solicitors & Civil Litigation Division

Solicitor Requests
- Contract Review - 665 (73%)
- Procurement - 82 (8%)
- Opinion - 77 (7%)
- Administrative Proceedings - 64 (4.1%)
- Administrative Rules & Regulations - 23 (3%)
- Attorney Assistance - 1 (0.1%)

Civil Litigation
- Administrative Proceedings - 171 (40%)
- Court Proceedings - 132 (31%)
- Government Claims - 109 (25%)
- Requests for Action Change of Status - 15 (3%)
- Change of Status: Administrative to Court Proceedings - 1 (0.0%)
- Change of Status: Government Claims to Court Proceedings - 3 (0.0%)

Child Support Enforcement Division

CSED Services & Enforcement Tools
- Children Serviced - 9000 (22%)
- Walk-in customers - 8635 (16%)
- Custodial parents to remain self-sufficient - 6500 (16%)
- Child Support Hearings - 6500 (16%)
- Passport Denial Program - 3260 (8%)
- Processed wage withholding orders - 3108 (5%)
- Kids First Card Program - 2100 (4%)
- Customer calls per day - 1500 (0.2%)
- Non-custodial parents through A&V Program - 126 (0.3%)
- Driver's license suspensions - 64 (0.0%)

CSED Money Collected
- From employers of non-custodial parents - $6.8M (62%)
- From non-custodial parents - $2.2M (20%)
- From intercepted tax refunds and liens - $1.2M (17%)
- From passport released - $56K (1%)

Our Performance
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 2010. 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. This has included providing timely financial information which is available to the public for review on its website at www.guamattorneygeneral.com. The Office has also implemented and enforced cost-cutting measures throughout its operations. 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. To see the Annual Audit Report, visit: www.guamopa.org*
Safeguarding Guam’s people and its visitors continues to be the highest priority here at the Office of the Attorney General. We continue to work with local, federal and state law enforcement agencies to tirelessly fight crime and keep our community safe. Public safety initiatives we look forward to pursuing further include increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of prosecuting driving under the influence of alcohol and controlled substances cases, drug trafficking cases, domestic or family violence cases and property crime cases.

Unfortunate as it is, crimes such as human trafficking and identity theft have reached our island. We intend on expanding our efforts to prosecute those who have committed these crimes, but also to vigorously prosecute crimes against our children whether it be physically or online. Combating cyber crimes including cyber bullying are additional initiatives that our Office will pursue in collaboration with government law enforcement agencies.

The office readies itself for increased caseloads in all divisions and remains steadfast in hiring and providing more training to our lawyers, prosecutors, investigators and support staff like secretaries and paralegals.

With unpredictable economic times ahead of us, the Office remains dedicated to creatively utilizing the resources that have been allocated to improve our presence in serving the community. This will include our continued fight against public corruption and our increased efforts to enforce compliance of the laws and regulations of the Government of Guam.

Accountability is required at levels of this Office, ensuring that our efforts and work are conducted ethically and professionally on behalf of the citizens and residents of Guam. There will continue to be strength, honor and integrity in the activities of the Office of the Attorney General on behalf of the People of Guam.

The Office of the Attorney General
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Future Outlook

Did we miss something on this report? We welcome any questions and/or comments you may have as we work to continually improve our communication with the community. Please email law@guamattorneygeneral.com or call 475-3324.