

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S FY 2009 CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT TO GUAM'S RESIDENTS

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, which is equivalent to a constitution for the U.S. Territory of Guam. The Attorney General is also the Chief Law Enforcement Officer or Public Prosecutor for the Territory. The Attorney General of Guam has been an elected position since 2002. During Fiscal Year 2009 (Oct. 2008 – Sept. 2009), the Hon. Alicia G. Limtiaco served as the Attorney General of Guam.



ALICIA G. LIMTIACO
Attorney General of Guam

The Attorney General leads and manages the largest law firm in the Territory. The staffing pattern for the Office during FY2009 included a total of one hundred fifty-two (152) employees. The Office of the Attorney General (also known as the Department of Law) is comprised of five divisions: (1) Administrative Division, (2) Prosecution Division, (3) Family-Juvenile Division, (4) Civil Litigation Division & Solicitors Division, and (5) Child Support Enforcement Division. Other functional units within the Office also include the Consumer Counsel, Criminal Investigators Section, Notary Public Commissioning, and task forces or working groups led by the Attorney General regarding Guam Public School System Health and Safety Inspection, Gambling Devices, Internet Crimes Against Children, Massage Therapy and Establishments, Human Trafficking, and Sexual Offenders Registration and Notification Act.

Mission Statement

The Office of the Attorney General seeks to enforce Guam's laws fairly and impartially, and ensure justice and safety for all of its residents, as well as, provide legal advice and representation of the highest quality to the agencies, officers, and employees of the government of Guam.

The duties and responsibilities of the Office include prosecuting adult and juvenile criminal offenders; providing legal advice and guidance to the Governor of Guam, the Guam Legislature, and to over 50 government of Guam agencies, boards and commissions; enforcing the civil laws and government rules and regulations of the Territory, litigating to protect children and elderly from abuse; defending government agencies and officers in court; safeguarding children's rights to receive financial support from non-custodial parents; provide community education outreach; and enforcing the local laws and applicable federal laws for all residents of Guam.

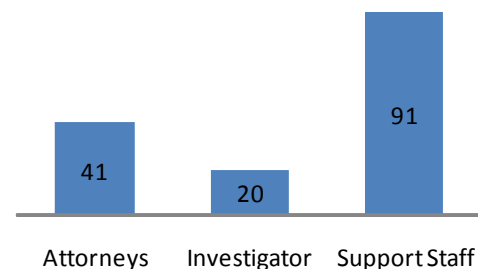


ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE
287 W. O'Brien Drive Hagatna Guam 96910

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Personnel (FY 2009 Staffing)

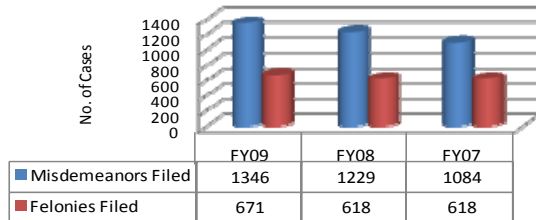
- Attorneys: 41
- Investigator: 20
- Support Staff: 91



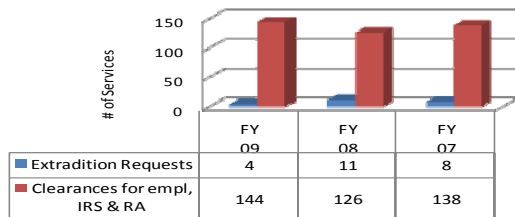
Prosecution Division

In FY09 the Prosecution Division received 3,516 referrals from Law Enforcement Agencies. In FY08, 4,302 referrals were received and in FY07, it was 4,588. During FY07, FY08 and FY09, the following cases were filed:

Total # of Cases Filed/Charged Per Year

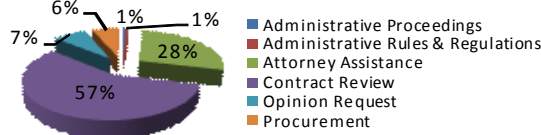


Other Services



Solicitors Division

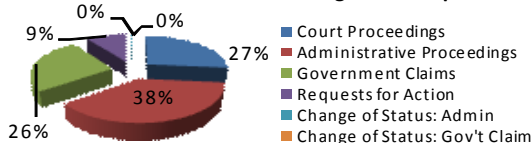
Breakdown for Solicitor Requests



Category	Total	Pending	Closed
Administrative Proceedings	8	5	3
Administrative Rules & Regulations	8	5	3
Attorney Assistance	354	195	159
Contract Review	730	115	615
Opinion Request	95	43	52
Procurement	76	31	45
Total	1271	394	877

Civil Litigation Division

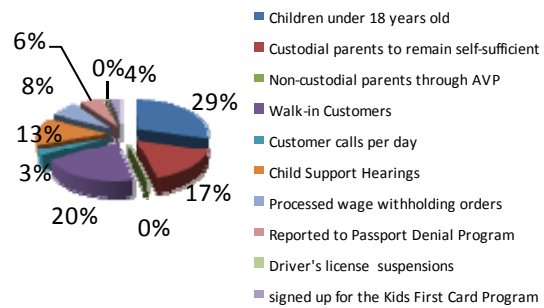
Breakdown for Civil Litigation Requests



Category	Total	Open	Closed
Court Proceedings	120	104	16
Administrative Proceedings	172	154	18
Government Claims	116	84	32
Requests for Action	43	13	30
Change of Status: Admin	1	1	0
Change of Status: Gov't Claim	0	0	0
Total	452	356	96

Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED)

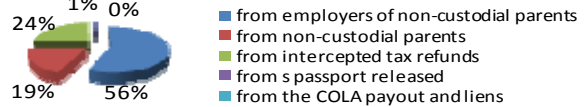
CSED Services & Enforcement Tools



CSED Services/Enforcement Tools

Children under 18 years old	14000
Custodial parents to remain self-sufficient	8000
Non-custodial parents through AVP	126
Walk-in Customers	9500
Customer calls per day	1500
Child Support Hearings	6200
Processed wage withholding orders	3600
Reported to Passport Denial Program	2800
Driver's license suspensions	141
signed up for the Kids First Card Program	1750

CSED Money Collected

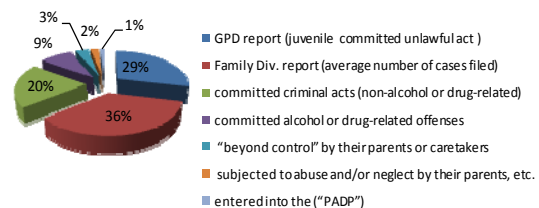


CSED Money Collected

Source	Amount
from employers of non-custodial parents	\$6,758,683
from non-custodial parents	\$2,229,657
from intercepted tax refunds	\$2,894,145
from passport released	\$65,791
from the COLA payout and liens	\$16,573
Total	\$11,964,849

Family (Juvenile) Division

Average # of Juvenile Cases Filed

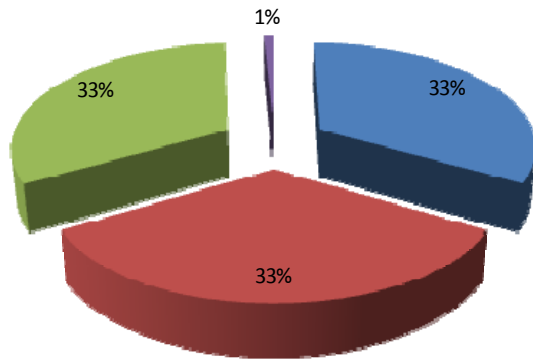


GPD report (juvenile committed unlawful act)	475
Family Div. report (average number of cases filed)	592
committed criminal acts (non-alcohol or drug-related)	341
committed alcohol or drug-related offenses	146
"beyond control" by their parents or caretakers	53
subjected to abuse and/or neglect by their parents, etc.	38
entered into the ("PADP")	15

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 2009. 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.

GENERAL FUND

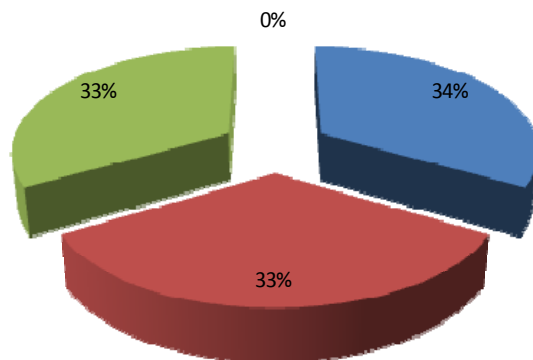
■ Original ■ Final ■ Actual Amounts ■ Variance



Original	\$6,630,418
Final	\$6,630,418
Actual Amounts	\$6,475,418
Variance	\$155,000

FEDERAL FUND

■ Original ■ Final ■ Actual Amounts ■ Variance



Original	\$1,732,107
Final	\$1,732,107
Actual Amounts	\$1,732,107
Variance	\$0

The Office of the Attorney General anticipates that the Territory will see a population increase unlike any other in its history, as tens of thousands of U.S. Armed Forces members and their families and dependents, civilians and immigrant workers will be calling Guam their home. In short, the military buildup and the influx of persons associated with it will completely transform Guam compressing decades of growth to within a few short years. The Office has a total of 152 employees, including just 16 attorneys for the Prosecution Division; 14 attorneys in the Civil Litigation/Solicitors Division; 5 attorneys in the Child Support Enforcement Division; and only 4 attorneys in the Family-Juvenile Division. The remaining number of employees consists of 20 investigators and 91 support staff including 8 victim advocates. This is barely enough to effectively protect the public-interest of our current 171,000 residents, and certainly not nearly enough to safeguard the public interests if the population reaches over 225,000 as projected in the next few years. The Office has also advocated and pursued with our Executive and Legislative branches of government while being cognizant of the government's financial situation, for a yearly budget that would enable

the Office to better perform its duties and mandates. Unfortunately, the Office has received appropriations far below the requested level for each fiscal year that makes it difficult to both obtain the necessary equipment upgrades like for example the need to replace the Child Support Enforcement Division's APASI computer system, and to recruit seasoned, high-caliber attorneys given current government attorney pay scales. Nonetheless, the Office of the Attorney General is optimistic about its abilities to protect Guam's residents and safeguard the public interests. The Office plans to seek other new funding including both local and federal sources. The Office remains committed to providing more training to its attorneys, prosecutors, investigators, other law enforcement officers and relevant social service providers in the areas of Sexual Assault, Internet Crimes Against Children, and Human Trafficking. In addition, the Office intends to increase its community education outreach activities for the aforementioned subject matters and others including consumer protection and child support enforcement. The Office will also seek to assist and support the amendment or enactment of legisla-

tion or promulgation of rules and regulations to address various issues, which include but are not limited to the following: Comprehensive Computer Policies and Procedures for government of Guam agencies, Cyberbullying, Internet Crimes Against Children, Massage Therapy and Establishment Law, Procurement Law, and updating the Sexual Offenders Registration and Notification Act to be in compliance with the federal mandates. Finally, the Office of the Attorney General plans to continue with improving its internet webpage to provide the residents of our Territory with more information and insight about our role in the community, our accomplishments, and increase our communication with the people of Guam.



The Office of the Attorney General conducts a school presentation on bullying and cyberbullying.

References: Visit our website at: www.guamattorneygeneral.com

Government of Guam OPA (27 Aug., 2010). *Basic Financial Statement, Additional Information and Independent*

**The Office of the Attorney
General of Guam**



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