Alicia G. Limtiaco *Attorney General*



Phillip J. Tydingco Chief Deputy Attorney General

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Office of the Attorney General 2009 Annual Report



Hafa Adai!

Just as in the first two years in office, the current administration of the Office of the Attorney General made significant strides in 2009. And just like these past two years, I am honored to present the Office of the Attorney General's electronic Annual Report, which has proven to reach a diverse and wider audience.

In light of the anticipated population increase in Guam associated with the military buildup, and in a diligent effort to have a more comprehensive understanding of the population increase and its impact to Guam, the Office of the Attorney General has and continues to request and research data from experts on the effects on similar sized communities.

The feedback received has been similar, if not identical -- that is, Guam's legal community will see and feel a very obvious impact. The Guam buildup is very unique in that it does not involve

only an increase of military personnel. Along with the military there will be an influx of civilians and immigrant workers, some with backgrounds unknown to authorities.

In one particular series of discussions, it was noted that one of the challenges in situations where there is rapid growth is that such growth can be disorienting and create its own source of problems, especially in a remote, multi-cultural and diverse society like Guam.

The rapid population growth and social change may create a situation where norms become unstable, showing itself in an increase in criminal activity including assaults, DUIs, family violence, child maltreatment and abuse, sexual abuse, prostitution, human trafficking, drugs, and property-related offenses. Issues such as wage and hour and other labor-related matters and immigration are also anticipated to arise. National security and counter-terrorism issues, financial and procurement fraud, public integrity/white collar crimes, cyber crime and identity theft, and hate crimes will be of critical concern.

Since coming into office in 2007, the current administration of the Office of the Attorney General has advocated and pursued, with our executive and legislative branches, 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, appropriations were below the requested level for each fiscal year. With hearings for next fiscal year's budget scheduled to get under way, the office's emphasis will be no different in terms of pointing out personnel resources and equipment shortages; the difficulty of hiring and retaining seasoned, high-caliber attorneys given current government attorney pay scales; and critical funding for special prosecutors and expert witnesses.

As a multi-faceted agency, the impact of the impending military buildup affects all missions of the office -- prosecution, family, child support enforcement, civil litigation and solicitors divisions.

In addition, the office actively participates in large-scale discussions on global-international issues that affect or could potentially affect Guam: pandemics that adversely affected many jurisdictions across the globe; providing legal counsel to Guam Homeland Security and the Department of Public Health and Social Services; and possible terrorism-related issues that residents must be aware of and actively vigilant in the prevention of and fight against.



Chief Deputy Attorney General Phil Tydingco

The language and intent of the Sex Offender Registry and Notification Act, or SORNA, must also be complied with, implemented and enforced by our Office, which is taking the lead in this effort, in conjunction with the Judiciary.

The population increase requires a critical review and assessment, and increased provision and support of current legal, criminal and court systems, and other infrastructure. Efforts must be made to apply for federal grant assistance from various programs.

We have sought and will continue to seek support for increased federal funding for the development of new technology to ensure public safety and assist our community's improved use of existing technologies. This includes increased program funding for the National Criminal History Improvement Program systems and repositories; the improvement of the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services by territorial laboratories; and the implementation of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.

Additional resources must be allocated to consumer protection training and enforcement to help investigate possible consumer protection violations in areas such as telemarketing fraud, identity theft and Internet fraud.

The Office reaches out to the community and empowers it by providing information through articles on consumer protection and advocacy.

The Office also employs a very aggressive public outreach and education campaign on different topics, including protecting the rights of our most vulnerable population -- the elderly, women and children.

An effective, community based prosecution program must involve more public-private partnerships in the fight against crime, and especially with crime prevention efforts.

Some of the top issues for the Office of the Attorney General as it continues to prepare for the military buildup include:

• Recruitment and retention of prosecutors, government attorneys, investigators, victim advocates and legal-support staff;

• Adequate funding from local and federal resources to provide personnel, physical facilities, security of employees and data including cyber security, and equipment and technical support for the Office; and

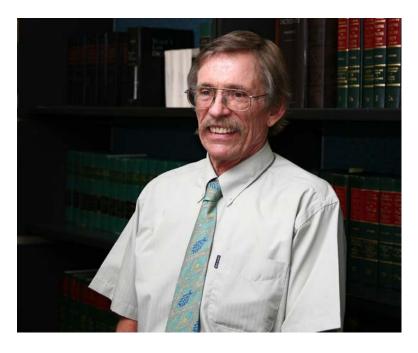
• More information from the organizers of the military buildup on issues of crime and the societal impact to communities that host military facilities.

The sheer size of the anticipated influx of persons associated with the buildup and increase of the population of Guam point to the dire need of increasing and adequately funding the legal infrastructure of the Office of the Attorney General's personnel and resources in order to maintain public safety and the confidence of our residents, visitors, military and businesses, so the rule of law is, and will remain, alive and well in Guam for years to come.

Sincerely,

Alicia G. Limtiaco Attorney General

Civil Litigation/Solicitor's Division



Deputy Attorney General J. Patrick Mason

The Civil Division of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is a combination of the Civil Litigation Division and the Solicitors Division and also includes the government claims unit, the consumer protection unit, and the notary public unit.

CIVIL LITIGATION DIVISION

The Civil Litigation Division handles civil actions in which the government is an interested party. This includes bringing actions on behalf of the government and its agencies and defending actions brought against the government and its agencies. These actions include both trials and appeals in the courts of Guam and the courts of the United States. The Attorney General is also tasked with bringing actions when necessary to insure compliance by government agencies and officials and private parties with the regulatory laws of Guam. Additionally, the Attorney General brings actions on behalf of the people of Guam in matters regarding the protection of the public interest.

Some of the types of cases handled by the Civil Division include the following: land condemnation cases, land registration cases, zoning and easement disputes, civil rights actions, federal regulatory actions, wrongful death cases, personnel injury cases, government employee discipline and grievance cases, wage and hour disputes, maritime cases, contract disputes, procurement appeals, civil forfeitures, consumer complaints and mediation, involuntary commitments, environmental protection cases, cases to determine the extent of government authority and the legality of government action, and cases resolving the interpretation, constitutionality and organicity of laws and regulations.

The complex litigation cases often require more than one lawyer to work on the case. For example, four lawyers (including the Attorney General) appear at the quarterly status hearings in the landfill case, because different lawyers must work on different aspects of the case. As a new task, the Civil Litigation Division must take over the permanent injunction case against the DMHSA and DISID.

Like the landfill case, more than one lawyer will have to work on this case. As an additional task, recently court rulings have required litigation attorneys to appear at many juvenile cases involving DMHSA and DISID. Another ongoing case that takes a great deal of legal resources is the federal law suit against the Department of Corrections (DOC) which now includes the DMHSA because a forensic unit for inmates and detainees is established at the DMHSA.

Hearing Officers. The Civil Division has the task of providing hearing officers to government agencies, boards and commissions when they conduct administrative hearings pursuant to the Administrative Adjudication Act and other legal mandates requiring a administrative hearings. This includes providing a hearing officer for fair hearings which are federally mandated. For example, the food stamp and public assistance programs require fair hearings.



Donald San Agustin, Government Claims Unit

Government Claims Unit. The government claims unit must investigate and processes all claims filed under the Government Claims Act against the line agencies of the government and the Mayors within the timelines established by law. The claims include tort claims – property damage, personal injury, wrongful death – and contract claims.

Consumer Protection Unit. The consumer unit enforces the Deceptive Trade Practice Act and various other consumer laws. In addition to handling consumer complaints and litigation, the consumer unit reaches out to inform both the consumers and the businesses of Guam about the requirements of the Deceptive Trade Practices Act and other matters affecting Guam's consumers. The unit issues press releases to make the public aware of consumer scams and various consumer issues. Additionally, the consumer unit enforces the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement (MSA). Guam has received \$40 million through the MSA. In return, local tobacco distributors and their

manufactures who are not parties to the MSA must register with the OAG to insure that escrow accounts are set up for tobacco sold on Guam.

The Notary Unit. The Notary Unit process new applications for persons who want to become a notary public. This includes reviewing applications and giving notary tests once a month. The tests are prepared and updated by the unit. A notary commission is good for four years. The unit also renews applications for renewals of notary commissions. In addition, the unit investigates and resolves complaints made against a notary, including conducting administrative hearings. Further, the unit reviews requests from the public for the certificate of authority of a notary, reviews the history of the person's commission and issues such certificates when appropriate.

SOLICITORS DIVISION

The Solicitors Division provides legal services to the agencies, boards, commissions and other instrumentalities of the Executive Branch and writes legal opinions and legal memoranda for the Executive agencies, the Legislature and the Mayors.

The tasks of the Solicitors Division include the following: writing Attorney General opinions and legal memoranda; giving legal advice to agencies either verbally or through written information and guidance; reviewing documents and giving opinions regarding bond issues; drafting, reviewing and approving proposed agency rules and regulations before they go to Governor for introduction to the Legislature; attending public meetings of boards and commissions; assisting in conducting public hearings for agency rules and regulations; drafting and revising standardized forms for use by agencies; acting as agency counsel at administrative hearings; drafting and/or reviewing procurement contracts; assisting agencies with procurements, including reviewing and approving procurement records and contracts as to legality and form; reviewing and approving other types of contracts (i.e., non-procurement agreements such as inter-agency memoranda of understanding, qualifying certificates, government real property transactions, etc.); reviewing and/or drafting bills or legislation as requested by an agency or required by the Attorney General; coordinating responses to Sunshine Act requests; assisting in administrative matters relative to Commission on Post-Mortem Examiners (the Attorney General has traditionally been chairperson of the Commission).

IMPACT STATEMENT

In order to meet the objectives of the Civil Division, it must have trained and experienced lawyers in a variety of fields as well as highly qualified and experienced support staff.

The Civil Division has very recently been given additional mandates that will require the hiring of experienced attorneys and staff. These new mandates include advising all Executive Branch agencies – including line agencies, autonomous agencies, public corporations and other government entities – during all phases of a procurement of \$500,000 or more, representing GMHA, and representing DMHSA and DISID in the permanent injunction case to bring these agencies in line with federal requirements. The Civil Division is trying to give more direct and immediate legal advice to the various agencies which will be required as the Guam buildup begins and increases.

Public Law 72-30. Public Law 72-30 requires the OAG to act as legal adviser during *all phases* of a solicitation and procurement which is estimated to result in an award of \$500,000 or more. This is a new task for the OAG. The review by the OAG of all stages of a procurement applies to procurements by every Executive Branch agency, autonomous agency, instrumentality or public corporation of the government. One autonomous agency – the Guam Port Authority – has already indicated to the OAG that they believe they will need a full-time attorney for their agency alone in

order to insure the timely letting of contracts funded by federal ARRA funds. It is difficult to obtain accurate estimates of the future procurement needs of all government entities, particularly with significant ARRA funds and funds for the military buildup coming to a number of agencies. However, we believe that, at a minimum, based on present circumstances, the OAG will need at least one attorney dedicated solely to reviewing and assisting with line agency procurements and one attorney dedicated to reviewing and assisting with autonomous agency procurements and one legal secretary to assist each of the dedicated attorneys.

GMHA. Another task that has very recently fallen to the Civil Division is handling legal matters for the GMHA (the "hospital"). The hospital has a myriad of legal matters which require regular attention. A private law firm was acting as legal counsel for the hospital. However, very recently the private counsel discontinued its representation of the hospital. Consequently, the OAG is now responsible for handling *all* legal matters involving the hospital. In recent discussions, the hospital administrator has indicated that he would like to have a full-time Assistant Attorney General assigned to the hospital to handle all legal matters except medical malpractice and tort claims for which a private firm would be retained. Handling the legal matters of the hospital has placed a large burden on the resources of the OAG. Assuming that medical malpractice and tort claims are outsourced to a private law firm, the OAG will require one Assistant Attorney General to be assigned fill-time to the hospital to handle all other legal matters. This Assistant Attorney General must be either paid for by the OAG or the GMHA. If the OAG is required to also handle medical malpractice and other tort cases for the hospital, at least one more attorney and a legal secretary would be needed.

DMHSA & DISID. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (the "DMHSA") and the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities ("DISID") are currently under a permanent injunction which is being enforced by the District Court of Guam in the cases of *J.C., et al. v. Camacho, et al.*, Civil Case No. CIV01-00041 and *R.A. v. Camacho, et al.*, Civil Case No. CIV04-00005. The permanent injunction case was being handled by private counsel, but has been recently transferred to the OAG. Representing the DMHSA and DISID and handling the permanent injunction case will require the services of a full-time attorney dedicated solely to matters involving the DMHSA and DISID.

DPW HIGHWAY DIVISION. The OAG currently has two lawyers and one legal secretary working full-time on Department of Public Works ("DPW") Highway Division legal matters. The lawyers spend most of their time at offices at DPW. Federal funding reimburses the OAG for the three persons. The Attorney General was able to hire the two lawyers and legal secretary based on a reimbursement commitment from the federal program manager for the Highway Division. Initially one lawyer was assigned to the Highway Division. Soon it became clear that the work load required an additional lawyer and a full-time secretary. The fact that two lawyers and one legal secretary are now working exclusively on Highway Division matters gives an idea of the increase in work load for the OAG as the buildup on Guam continues and increases. This should be the model for other government agencies.

Military Buildup. The impact from the military buildup on the Executive Branch boards and agencies will also impact the Civil Litigation and Solicitors Divisions of the OAG. As of mid 2009, the Planning Information Program of the Bureau of Statistics and the Bureau of Statistics and Planning has indicated the population of Guam was 178,287. Applying the increases in population estimated in the Guam Military Relocation Draft EIS/OEIS, Guam can anticipate the following population increases through 2014:

<u>Cumulative Increases</u> From Current Population Level

2010 6% increase
2011 16.6% increase
2012 24.8% increase
2013 29.5% increase
2014 44.4% increase

These increases will no doubt require a comparable increase in the need for government services and enforcement of regulations and laws which, in turn, will increase the need of the government for legal services. We expect to see comparable increases in the need for legal services regarding procurement; contract review, drafting and assistance; labor matters, including enforcing wage and hour laws; enforcement of the regulatory authority of the Department of Public Health and Social Services ("DPHSS"); giving advice and assistance regarding construction matters to DPW, the PEALS Board and the Contractor's Licensing Board ("CLB"), including assisting with administrative hearings and investigations; assisting GEPA with its regulatory and licensing functions; assisting the Department of Revenue and Taxation ("DRT") with its non-tax regulatory responsibilities – assuming DRT will hire its own lawyer to handle tax matters; assisting law enforcement agencies with civil issues, including the Guam Police Department ("GPD") - this would include assisting GPD's own lawyer with litigation cases and other matters - assisting DYA, DOC (including representing DOC in the District Court stipulated judgment case with the Department of Justice), the Parole Board and the Post Mortem Commission; assisting the various medical boards and other boards with enforcement of their mandates, advice about the Open Government Law and administrative hearings; assisting the Department of Labor with enforcement of the wage and hour laws; assisting the Department of Agriculture with regulation of aquatic and wildlife resources; assisting the Guam Environmental Protection Agency which its enforcement functions; and enforcing the Guam Deceptive Trade Practices Act, including responding to a wide range of consumer complaints.

In sum, an increase in all government regulatory activities and public works projects comparable to the increase in construction activities and the increase in population is anticipated.

PROGRAM BUDGET PLAN

Funding for the Civil Division will be used to offset personnel and operational costs in the upcoming fiscal years. Based on past experience, the following plan of the Civil Division is calculated to best serve the legal needs of the various government agencies and government boards and commissions. The following personnel needs are set at attorney personnel levels of the Civil Litigation and Solicitors Divisions more than 10 years ago. The Civil Division will again need this level of personnel as the projects and population increases associated with buildup begin.

Lawyer/secretary ratio. Currently the Solicitor Division has seven lawyers and only two legal secretaries – one of the lawyers and one secretary work exclusively for the Highway Division of DPW. Excluding the Highway Division lawyer and secretary, leaves one legal secretary to handle the work of six lawyers in the Solicitor Division. The Litigation Division presently has six lawyers and one secretary (one lawyer works exclusively for the Highway Division of DPW). Again, excluding the Highway Division lawyer, leaves one legal secretary to handle the work of five lawyers. Therefore – excluding the two lawyers and one legal secretary representing only the DPW Highway Division – the Civil Division currently has a support staff of two legal secretaries for eleven lawyers. A normal lawyer/secretary ratio is one legal secretary for two or no more than three lawyers.

Administrative hearings. The Civil Division must provide hearing officers to handle all administrative appeals to the various agencies, boards and commissions. This means that the Civil Division must have two lawyers at an administrative hearing – a lawyer representing the agency and a lawyer acting as a hearing officer for the board or commission. The demand for administrative hearings will increase as the buildup continues. Due to the problems with conflict of interest allegations, the Civil Division needs a separate hearing officer division to handle administrative hearings. At this time, a hearing officer division could consist of one lawyer who does not represent or advise any agencies or boards.

Plan for agency legal services. In order to provide adequate legal services to the various executive agencies, boards and commissions and to represent the government in all litigation handled by the OAG, the OAG needs sufficient staff to assign lawyers to particular agencies and to have a litigation staff sufficient to adequately handle all lawsuits involving the Executive Branch of the government. Larger agencies with a great deal of legal work need a full-time lawyer assigned with the agency providing an in-house office for the assigned lawyer. Smaller agencies requiring less than full-time legal services would be grouped together according to related functions with one lawyer assigned to the agencies grouped together. The following plan is intended to fulfill the legal needs of the Executive Branch as the military buildup begins and continues to grow on Guam.

Highways: As discussed above, two lawyers and one legal secretary are presently assigned full-time to handle DPW Highway Division projects. The OAG is reimbursed for the positions through federal highway funds. This model is working very well and should be adopted for other agencies.

<u>One solicitor lawyer</u> (reimbursed by federal funds) <u>One litigation/solicitor lawyer</u> (reimbursed by federal funds) <u>One legal secretary</u> (reimbursed by federal funds)

Land: One lawyer would handle land matters, advising the agencies and commissions dealing with land matters and filing land registration cases, reviewing private land registration cases, bringing condemnation cases and handling zoning and all other real property matters. Since there would be considerable litigation in handling this case load, a litigation lawyer would be assigned to handle land matters.

One litigation lawyer for:

Department of Land Management; Ancestral Land Commission; Guam Land Use Commission Department of Agriculture

<u>Medica</u>l: As mentioned above, <u>One solicitor lawyer</u> assigned full- time to handle GMHA (non-litigation matters).

One litigation lawyer assigned full time to:

DMHSA DISID. <u>One solicitor lawyer</u> to handle all other medical related boards and commissions, including:

Medical Board Allied Health Board Nurses Board Dentistry Board Pharmacy Board Cosmetology Board All other related boards and commissions

<u>Environment</u>: <u>One litigation lawyer</u> assigned full-time assigned to GEPA.

<u>**Procurement</u>**: As mandated by PL 72-30, <u>One solicitor lawyer</u> assigned full-time to handle all procurement matters for the government line agencies, including</u>

> DPW GSA

<u>One solicitor lawyer</u> assigned full-time to handle procurements by AUTONOMOUS agencies

<u>Contracts</u>: <u>One solicitor lawyer</u> assigned full time to review all contracts, memoranda of understanding, bond documents and other documents that are reviewed by the Attorney General.

Labor: <u>On litigation lawyer</u> would handle all government labor matters, including:

CSC DOL AHRD All labor contract negotiations

<u>DRT</u>: <u>One solicitor lawyer</u> assigned to assist DRT with all its non-tax regulatory matters including:

Banking Insurance Securities DMV Licensing ABC and other compliance

<u>Agriculture and Planning</u>: <u>One solicitor lawyer</u> assigned to assist Dept of Agri. BSP

<u>Construction</u>: This will become very important with the upcoming military build up.

One litigation lawyer to assist in all construction related matters,

DPW PEALS Board CLB

Law Enforcement: <u>One litigation lawyer</u> to handle all civil law enforcement issues coming before the Civil Division,

including:

including:

GPD (as assistance to GPD's lawyer) DYA DOC Parole Board Post Mortem Commission

Public Health: One solicitor lawyer assigned full-to enforcement for DPHSS

Other Regulatory: One solicitor lawyer to assist other agencies,

DOA DPR GFD Workers Compensation Mayors Consumer Other agencies, boards and commissions

Hearing Officer: One litigation lawyer to act as a hearing officer for all

government agencies, boards and commissions with administrative hearings

Regular Government Litigation: Experienced litigation lawyers are needed to either bring or defend litigation involving the government and to assist other lawyers representing specific agencies with any agency litigation being handled by the agency attorney. The OAG currently represents the government in eight lawsuits for over \$1 million; in lawsuits over \$300,000; and sixteen government claims over \$300,000; and numerous other cases including the Clean Water Act (landfill) law suit filed by the United States against the government of Guam, the lawsuit against the Department of Corrections filed by the United States, the permanent injunction case against DMHSA and DISID, the district court class action suit against DPW for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The litigation case load requires: <u>Four experienced litigation lawyers</u> dedicated exclusive to handling law suits involving the government.

In conclusion, in order to adequately provide full legal assistance and fulfill its current mandates as we move forward with the buildup of Guam, the Civil Division of the OAG needs eleven litigation lawyers, ten solicitor lawyers and a minimum staff of seven legal secretaries.

Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED)

The Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED) is a division within the Office of the Attorney General (OAG). The CSED provides the following services to custodial and non-custodial parents: locating absent parents; establishing paternity; establishing and enforcing orders for child support and medical support; reviewing and modifying court orders of support; enforcing support orders of other states; and collecting and distributing child support payments.

The CSED uses the following tools to enforce child support orders:

- Automatic income withholding
- Intercepting federal and state income tax refunds
- Requiring employers to report new hires
- Suspending driver's and occupational licenses
- Passport denial
- Obtaining contempt of court orders
- Liens and levies on real and personal property
- Credit bureau reporting
- Seizing bank accounts

The CSED has a total of 56 employees: 48 support staff and 8 attorneys. The CSED is divided into the following sections: Attorneys, Investigation (includes process officers), Records, Systems, State Disbursement Unit, Accounting, and Administrative Support.

The CSED has an active caseload of approximately 8,000 cases. We serve a total of approximately 7,969 custodial parents, 7,977 non-custodial parents, and 14,000 children. We process approximately 5,500 transactions (checks, EFT's, receipts) per month and disburse approximately \$1,065,000 in child support payments each month. CSED receives an average of 800 telephone calls daily and initiates an average of 400 calls daily to custodial and non-custodial parents, employers, and private attorneys. CSED averages 800 walk-in customers per month in addition to approximately 100 appointments. The Judicial Hearings Division of the Superior Court of Guam holds an average of 500 child support hearings per month. Each investigator and paralegal handles an average of 1,000 cases.

The Child Support Enforcement Division also provides, without charges or fees and at the request of the custodial or non-custodial parent, certifications to the Department of Public Health and Social Services, Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority, or financial institutions.

The Access & Visitation (A&V) Unit administered by CSED provides the important service of assisting non-custodial parents to gain access and visitation with their children. The A&V Unit refers non-custodial parents to Inafa Maolek or Erica's House for mediation, supervised or monitored visitation, parenting classes, or neutral drop-off and pick-up arrangements. The goal of A&V Unit is to improve non-custodial parents' access to and visitation with their children. Research has shown that parental contact is related to the payment of child support and that fathers' involvement improves children's development and self-esteem.

The CSED needs additional critical support staff and attorneys. In the last year, the CSED has experienced a turnover of employees. The vacant positions are slow to fill for several reasons: the hiring process is slow and bureaucratic, lack of qualified applicants, or salary is too low. Currently the CSED has a total of 56 employees: 48 support staff and 7 attorneys plus IV-D Director. The

attorneys handle a full caseload with a majority of the cases being heard by the Referee of the Judicial Hearing Division (JHD) of the Superior Court. Some cases, however, are heard before the Judges of the Superior Court of Guam (SCOG). There are not enough attorneys to attend hearings at both the JHD and SCOG.

Also, the lack of support staff, mainly investigators and paralegals, has led to a lack of enforcement on some cases. A lack of enforcement of cases results in less collection of child support payments. Not enough support staff also means some child support orders are not reviewed and adjusted every 3 years resulting in an outdated order which does not keep up with the current cost of living.

The CSED's computer system, also known as the Absent Parent Automated Systems Information (APASI), is in dire need of update and upgrade. It is a transfer system from the State of Texas which was implemented in 1996. Although APASI was fully certified as meeting PRWORA requirements on April 30, 2004, it still has program and database issues. These deficiencies have resulted in a case management backlog, management reporting difficulties, accounting issues, and an overall loss in productivity.

Guam is currently preparing for the military buildup. A review of the Draft EIS shows that the impact to the Child Support Program was not addressed. The estimated increase in population of both military and civilians due to the buildup will have a huge impact on the Child Support Program. According to the Draft EIS, 8,552 Marines and their 9,000 dependents are being relocated from Okinawa (Japan) to Guam. An additional 630 Army personnel and their 950 dependents will be relocated as part of the U.S. Army (Army) Air and Missile Defense Task Force (AMDTF). There is also a transient population of military personnel of about 9,222 who are expected to be in port up to 63 visit days per year with anticipated length of 21 days or less per visit. A fourth group composed of DoD civilian workforce is estimated to be at 1,836. The total proposed population increase is 30,190.

However, the estimated total population increase from off-island that would result from the military buildup is even higher when dependents of DoD civilian workforce and off-island workers and their dependents looking for jobs are taken into consideration.

Project-related construction work is expected to begin in 2010 and reach its peak in 2014. By 2014, the total increase in Guam residents from off-island would be an estimated 79,178 people. These numbers include active duty military and their dependents, civilian military workers and their dependents, off-island construction workers and their dependents, as well as off-island workers and their dependents looking for jobs on Guam.

After 2014, project-related construction and the associated influx of construction workers would decline rapidly because 2014 is the last year that any new construction would begin. By the time construction is completed and military operational spending reaches a steady state, the off-island population increase is projected to level off by 2020 to an estimated 33,608 persons, approximately 58% below the peak level. Table ES-2 of the Draft EIS, pg ES-7 Executive Summary.

2010	11,038
2011	27,835
2012	44,301
2013	52,575
2014	79,178
2015	64,918
2016	41,919
2017	33,431

2018	33,431
2019	33,608
2020	33,608

Guam's population as of July 2009 was estimated at 178,430. There are approximately 8,000 active child support cases. By the end of 2010, the population will increase by 11,038 to 189,468, a 6.19% increase. By the end of 2014, the peak year, the population will increase to 257,608, a 44.37% increase. At the steady state in 2020, the population is expected to taper off at 212,038, an 18.84% increase from 2009.

With the anticipated military buildup and increase in civilian contractors and off-island constructions workers and their dependents, the CSED will experience an increase in child support services to be provided and documents to be processed. In order to continue to offer the services it now provides and to prepare for the influx of active duty military and their dependents, civilian military workers and their dependents, off-island construction workers and their dependents as a result of the military buildup, the CSED will need increased staff and resources.

At the beginning of the military buildup in 2010, CSED will need an additional 3 employees (plus 56 currently on staff): 1 child support attorney, 1 child support investigator, and 1 legal clerk.

By the height of the military buildup in 2014, CSED will need an additional 25 employees (plus 56 currently on staff):

- 4 child support attorneys to handle increased caseload
- 4 child support paralegals
- 4 child support investigators to handle increased caseload
- 2 accounting technicians for State Disbursement Unit (SDU)
- 2 accounting technicians for Accounting Section
- 2 process servers to handle increase in service of process
- 2 legal secretary
- 2 legal clerks
- 1 telephone operator
- 1 messenger
- 1 computer systems analyst

In addition, CSED will require the following infrastructural needs to accommodate the additional employees in 2014:

- 25 personal computers
- 25 additional communication lines (DISN, T1 lines, telephone lines)
- 14 cubicles for investigators, accounting technicians, computer systems analyst
- 25 desks and chairs
- 10 locked cabinets to store files containing federal tax information
- 2 vehicles for process server

While the population is expected to decrease after the height of the military buildup in 2014 and hit a steady state by 2020, the child support caseload will not necessarily decrease. A child support case, once opened, remains open until a child reaches the age of majority. Therefore, even though the population decreases, the case will remain open and enforceable until the child reaches age 18. So long as a custodial parent and child or non-custodial parent lives here, Guam will continue to enforce the Order.

APASI computer system:

The CSED's APASI computer system is in a vulnerable state. Any further increase to CSED's caseload could cause the system to fail. With the anticipated increase in caseload due to the impending military buildup, CSED must update and upgrade its APASI computer system. The choices are staying with the existing system and designing a new system by evaluating other states' systems, considering a transfer system from another state, or selecting a hybrid system. A new system requires major processes and requires federal approval. The first phase is the Advance Planning Document (APD), followed by the Implementation APD, and full Implementation of a new system.

The total estimated cost of a new system is estimated at \$10 million. Examples of cost of other states' systems are: Hawaii \$50 million, Colorado \$40 million, and South Carolina \$93 million.

The CSED requires additional funding to continue its operations. This will allow us to continue to ensure that the children of Guam receive the financial assistance that they deserve. With a full staff, the CSED will be able to enforce child support orders which will result in an increase in the collection of child support payments. This helps families become self-sufficient as well as puts money back into the general fund for those children who are receiving public assistance/welfare/TANF.

In addition, once APASI is upgraded and updated, this will result in increased productivity, reduced annual maintenance and operation charges, increased client access to information through a web interface, increased collections through online bill payments, and a comprehensive website which will allow for easy access by parties and employers to case information and new hire reporting by employers.

Funding Requirements:

All child support-related expenditures are subject to matching funds by the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement at the rate of 66% against 34% local funds.

Despite making remarkable progress in CSED operations, the following issues have arisen requiring further follow-up:

• CSED needs a point of contact (preferably a JAG) with email and phone numbers.

- CSED needs assistance with service of process of military or civilian personnel on base, better cooperation among branches of service and CSED.
- CSED needs assistance in how to read a Leave and Earning Statement (LES), especially where there is extraordinary temporary pay or benefits involved, so we can accurately determine child support obligation.
- CSED needs accurate income information from reporting systems; more cooperation from the military in getting wage information.
- CSED needs assistance in getting children health insurance cards and agent letters for custodial parents (CPs) to get children on base for health care.
- CSED needs training on locate information for military personnel when they leave Guam.
- If there is a population increase of between 15-45% due to military buildup, then CSED should expect that we will have an increase in new cases by the same percentage or more.

CSED needs to know what can we ask the military to do if non-custodial parents (NCPs) do not comply (they are bound by a code of conduct but at times the superior officers may not be aware of their bad behavior).

Family Division



Deputy Attorney General Carol Hinkle-Sanchez

The Family Division is a separate division within the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) that was re-established in 2007 by the current Attorney General. The Family Division, which handles all matters pertaining to juveniles in our community, including Child Protective Services cases, was

once merged with the Prosecution Division of the OAG. Due to concerns regarding the propriety of juvenile special proceedings and juvenile delinquency matters, as well as other matters that appeared before the Family Court of the Superior Court of Guam, being handled by prosecutors of adult offenders, and especially with regard to the delicate issues of confidentiality of juvenile adjudications, the Family Division now functions as a separate and distinct division apart from the Prosecution Division with staff designated solely to handle matters within the Family Division.

The Family Division is the smallest division of the OAG and is comprised of six (6) personnel, which includes four (4) attorneys, one (1) legal secretary, and one (1) legal clerk, but the division continues to rely upon the administrative and other resources of the Prosecution Division to fulfill its mandates as the Family Division lacks the adequate professional and support personnel needed given its significant workload and caseload.

The Family Division handles all matters relating to juveniles in our community including juvenile delinquency matters, which are cases involving juveniles who commit criminal acts that are non-drug and alcohol related, and drug and alcohol related cases. The Family Division also represents Child Protective Services in cases brought to court involving children that have been subjected to abuse and neglect by their parents or caretakers, as well as cases involving juveniles who are deemed "beyond control" of their parents or caretaker. In addition to handling juvenile court proceedings, the Family Division alsore-integrated the Pre-Adjudicatory Diversionary Program (PADP) in 2007. The PADP is a prevention program and unlike court cases, it is an informal process that allows for the Family Division attorneys to divert particular cases into the program, i.e., juveniles who are first-time offenders that have committed crimes deemed as petty misdemeanor offenses.

IMPACT STATEMENT:

For Budget Year 2010, the Family Division hopes to add to its staffing pattern necessary and critical positions in order to continue to effectively handle the juvenile issues and challenges that the division has faced in past years and continues to face. The Family Division would require the following additional staffing positions: one (1) Assistant Attorney General, Attorney II position; one (1) investigator position; one (1) legal secretary position; one (1) process server position; and one (1) paralegal position.

As in the previous years, the Family Division continues to maximize the handling and charging out of all juvenile matters. The number of juvenile delinquency cases filed by our division is dependant upon the number of police reports that are received by the OAG. For 2009, the Family Division filed a total 504 cases. This year, the Family Division received about 435 Guam Police Department reports. From those reports, the Family Division filed 466 juvenile cases, which includes 141 drug or alcohol related cases, 276 juvenile delinquency cases, and 49 beyond control cases. The Family Division also filed 38 Petitions for Persons In Need of Services, which are cases that stem from the Child Protective Services Referrals, and deals with minors who have been abused or neglected. The Family Division was able to divert 15 juveniles into our Pre-Adjudicatory Diversionary Program.

The handling of juvenile proceedings/matters are fast paced and fast tracked as the laws provide for a much shorter time frame than what is provided in adult criminal cases, in so far as the charging and disposition of cases. This is due to the sensitive nature of juvenile matters, as well as the need to provide immediate attention and services to juveniles for rehabilitative purposes, prevention and to avoid recidivism. As a result, the Family Division attorneys and staff are challenged with the need to charge expeditiously and on a daily basis to ensure that the juvenile matters are brought before the Family Court judges in a timely manner and as quickly as possible.

In the past year, the Family Division encountered several tragic events that brought shock to our community. The Family Division was faced with handling the issues that were brought forth in addressing the death of a baby girl. Our division also dealt with providing services to the newborn baby that was left abandoned. In addition, the Family Division was faced with other cases that dealt with extreme and severe abuse and neglect of our children. The number one priority of the Family Division is to ensure that our youth are provided with a safe and nurturing environment free from danger and harm. Aside from court cases, the Family Division has taken a very active approach in educating the community by providing countless presentations to schools, government and non-government agencies, and social/civic organizations, and participating in community outreach activities. These are just a few of the many preventive efforts made by the Family Division. The Family Division intends to engage in more prevention measures taken in order to educate the community about the crimes that occur on our island, recognition of the problems we face, and to stress the consequences that can occur as a result of, and most especially in light of, the significant population increase given the anticipated influx of military personnel and civilians in the upcoming years.

The Family Division continues to face many new challenges, and one recurring challenge that the OAG as a whole has faced throughout the years is the shortage of necessary and critical staff. As our island prepares for the influx of military and civilian personnel in the upcoming years, the Family Division continues to make strides in ensuring that we are equipped with the adequate amount of personnel to handle the rise in criminal activities that will occur as a result of the increase in population to our community. There is no question that our community will suffer a greater amount of criminal activity regardless of any type of preventive or mitigating measures. The Family Division hopes to increase its personnel to ensure that the division is adequately staffed in order to continue to provide diligent, quality and efficient services to our community.

Based upon the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Study, prepared in November 2009, the estimated population increase from off-island that would result from the proposed military action would be about 78,178, which is the peak level. The report indicates that the peak year of population change will occur in the year 2014, since the peak in construction activities and expenditures coincides with the arrival of the Marines and their families in this year. However, a population increase is expected to begin in 2010 because of the need to bring in civilian poeple for project-related construction work in preparation of the Marines, and their families arrival is expected to begin during this year. The report states that in 2014, upon completion of the construction activities, the community should see a decline in the population build-up of about 58% below the peak level, which the report estimates that the population increase of 78,178 would drop to about 53,786 (less 30,209 construction hired civilians). (Table ES-1 of the DEIS).

The DEIS does not dispute that the build-up of military and civilian personnel will greatly impact the community in so far as a rise in criminal activity and serious social disorder is concerned. The "Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Study", Section 4.5.1 and Section 16.2.2.4 discuss the possible impact on crime and serious social disorder that will result from the military buildup during both the construction phase and the operations phases. The report indicates that there will be a rise in overall crime, which will include an increase in prostitution, an increase in sexual assaults, an increase in drug use and substance abuse and alcohol related offenses, an increase in crimes against women and children, and an increase in military-civilian fights.

Section 4.4.4 of the DEIS, Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Study, pertained to the "Public Safety Service Impact". This section provided an analysis on the impact that the military build-up and increased population would have to selected Government of Guam safety agencies to include the Guam Police Department, the Guam Fire Department, and the Guam Department of Youth Affairs. The report indicated that in calculating the figures, several key construction component assumptions

were used in the analysis of impacts, as well as the source or rationale for these assumptions. The OAG believes that such assumptions noted in the report and outlined in Tables 4.4-52 and 4.4-53 should be applicable to an analysis of the OAG's need to increase its staffing pattern.

Table 4.4-54 Impact on Public Safety Service Population Summary (Unconstrained) indicates that the current population serviced by the Guam Police Department is 160,797, and that the department will service 100% of the population increase. The OAG is the only Government of Guam legal entity that services our island and the island's various government agencies. It can be assumed that the OAG, in general, will also service 100% of the population increase on the island, which would mean that the percentage increase for the OAG would be at about 49% during the peak year (2014) and then it would drop to about 21% after the construction related-projects have been completed thereafter.



Assistant Attorney General Amber Robinson

More relevant to the Family Division are the proposed figures of the Guam Department of Youth Affairs (GDYA), as both the Family Division and the GDYA service youth, and all of the youth currently in custody at the GDYA are youth that have cases with the OAG or are confined as a result of an open case with the Family Division. Based on Tables 4.4-52 and Table 16.2-43, the ratio of GDYA Social Workers is 1:316. The report notes on Table 4.4-54 and Table 16.2-45 that the current service population of the GDYA is 24,987, and that in the peak year of 2014, GDYA will service an additional 10,547, which would result in about a 42% rise in the service population. The table reports that upon completion of the construction related-projects, the steady population would drop about 6,328, which would be a 25% increase in the service population. Bear in mind that the 2009 statistics provided by the OAG are current cases that were filed in 2009, and that the service population of the Family Division is higher than that number as this number does not include the

prior cases filed in the previous years that remain open and active. This number also does not include the cases wherein the Family Division has intervened with the Courts to take action, such as Beyond Control cases filed by the Probation Office, and Petitions for Persons In Need of Services filed by other private attorneys appointed in court as Guardians Ad Litem in Truancy cases. The figures provided in the Tables for GDYA also do not include the number of cases that the Family Division handles with respect to its Child Protective Services cases, and therefore the service population of the Family Division will be a higher number than what is stated in the reports.

Tables 4.4-57 (unconstrained) and 4.4-68 (constrained) provide a break down by year as to the proposed population increase for the GDYA. Table 4.4-59 provides the required number of staffing increase resulting in the increased population, which indicates that GDYA by 2014 should have an increase in staffing pattern of about 33 personnel, which upon completion of the construction related-projects should drop to about 20 personnel. And finally, Table 4.4-63 shows a breakdown by year of the number of staff increase based on the population increase. Looking at the combined total impact, the chart provides that for year 2010 - 4 additional staff is necessary; year 2011 - 10 additional staff is necessary; year 2012 - 15 additional staff is necessary, year 2013 - 17 additional staff is necessary; year 2014 - 33 additional staff is necessary; year 2017 - 20 additional staff is necessary; year 2018 - 20 additional staff is necessary; year 2018 - 20 additional staff is necessary; year 2018 - 20 additional staff is necessary; year 2020 - 20 additional staff is necessary. (See also Table 16.2-46.)

As a result of the increase in service population and the need for the OAG to require an increase in its staffing, the OAG and each of its divisions would also require additional office space and equipment (e.g., tables, chairs, office equipment, etc.). The current office space at the OAG is already a tight fit with its current staffing, and the need for a bigger office area will become critical to accommodate the additional staffing to avoid further overcrowding and inadequate space, which if left unaddressed would become a safety hazard concern.

Based upon Table 4.4-54 and Table 16.2-45, which provide the current service population of the GDYA and the proposed increase in the service population as a result of the military buildup, it can be assumed that such projected percentages would equally apply to the Family Division. The table indicated that the service population would rise to about 42% during the peak time, and then drop to about 25% during the steady period. Based on those percentages, and the current staffing pattern of the Family Division, the number of additional staff required to ensure that services remain steady is about 3 additional staff, at the peak period, and then 2 additional staff during the steady period.

Additional staff will also be necessary for the Family Division with respect to cases wherein the Family Division provides legal representation to the Child Protective Services Agency in handling matters relating to abuse and neglected children. In this past year and currently, the Family Division has seen a rise in the number of Permanency Hearings brought relating to these matters. Unfortunately, the increase in the number of permanency and need to go into Permanency is not a good sign as to the economic status of some families on Guam. Permanency hearings mean that the reunification of children with their families can no longer occur, and it is designed to make determinations as to the permanent placement of children who have been displaced from their families as a result of the neglect or abuse, and as a result of the families failure to comply with the necessary service plans and treatments that would allow for reunification. This year, the Family Division is already working on about 6 permanency hearings, and expects that as the economy continues to suffer, these cases and hearings will increase.

Because the service population derived from the GDYA used by the Family Division only accounts for the juveniles within the delinquency system, it is not an accurate reflection of the service population of the Family Division. The figures do not account for services provided by the Family Division in cases wherein the Family Division represents the Child Protective Services Agency, in handling cases of abuse and neglected children. With that said, the Family Division can expect that the service population will be a greater number. In cases that address children who have been subjected to abuse and neglect, the Family Division services not only the children, but the family as a whole. It would be proper to assume that the service population may double from that which is provided by the GDYA requiring that an additional staff increase of 3 more would be required.

Based upon the DEIS report, the total number of new staff personnel that the Family Division would require as a result of the military buildup would be 6 - this figure does not include the investigators and victim advocates that have been assigned to Family Division, which would require an additional 2 positions- bringing the total number of required new personnel to 8. From this number, there should be three (3) additional attorneys, one (1) additional legal secretary, o (1) additional legal clerk, and one (1) additional process server. Aside from the current staff designated to the Family Division, the Family Division indicated that it has heavily relied upon the support and assistance of the Investigative Unit, as well as the Victim Witness Ayuda Services Unit (victim advocates) in performing the functions of the division. Because of the increase amount of staff required in the Family Division, it is apparent that the use of Investigators and Victim Advocates will also increase with the increase in caseload. As a result, the Family Division will also require at least one (1) additional investigator position and one (1) additional victim advocate position to be designated to the Family Division.

PROGRAM BUDGET PLAN:

Funding for the Family Division will be used to offset personnel and operational costs in the upcoming fiscal years.

GOALS:

To vigorously represent the government in juvenile special proceedings, juvenile delinquency cases, and other matters before the Family Court of the Superior Court of Guam, as well as vigorously charge out all juvenile matters referred to the Office by the Guam Police Department and Child Protective Services;

To vigorously represent the Child Protective Services in child abuse and neglect cases brought before the Family Court of the Superior Court of Guam;

To adequately staff and fund personnel and provide training to juvenile staff to update their skills and knowledge;

To establish and consistently conduct community outreach activities and participation in educational and social meetings dealing with juvenile issues;

To establish outreach activities and other programs that are designed to prevent and minimize crimes committed by juveniles, as well as crimes that are committed against juveniles (i.e. child abuse and neglect); and

To promote legislation that will significantly impact juvenile activities and other matters relevant to the mandates of the Division.

OBJECTIVES:

Obtain adequate staffing of experienced attorneys and support staff, to include an investigator, school resource officer, victim advocate and administrative support staff, to service the particular mandates of the Division, especially because of the expected increase in criminal activity that will result from the population increase due to the military build-up in the upcoming years;

Develop and implement a case management tool to better track cases, dispositions, and other information and that will generate reports to assist the efficient and effective operations of the Family Division.

Develop and implement consistent outreach events designed to provide the community with information on juvenile issues and the prevention of juvenile offenses.

Prosecution Division

The Attorney General of Guam is the sole Public Prosecutor for Guam with "cognizance over all matters pertaining to public prosecution, including the prosecution of any public officials" <u>See</u> 5 G.C.A. §30104.

Within the Office of the Attorney General is the Prosecution Division which is charged with the primary responsibility of prosecuting all adult felony, misdemeanor and traffic offenses referred by law enforcement authorities as well as those offenses independently investigated by the Prosecution Division. Among the types of cases independently investigated by the division are offenses such as white collar cases, government corruption and public integrity crimes. In addition, the division also handles all criminal appeals. In the course of prosecuting cases, the division maintains close collaboration with local and federal law enforcement officers and attorneys.

The Prosecution Division also provides criminal case disposition reports and clearances, to a myriad of local and federal agencies, employers and others (IRS, ABC board, armed forces recruiters, FBI, NCIS, OSI, etc.)

The Prosecution Division of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is currently staffed with 15 prosecutors, a support staff of 16, a victim's advocate unit with 9 advocates and 12 investigators. These numbers are inadequate to handle the existing number of cases referred by the various Law Enforcement agencies¹ on Guam and will surely be inadequate to handle the anticipated increased caseload during and after the build-up.

In 2009, Guam's population has been conservatively estimated to be 154,805. In 2009, the Prosecution Division received 3,822 case referrals from those Law Enforcement agencies. During the same time period, the Prosecution Division was able to charge out 2,017 cases using its existing resources. A review of the Draft Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Study indicates that by 2014, a mere 5 years in the future, the island's population will have grown by more than 51% to 233,983. A

¹ The Prosecution Division received cases from the Guam Police Department, Guam Customs and Quarantine, the Conservation Officers of the Department of Agriculture, the Park Rangers Division of the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Guam Fire Department, the Guam International Airport Police Department, the Criminal Investigation Division and the Regulatory Compliance Divisions of the Department of Revenue and Taxation, the Department of Correction, the Department of Youth Affairs and the Guam Port Authority Police Department.

look at the figures projected by the DEIS indicates that there will be an initial increase in calendar year 2010 of 11,038. Between December 2009 and the end of 2011 that number will have increased by 40% to 27,835. Another increase will bring that number to 44, 301 by the end of 2012. Finally, before the end of the build-up, there will be an additional 79,178 persons added to the 2009 population bringing the total population in 2014 to 233,983.

Although I realize there is no "straight-line" correlation, it is still reasonable to assume that with each increase in population there will be a corresponding increase in the Prosecution Division's caseload. Therefore, in the first year, with a projected increase in population to 170,843 for a 9.4% increase, there will be a need to add one additional attorney, support staff, advocate and investigator to handle the increase in caseload attributable to the build-up. By the end of the second year (2011) there will be nearly 17,000 additional residents added to the current 154,805. This will require an additional prosecutor, investigator and staff person. By the height of the build-up in 2014, the island will experience a population of 79,148 and, using that projection, the Prosecution Division will be in need of 10 additional prosecutors, 8 additional investigators, 5 additional advocates and an additional 10 support staff.

An additional factor is the anticipated increase in the need for additional judges. The DEIS anticipates that there will one additional judge by 2012 and increasing to 3 additional judges by 2014 needed to service the increase in population attributable to the build-up. Those judges will have calendars which require the presence of prosecutors in each of those courts on a daily basis.

While in the years following the height of the build-up in 2014 the needs might decrease, they will never return to their pre 2010 levels. The DEIS estimates that in 2020 there will still be an increase of 33,608 residents on Guam over 2009 levels. Some of these positions created will be lost through attrition or absorption into locally funded positions. It is unlikely that there will be an excess of staff once the decrease in population directly attributable to the build-up begins.



Lynette Flores

The addition of the extra personnel is not without difficulty. At the present time, the Prosecution Division is housed on the 5th and 1st floors of the building housing the OAG. There is no space in the area allocated on either floor to house additional attorneys or investigators. There are no desks, computers, telephones, available for any additional staff beyond what exists today to support any additional personnel. All of this would have to be obtained to enable the Prosecution Division to function at an acceptable level. The costs to the Government of Guam will be substantial as the current salary range for an attorney is between \$42,000 and \$85,000, excluding benefits, while the costs for support staff, investigators and office equipment will also increase.



Narcissa Castro

Highlights of 2009

Bullying/cyberbullying presentations

Attorney General Limtiaco again empowered hundreds of elementary, middle, high school and post-secondary students – and many adults – with knowledge about traditional bullying and cyberbullying.



Students, faculty and staff from various public and private schools, including the University of Guam, benefited from the numerous presentations that were conducted throughout the year.

The presentations focused on the ill-effects of both forms of bullying and included Public Service Announcements for age-specific audiences. As part of her presentation, Attorney General Limitaco also held interactive question-and-answer sessions with the children, including having them take turns reading a slideshow of safety tips.

Massage Therapist and Establishment Task Force

Created and chaired by Attorney General Limitaco, the Task Force met several times throughout the course of the year, and compiled a comprehensive bank of information in the form of a proposed Bill to the Guam Legislature. The measure was formally introduced as a Bill and is awaiting passage and enactment.

Silent Witness Ceremony and Purple Light Nights Community Awareness Initiative

The Office of the Attorney General in 2009 hosted the annual Silent Witness Ceremony activities, and combined with it the first-for-Guam Purple Light Nights project.

Inspired by the idea while attending a national conference, Attorney General Limitaco decided that Guam should participate in this national – and internationally growing – endeavor.



All told, about 20 of the island's villages participated in the months-long project, which included memorial marches and roadside WAVEs. As part of the initiative, thousands of purple light bulbs were procured and distributed to

Promotions

In June, Phil Tydingco was promoted from the position of Chief Prosecutor to Chief Deputy Attorney General. Dianne Corbett also was promoted from First Assistant to Chief Prosecutor. Participation at Friends of the Crime Lab 1st Regional Forensic Science Symposium



Attorney General Limtiaco and Chief Deputy Attorney General Phil Tydingco conducted separate presentations for a wide audience. The presentation topics included "Social Networking: Risks for Employers" and

Various community outreaches



The Office of the Attorney General actively spearheaded and participated in numerous public education/community outreach campaigns throughout the year, including many that were organized by nonprofit organizations and the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Chamber of Commerce speech

In June, Attorney General Limtiaco spoke before the Guam Chamber of Commerce membership about "Preparing Guam's Legal System for Future Growth on our Island."

General Limitaco's speech focused on the impact the military buildup would have on the island's current legal system infrastructure and, more specifically, the Office of the Attorney General.

General Limitaco concluded that the anticipated population increase would greatly affect the Office, and that the Office would need to be better funded and resourced to continue performing its duties in the years ahead.

University of Guam's "Guam Community and Economic Development Forum"



Attorney General Limitaco was a panelist in the University of Guam's "Guam Community and Economic Development Forum" held at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort, along with officials from other local and federal agencies.

Consumer Protection Series

Attorney General Alicia Limitaco, through a community partnership with the Pacific Daily News, wrote a series of articles that covered a wide array of topics on consumer protection.

The weekly articles revealed many of the different scams that consumers face and offered valuable tips for consumers to protect themselves from being victimized, as well as on what to do and how to go about reporting any

The Legal Forum

Attorney General Alicia Limtiaco, also through the Pacific Daily News, launched a new series of articles titled The Legal Forum.

Unlike the Consumer Protection Series, this weekly segment discussed various topics facing the community from child support to Crime Victims' Rights Week.

In Memoriam



Alan Haeuser

The Office of the Attorney General wishes to commemorate the life of our colleague and friend, Alan Haeuser, who dedicated much of his time to representing the people and especially the children of Guam.