

Suite 401 Pacific News Building
238 Archbishop Flores St.
Hagatna, Guam 96910

Phone: (671) 475-0390
FAX: (671) 472-7951



OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR

Fax

To: Guam Media From: OPA
Agency: Pages 1
CC: Date: May 31, 2006
Fax: Phone: 475-0390
Re: Notice of Public Hearing-Procurement Appeals

Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

●Comments:

Hafa Adai,

The Public Auditor, in accordance with P.L. 28-68, the Guam Procurement Law (5 GCA Ch.5), and the Administrative Adjudication Law (5 GCA Ch.9), will hold a public hearing to receive comment on the proposed **Rules of Procedure for Procurement Appeals** on May 31, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. at the Office of the Public Auditor Procurement Appeals public hearing room located on the 4th Floor of the Pacific News Building, Suite 403B in Hagatna, Guam.

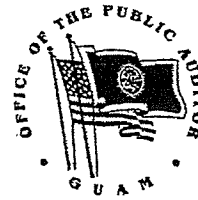
The public is invited to submit written or oral testimony at the hearing or to submit electronic testimony via the OPA website at admin@guamopa.org.

Copies of the proposed Rules of Procedure for Procurement Appeals may be picked up or examined at the Office of the Public Auditor, or may be viewed at www.guamopa.org.

This facsimile transmission and accompanying documents may contain confidential or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient of this fax transmission, please call our office and notify us immediately. Do not distribute or disclose the contents to anyone. Thank you.

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OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR

Fax

To: Rodney J. Jacob, President From: OPA

Agency: Guam Bar Association Pages: 2 (including cover)

CC: Date: May 23, 2006

Fax: (671) 646-9403 Phone: (671) 475-0390

Re: Notice of Public Hearing-Procurement Appeals.

Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

●Comments:

Please see the attached letter for the invitation for public hearing for the proposed Rules of Procedure
For Procurement Appeals.

You may view the proposed rules in their entirety at our website at www.quamopa.org.

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OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR

May 23, 2006

Rodney J. Jacob
President
Guam Bar Association
655 South Marine Corps Drive, Suite 202
Tamuning, Guam 96913

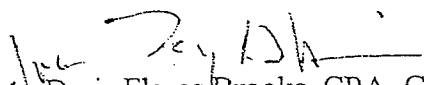
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Senseramente,


Doris Flores Brooks, CPA, CGFM
Public Auditor



OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

May 16, 2006

Guam Bar Association
655 South Marine Corps Drive, Suite 202
Tamuning, Guam 96913

Subject: Hearing on Proposed Rules of Procedures for Procurement Appeals

Hafa Adai,

The Public Auditor, in accordance with P.L. 28-68, the Guam Procurement Law (5 GCA Ch.5), and the Administrative Adjudication Law (5 GCA Ch.9), will hold a public hearing to receive comment on the proposed **Rules of Procedure for Procurement Appeals** on May 31, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. at the Office of the Public Auditor Procurement Appeals public hearing room located on the 4th Floor of the Pacific News Building, Suite 403B in Hagatna, Guam.

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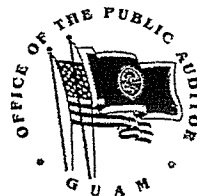
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Public Auditor

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TO
Pacific Daily News
Attn: Faye Vasapolli
238 Archbishop Flores St.
Hagatna, Guam 96932

Sent Via Fax No. 472-4641

SHIP TO
**OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR
GOVERNMENT OF GUAM
SUITE 401, PACIFIC DAILY NEWS BLDG.
238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910**

REQUISITION NO.	TERMS	DATE REQUIRED	SHIP VIA	FOB	DATE
	due on invoice	5/16 & 5/22/2006		n/a	5/11/06
QUANTITY ORDERED	QUANTITY RECEIVED	STOCK NUMBER	PLEASE SUPPLY ITEMS LISTED BELOW	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL

2	print ads	3 col x 5 in	See Attached Quote Dated 5/11/06: PRINT AD FOR PROCUREMENT APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE - RULES OF PROCEDURE 3 columns x 5 inches (5" x 5") \$402.75 per day Print Ads to appear in: May 16 and 22 20 editions	\$402.75	\$805.50 +++++++
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Approved by:
[Signature] 5/11/06
Yukari B. Cabrera
Audit Supervisor

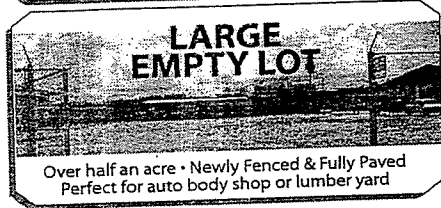
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12:33
5-11-06
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IMPORTANT	PURCHASING AGENT
PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO SHIP COMPLETE ORDER BY DATE SPECIFIED.	Anne Camacho, AO
PLEASE SEND COPIES OF YOUR INVOICE WITH ORIGINAL BILL OF LADING.	RECEIVED BY _____ DATE RECEIVED / /

FOR LEASE



HARMON WAREHOUSE
Over 7,500sf. • Mezzanine
Airconditioned Office Space • 2 Roll-up Doors
Fenced & Paved Parking Lot • Behind Kmart



LARGE EMPTY LOT
Over half an acre • Newly Fenced & Fully Paved
Perfect for auto body shop or lumber yard

COLONIAL INVESTMENT CO., INC.
477-8805 • Fax: 477-8827 or 477-8616 • Fax: (671) 477-7515

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES
(DIPARTAMENTON SALUT PUBLIKO YAN SETIBISION SUSAAT)
Post Office Box 2816, Hagåtña, Guam 96932
123 Chalan Karea, Route 10
Mangilao, Guam 96923

Felix T. Camacho
GOVERNOR

Arthur U. San Agustin, MHR
ACTING DIRECTOR

Kales S. Morlan
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

James H. Underwood
DEPUTY GOVERNOR

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP/DPHSS-018-06

The Department of Public Health and Social Services, Division of Public Welfare, is soliciting proposal for the privatization of the Medically Indigent Program (MIP). RFP specifications may be picked up at Room 219, 2nd floor, Mangilao Public Health Center beginning May 11, 2006, from 8:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. Interested offerors shall submit proposals no later than 5:00 p.m., May 22, 2006 to Room 219, 2nd floor, Mangilao Public Health Center. **Late submission shall not be accepted.**

/s/ ARTHUR U. SAN AGUSTIN, MHR,
Acting Director

Ad paid for by the Department of Public Health and Social Services, Division of Public Welfare, Bureau of Health Care Financing

37 Pacific Daily News, Tuesday, May 16, 2006 guampdh.com

TO
most
report
at.

home with
65,000

1br/1ba
30,000

sitting
2,5,100

unit,
cable

ACs,
\$3,500/m

for
rental

to be
start

for
for

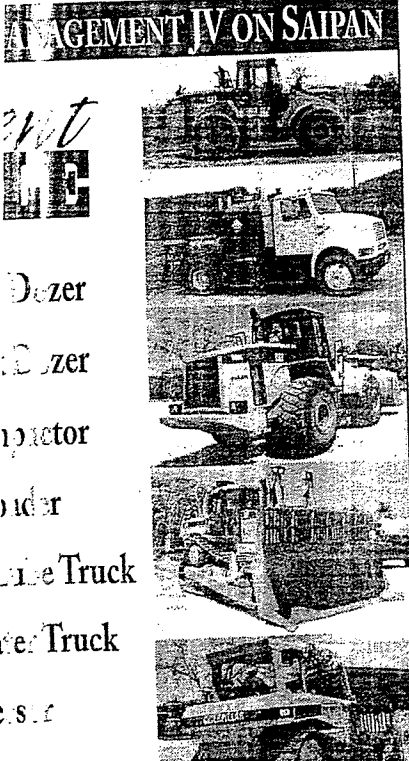
RENTAL/SALE

- Tumon: Teico 3Bd 2Ba condo, oceanview/near rest./beach \$2000/mo
- Machanao: Chalan Koda: 3Bd, 2Ba fenced house on 1/2 acre quiet/nice neighborhood \$160K
- Yigo: Perez Acres townhome 4Bd unit covered patio. \$1650/mo
- Yigo: Nice 3Bd 2Ba fenced hse. Excellent neighborhood community. \$160K
- Dededo: Land 1/4 acre Corner Lot w/tutil nearby \$48K
- Tamuning: 1Bd Oceanview condo. Alupang Cove 6th flr. \$1400/mo
- Machanao: Large 4Bd 2Ba home. Approx. 2100sf. High ceiling/French windows & more \$235K

OCEANVIEW UNITS
SPACIOUS 2 BD 2 BA
SWIMMING POOL
FULL BACK-UP
GENERATOR

ely 3Bd 2Ba fenced house (corner
n kitchen. House is located in a
nity. FOR LEASE \$1500

MANAGEMENT IV ON SAIPAN



Dezer
Dezer
Director
Truck
Truck

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR

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Doris Flores Brooks, CPA, CGFM
Public Auditor

GCC
GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Kulehon Kunitadit Guåhan

**Human Resources Office
JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS
"OPEN COMPETITIVE"**

GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE is accepting employment applications for the following positions:

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION - FULL TIME

- ASSOCIATE DEAN, JA#007-06. Applications will be accepted until **May 22, 2006**.
- MATH, JA#009-06 (9 months faculty). Selective Factor: Experience or requisite knowledge of pre-calculus, calculus, and discrete mathematics. Applications will be accepted until **June 2, 2006**.
- PRACTICAL NURSE JA#005-06 (9 months faculty). Applications will be accepted until **June 2, 2006**.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION - PART TIME

- AUTOMOTIVE, Medium/Heavy Duty Truck Technician. ASE Certified (Automotive Service of Excellence).
- COMPUTER SCIENCE, Adobe Software Certified Specialist, Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS), Microsoft Certified Trainer (MCT), Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE).
- CONSTRUCTION TRADES, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Certification/Re-Certification.
- COSMETOLOGY
- ELECTRONICS, Electrical Equipment Repairman
- LANGUAGES, Foreign Language Instructor for Arabic, Thai, Malay, and Indonesian.
- MATH

Applications will be accepted until **positions are filled**.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION - PART TIME

- ON-CALL-SUBSTITUTE, JA#028-05

Applications are **continuously** accepted.

Employment applications are available at the **GCC HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE**, Room 2112/3, Student Services and Administration Building or at www.guamcc.edu. For more information call (671) 735-5537/8, visit our website www.guamcc.edu or e-mail rls@guamcc.edu or jrojas@guamcc.edu.

Ching Laxamana Realty 633-2810

Chris Laxamana P. Broker **MLS**

BARRIGADA HEIGHTS - Own this executive home in Guam's most prestigious neighborhood. Back up generator, water softener, carport add to this 4br/2ba furnished home. Buy now to occupy or invest. Yours for just \$360,000. Call Chris for showing.

NIMITZ ESTATES, PITI - Investment opportunity! 4br/2ba home with pool, 2 carport, upgraded kitchen, plus rental income \$365,000

MACHANAO - 4plex sitting on 1858sm R2 lot. (2) 3br/2ba and (2) 1br/1ba units fully occupied. Power, water, sewer, income! Potential \$300,000

WUSSTIG - Prepare for future rentals with this 3br/2ba duplex sitting on 1858sm lot. 100% occupied, and minutes to AAFB \$225,000

OKA TOWERS - Enjoy the cityview from this 1br/1ba condo unit. Numerous amenities included, security, pool, mall, water & cable! A\$ \$1100/mo. Call Chris at 727-6677 for showing.

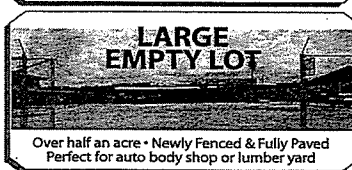
VILLA ROSARIO, DED. - 3br/2ba renovated unit. All new tiles, A/Cs, ref, stove, blinds, energy saving lights, best one available. \$1300/m

MATE - Need space? 12,000sf at 1.00/sf fronting R18. Perfect for mart, laundromat, water shop, etc., surrounded by apartments!

DEDEDO - Facing Rt1, three (3) 800sf commercial spaces to be available. Prime area, w/plenty parking. Foot traffic consistent, start your business \$1250/m

Need more land to build your new home or for future investment rentals? Call 633-2810 for more properties available soon.

FOR LEASE



COLONIAL INVESTMENT CO., INC.
477-8805 • Fax: 477-8827 or 477-8616 • Fax: (671) 477-7515

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES
(DEPARTAMENTON SA LIJUPLETOYAN SERBIEN SA SUSA)
Post Office Box 2816, Hagatna, Guam 96932
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Ad paid for by the Department of Public Health and Social Services, Division of Public Welfare, Bureau of Health Care Financing

TRi EXECUTIVE REALTY
649-8740/6
Ron Ramos Principal Broker

Got Oceanview?
featuring **OHANA**
OCEANVIEW Executive Condominiums
FOR RENT

OCEANVIEW UNITS
SPACIOUS 2 BD/2 BA
SWIMMING POOL
FULL BACKUP GENERATOR

DEDEDO: Villa Rosario Condo: 2Bd 2Ba. \$1000/mo
YIGO: Lovely 3Bd 2Ba fenced house (corner unit). Custom Kitchen. House is located in a nice community. FOR LEASE \$1500

- RENTAL/SALE**
- Tumon: Teico 3Bd 2Ba condo, oceanview/near rest./beach \$200/mo
 - Machanao: Chalan Koda: 3Bd, 2Ba fenced house on 1/2 acre quiet/nice neighborhood \$160K
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 - Machanao: Large 4Bd 2Ba home. Approx. 2100sf. High ceiling/French windows & more \$235K

PDL/SAIPAN WASTE MANAGEMENT JV ON SAIPAN

Equipment FOR SALE

- 2000 CAT D8R Track Dozer
- 1997 CAT D6H Track Dozer
- CAT 816B Trash Compactor
- 1999 CAT 966G Loader
- 1993 Intl. Fleet Service Lube Truck
- 1991 Hino 3000 gal Water Truck
- Field Air Compressor
- 4" Trash Pumps

Call Mike at (670) 322-1272

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EDUCATION:
Applications claiming degrees or credit hours are required to provide a copy of their college transcript.
H. delos Santos, Ed.D.
President

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER


37 Pacific Daily News, Tuesday, May 16, 2006 guampdn.com 906931


YARD SALE May 20-21 7am-12p
173 Calachucha St Barr. Hts
Mt.Bike,Kids Items,Mcrowave,
VHS,Furn.Items, 637-1976

YARD SALE near Mayor's Office
Dededo Blue 2stry Hse
Roofing Acid,2 Man Rubber Boat
Sat, Sun Only 9a-3p 632-3806

YARD SALE!
Sat 5:20 & Sun 5:21 7am-12noon
#1030 Spazal St. Past Harvest
Yard Sale! 6a-10a Sat 5:20 Only!
#233 Ladera Lane, Mangilao
Everything Must Go

MACHINERY 
Auger FOR RENT w/ Operator
#1030 Spazal St. 688-4893
FORK LIFT 2.5 ton /Toyota
& A-C Duct bender, Both Good
Condition 649-5799 / 688-6057

PETS 
1 (M) German Shepherd Puppy
AKC papers 1st shots, De-wormed
\$850 OBO Call 477-1363

PETS 
3 litters Ohio Land of the Giant,
Land of the Giant Gator,Gator
Ind of the Giant \$300ea/734-0401


AKC Large Rotwellers
\$600ea. German Bloodline
9 Weeks old. 472-1016

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES
2 Female, 1st shots,
7 weeks, \$500ea. Call 734-3094

ISLA VETERINRY CLINIC-
Cats,Kittens and Puppies
for adoption. 477-7879

JACK RUSSELL PUPPIES
1st Shots 7 weeks old
\$550ea. 777-4042

Pure pitbull pups.dob.4/20
parents on sight.\$250.aa.2m
2f.637-1896/686-7243.ser.inq

OUTDOOR RECREATION 
Ruger SS Mini14 w/ 20rd clip \$500
H&R S shot 12 Ga. \$100
Call Richard 687-0849

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WAREHOUSE PERSONNEL
* Warehouse Staff & Helpers
* Fleet Mechanic
* Boom Truck Operator
F/T-6 Days License & Experience preferred
* Safety Officer
Responsible for OSHA and Federal compliance
Oversight of job sites and training.
Phone: 646-7662 x119, fax resume to 649-0053
Email: mary@jwsguam.com

Onward Beach Resort
CURRENT JOB OPENINGS:
Accounting Supervisor
Accounting Clerk
Accounts Payable Clerk
Human Resources Clerk
Front Desk Clerk
Waitstaff
Housekeeping Staff
Bell Staff
Jet Ski Instructor
Japanese-speaking preferred Concierge
Japanese-speaking preferred Waterpark Staff
Banquet Coordinator
Apply 9:00 - 11:30 AM only on weekdays
At the HR Office (3rd Floor)

9010431
MINA' BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
Committee on Natural Resources,
Utilities & Micronesian Affairs
Vice Speaker Joanne M.S. Brown
Chairwoman
The Committee on Natural Resources, Utilities & Micronesian Affairs will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 22, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in the Legislative Building's Public Hearing Room in Hagatna, on the following:
Confirmations:
• Jeffrey Johnson, D.D.S., member, Public Utilities Commission
• Thomas Pool, D.V.M., member, Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors
Public Hearing:
• Bill No. 303 (EC) "AN ACT TO PLACE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PAYMENT OF SUPPLEMENTAL ANNUITIES ON THE RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR ENTITY BY AMENDING PUBLIC LAW 28-68, CHAPTER III, §9, PARAGRAPH (E), RELATIVE TO RETIREES' SUPPLEMENTAL ANNUITY BENEFITS AND FOR OTHER COSTS."
Individuals requiring special accommodations should contact
Carl I. Quintana, A.D.A. Coordinator at 472-3450
<http://www.guam.gov>

Local non-profit office needs an experienced **Office Manager/Program Assistant** to support staff, work with volunteers and patients, and coordinate special projects. Must be extremely organized, have excellent communication skills, and able to juggle multiple priorities. Proficiency in Microsoft Office required. Must have access to a dependable insured vehicle, be able to lift 35 lbs., and work some evenings and weekends. Full-time position with benefits. Submit your resume and cover letter to elaine.low@cancer.org. No phone calls PLEASE.

Reporter
(Full-Time)
Responsible for gathering accurate, timely information and writing stories on topics, people, events, and other matters as assigned by editors. Excellent writing, grammar and punctuation skills required. Experience preferred and bachelor's degree in journalism or related field required.

Assistant Sports Editor
(Full-Time)
Assists the Sports Editor in managing the operations of the sports section of the Pacific Daily News. Plans, designs, edits, and produces the sports section on a daily basis. Excellent writing, grammar and punctuation skills required. Must be willing to work weekend and evening shifts. Journalism education and/or sports experience preferred.

Designer
(Part-Time)
Responsible for paginating news' pages for the various newsroom sections, based on rough layouts. Must be able to correct problems with page design and/or redesign pages as needed, efficiently and accurately. Minimum one year's experience in computer graphics; and Quark, Photoshop and Freehand experience required. Must be able to work evening hours, weekends and on deadline.
If interested, please send clips and resume to Rindray Celas Limiaca, Executive Editor or Linda Nery, Human Resources Director
Application forms may be picked up at the
Pacific Daily News
4444 Archibishop Flores Street
Hagatña, GU 96910
from Monday - Friday, 8am - 5pm
or downloaded from www.guampdn.com
Federal law requires that anyone we hire be legally entitled to employment in the U.S. We comply with this law on a non-discriminatory basis. We are an equal opportunity employer and appreciate the value of a diverse workforce.

NOW HIRING
RESTAURANT ASSISTANT MANAGERS & SUPERVISORS
We are looking for exciting and enthusiastic people to help lead our team.
Candidates should have:
• Previous restaurant experience.
• Great Customer Service Skills
• Excellent communication skills.
• Proven leadership skills.
• A winning attitude.
• Self motivation.
If you meet these requirements, we will provide a competitive salary with overtime pay for working over 40 hours, advancement opportunities, monthly bonus paid on-time, paid vacations, profit sharing, medical plan, free meals while working and much more
Apply in person at
Guam Fast Foods, Inc.
Suite 423, Cliff Hotel & Business Center, Agaña Heights.
Monday to Friday 8am-5pm

Guam Fast Foods, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

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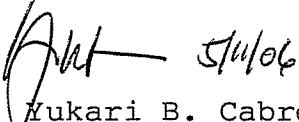
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requirement.
"We admit that we failed to comply with the reporting requirement, but if this is to be effective, there should be equal enforcement. It should also apply to other agencies identified by the office of the Public Auditor as having failed to comply with the financial reporting requirement," said Tydingco, director of the judiciary's planning and community relations, told Variety.
The judiciary was among the

eight agencies that OPA said did not submit first quarter financial reports. But OPA said among the eight agencies, only the Judiciary was subject to the penalty of deappropriation because the seven other agencies are autonomous entities that didn't receive appropriations from the general fund.
Judicial officials—displeased that the Judiciary is being singled out—said the Attorney General's Office and OPA itself are not be-

Continued on page 2

Gutierrez on PL 26-26: 'I told you so'

By Gina Tabonares
Variety News Staff
FORMER Gov. Carl T.C. Gutierrez says the problem between the Guam Education Policy Board and the superintendent of the Guam Public School System could have been avoided if he was allowed to

Last week, Fitial and other

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Public Auditor

OPA backs CUC debt write-off



Mike Sablan

By Haidee V. Eugenio
Variety Assistant Editor

SAIPAN — The Office of the Public Auditor says condoning loan forgiveness "encourages risky and ill-advised loans and discourages responsible behavior," but it is making an exception in the case of the proposed bill that would "forgive" the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s debt to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

OPA said the loan forgiveness should include an additional \$16 million that CDA loaned to CUC for water and sewer improvements, but was inadvertently omitted from House Bill 15-64.

The loan forgiveness, according to OPA, totals \$147 million which would "seriously improve CUC's credit worthiness" to enable it to acquire capital equipment to resolve its problems.

The \$147 million includes the principal amount of \$61,568,750 and the accrued interest of \$85,579,654.

Public Auditor Mike Sablan, in a May 10 letter to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, said while the loan forgiveness would create a much stronger CUC financial statement, there would be no financial impact on CDA because historically, CDA's management has deemed the CUC loans to be at risk.

"Accordingly, in adherence to proper accounting procedures, CDA created a reserve for bad debt, both for principal and accrued interest. In other words, the value of the CUC loans and accrued interest were previously expensed by CDA, and thus, there would be no effect on its current financial statement," Sablan told the governor.

According to OPA, the total amount that CUC owes CDA is

\$147,148,404, including the accrued interest and over \$16 million that CDA loaned to CUC for water and sewer improvements.

The \$16 million loan was inadvertently omitted, based on OPA's analysis of House Bill 15-64.

H.B. 15-64, which is now awaiting Fitial's signature, seeks to allow CDA to write off the principal and interest of loans that it made to CUC in January 2004 for the procurement of capital assets.

CDA board chairman Vincent Calvo earlier told Variety that the proposed write-off of CUC's debt is "not a sound solution," adding that there are other ways to help CUC get back on track.

In his three-page letter to the governor, the public auditor said the "forgiveness of the \$147 million would dramatically alter the net deficiency of CUC, changing a negative balance of over \$30 million to a positive balance of \$116 million."

"More importantly, the unreported surplus would change from a deficit \$181 million to a surplus of over \$4 million," Sablan told Fitial.

In general, OPA said it does not support loan forgiveness but it recognizes that the CDA-CUC situation is "unique."

He said the passage of H.B. 15-64 will have significant beneficial ramifications for all people residing in the CNMI.

"CUC cannot resolve those problems without acquiring capital equipment, and it cannot acquire capital equipment without seriously improving its credit-worthiness," Sablan said.

He added, "Thus, with great reservations and with the caveat that this legislation not be used to support other loan forgiveness legislation in less critical situations, OPA supports the proposed legislation (H.B. 15-64) but suggests, you add to the forgiveness the \$16,068,750 that CDA loaned to CUC for water and sewer improvements."

Sablan said if the CUC loans and accrued interest were ultimately forgiven, then the entire amount owed would first flow through the income statement of CUC and then to the equity (capital) section of CUC's statements

of net deficiency.

This statement, according to the public auditor, would create a one-time revenue increase for CUC which would total \$147,148,404.

CUC signed a memorandum of agreement with CDA last year, which allowed for an equity conversion of the utilities agency's debt.

The agreement provides that the debt will be satisfied by allowing CDA equity ownership in CUC through the issuance of cumulative, nonconvertible preferred stock valued at \$45.5 million.

House Bill 15-64 states that CUC should not have to pay back the loan, since it came from a \$140 million federal grant that did not require repayment.

"Accordingly, the Legislature further finds that it is in the best interest of the CNMI to write off in full CUC's loans from CDA in order to promote the stability of CUC and to secure the continuity of public utility services to the people of the CNMI," the bill states.

5/16/06

Fitial: NMI can't accept foreign financing offers



Benigno R. Fitial

By Gemma Q. Casas
Variety News Staff

SAIPAN — The local government cannot accept the up to \$500 million loan offer from Japanese firm Takuyo Industries K.K. — or from any foreign entity for that matter — because the islands are an American commonwealth.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said the CNMI can only deal with foreign governments and institutions through the federal government.

Moreover, according to Finance Secretary Eloy Inos, the CNMI Constitution does not allow the local government to incur any monetary obligation other than through bond flotation.

Inos said foreign debt cannot be used for local government operations.

"One thing for sure is that we can't use any of that money for operations. Number two, if we have to utilize (that option), then we'll acquire those funds through the standard system that we have,

which is through bond issues," said Inos.

"We just can't enter into direct loan agreements with these folks. We can't do that. The Constitution prohibits us from doing that," he said, adding that the CNMI government's lending institution, the Commonwealth Development Authority, is the only entity that can issue bonds on behalf of the local government.

Inos said if the Japanese firm wants to help the CNMI, it should buy bonds that the local government will float in the future.

According to the governor, they have been receiving other "unsolicited" offers of financial assistance from other Japanese firms and even from the Japanese government.

But Fitial said they cannot accept these offers even if they wanted to because the Northern Marianas is a commonwealth of the U.S. which has to approve any such transactions.

"We received several unsolicited proposals from Japan and everywhere," said Fitial. "Japan's (Official Development Assistance), which is like the U.S. Export Import Bank offered us (loans for) 1 percent (interest but we can't take them)."

Takuyo Industries K.K., a firm engaged in biotechnologically-grown mushrooms worldwide, offered the CNMI from \$300 million to \$500 million in infrastructure financing.

Governor to support Saipan casino if Tinian already has 5

By Moneth G. Deposa
Variety News Staff

SAIPAN — Gov. Benigno R. Fitial says he will welcome a casino on Saipan — but only if Tinian already has five casinos.

He said there are already seven casino investors interested in the CNMI.

"But I will only support a casino on Saipan only when I see five casinos operating on Tinian," Fitial said on Friday.

The governor said the law allows Tinian five casinos.

On Friday morning, Fitial

said an Arizona-based company has expressed an interest in opening a new casino on Tinian, the only CNMI island where casino gaming is legal.

"Their concept is different from other casinos because they want to put up an amusement park for kids," the governor said.

Finance Secretary Eloy Inos said it is the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission's plan to give the remaining licenses to the highest bidders.

Last week, Fitial and other

government officials met with representatives of the Los Angeles-based Crystal Park Casino.

"We are extending assistance for this investment to come to fruition," the governor said.

Crystal Park Casino is owned by Leo Chu whose investment in Los Angeles is worth more than \$500 million.

Charlie Dizon, Chu's representative, said they are also interested in opening a Las Vegas-style poker facility on Saipan.



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Doris Flores Brooks, CPA, CGFM
Public Auditor

Still no accounting of \$20M in garment settlement

By Haidee V. Eugenio
Variety Assistant Editor

SAIPAN — Three years after the U.S. District Court of the NMI approved the \$20 million settlement in the lawsuits against Saipan garment manufacturers, the parties involved have yet to receive a statement or a report detailing how the money was spent.

Over \$350,000 in repatriation funds set aside to compensate hundreds of displaced nonresident workers is now gone, Variety learned.

The Garment Oversight Board, an independent monitoring and compliance entity created by the \$20 million settlement deal, has yet to see or receive from the plaintiffs' attorneys a detailed accounting of the money that should have been given to the workers.

Former Superior Court Judge Timothy P. Bellas, chairman of the three-member board, said on Thursday

that there were about 350 workers who were covered by the \$350,000.

There are still some funds being withheld for both board operations and worker compensation, he said.

Workers received anywhere between \$600 and \$2,000 from the board.

The workers include those previously employed by the defunct Marianas Fashion Inc., Sako Corp. and La Mode (Saipan) Inc.

This money is for the repatriation fund, but it was actually used to compensate garment workers who were displaced less than two years after their arrival on Saipan.

The return fare is being shouldered by garment factories, bonding companies or the government.

"It's been three years (since the agreement was signed) but we have not received any statement on where the money

went... We want to know how much money is not given to the board so we can pay the workers their money," said Bellas, adding that some money has been withheld from the Garment Oversight Board and from the workers' repatriation fund.

Bellas said they want to know how the settlement money was spent, and how much more should go to the workers.

The attorneys for the plaintiffs, according to Bellas, should have an accounting of all the settlement money or a process by which to account for the money.

For the first time in three years, a status conference on the settlement agreement will be held in the U.S. District Court on Wednesday.

Two other members of the Garment Oversight Board — retired Washington State Supreme Court Chief Justice Ri-

chard P. Guy and retired California Supreme Court Justice Cruz Reynoso — will be on Saipan next week for the status conference and for a board meeting.

The board monitors the operations and the living and working conditions of the workers of the 29 remaining garment factories and their subcontractors involved in the settlement deal.

Its creation has helped regain garment retailers' confidence and achieved improvements in the garment factories' workplaces.

The board still gets the names and contact numbers of the workers who have already left Saipan and are eligible to receive money from the settlement deal.

"We are taking their names, addresses and contact numbers, so once money becomes available again, we can send them their money," Bellas

said.

Bellas said the settlement money owed to the workers should be given away before the board's term expires in May 2007 because it takes time for the money to finally reach the workers in their country of origin. Most of the workers eligible for compensation are from China.

The Garment Oversight Board's repatriation fund is separate from the commonwealth alien deportation fund that was created by law to assist in the "investigation, apprehension, detention, deportation, repatriation and compensation" of nonresident workers, including those from the garment industry.

It is not known if the Attorney General's Office or any local government entity has checked whether the alien deportation fund is still intact or is enough to cover those alien workers that have to be repatriated.

9/12/06

Another alien worker pays \$5K for a nonexistent job

By Haidee V. Eugenio
Variety Assistant Editor

SAIPAN — A man paid over \$5,000 in Chinatown on Saipan, but he was not informed prior to his arrival on March 14, 2005 that his employer — Mariana Fashions Inc. — had already closed.

Nan Yunhu has been unemployed since his arrival on Saipan.

The closures of Mariana Fashions and Dong Bang Fashions stranded 220 employees, 106 of whom were repatriated, while 40 transferred to other garment factories.

On July 26, 2005, the Department of Labor issued an administrative order that gave Nan Yunhu and other workers 45 days or until Sept. 9, 2005 to find a transfer employer.

Labor gave Nan Yunhu a conditional grant of transfer to work at Min Woo Corp. as a commercial cleaner on Oct. 25, 2005, but the new employer failed to correct deficiencies in his transfer application.

The application was submitted

on Oct. 25, 2005 or 46 days beyond the transfer deadline, and was missing a job vacancy announcement.

The Department of Labor's Hearing Office affirmed the denial of Nan Yunhu's transfer application.

Labor Hearing Officer Jerry Cody said Nan Yunhu "no longer has a valid work authorization to remain in the CNMI," and ordered him to depart the commonwealth within 20 days from May 11.

In his four-page order dated May 11, Cody said he is sympathetic with Nan Yunhu's situation. "Nevertheless, I believe, as a hearing officer, I am obligated to apply the terms of the transfer order, absent special circumstances to justify equitable relief. It is beyond my discretion to simply set aside the terms of the prior transfer order based on these facts."

Cody ordered Min Woo Corp. to provide a repatriation airline ticket for Nan Yunhu.

Bill to establish guidelines for veterans cemetery

By Gemma Q. Casas
Variety News Staff

SAIPAN — With barely a month left before the federally funded Veterans Cemetery is completed, the commonwealth has yet to establish guidelines for its management and operation.

Rep. Ray N. Yumul, Ind.-Saipan, said his House Bill 15-129 would place the veterans cemetery under the jurisdiction and control of the Office of Military Liaison and Veterans Affairs.

In Aug. 2005, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs gave the CNMI \$1.7 million to construct a cemetery for the men and

women who served the U.S. armed forces.

The cemetery is being constructed in Marpi and is scheduled to be completed next month.

H.B. 15-129 states that any person who is a CNMI resident and eligible for burial in a national veterans cemetery is eligible for burial in the CNMI veterans cemetery, as well as their spouses and dependents but subject to certain conditions.

Those who saw action during the World War II Battle of Saipan will also be eligible for burial at the CNMI veterans cemetery.

The veterans will be buried

free of charge. However, their spouses and dependents will be charged a fee for their interment.

"The fees shall cover as nearly as practicable the actual costs of interment, excluding the value of the plot," the bill stated.

Yumul said plots at the cemetery will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.


"A specific plot may not be reserved before it is needed for burial," his bill stated, adding that the burial of eligible family members can be made "above, below or adjacent to the eligible person" to maximize the land space.

PUBLICATION NOTICE

In accordance with the provision of Guam Code Annotated, Title XI, Chapter III, Section 3315, notice is hereby given that:

Miao, Fang
dba: E Cafe

has applied for a Class: 4 General On Sale Alcoholic Beverage License said premises being marked as Lot: Lot 1 Blk 1, Hagatna



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