

PRESS RELEASE

From the Office of Public
Accountability

Tel: 475-0390
Fax: 472-7951
Hotline: 47-AUDIT
Website: www.opaguam.org
Email: admin@guamopa.com



OPA Auditor Successfully Completes the Executive Leadership Development Program

Office of Public Accountability Auditor Jerrick J.J.G. Hernandez was among 22 participants from throughout the U.S. affiliated insular areas that represented the 2017 graduating class of the Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP). ELDP graduation ceremonies were held on June 9, 2017 at the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. The 2017 ELDP graduating class represents the fifth ELDP cohort. Since the program's inception in 2008, 103 participants from across the Pacific have completed the ELDP.

The ELDP is funded by the U. S. Department of Interior's Office of Insular Affairs and administered by the Graduate School USA's Pacific Islands Training Initiative. The ELDP was designed to assist the insular areas with developing and retaining qualified and skilled staff that will become the future leaders of their respective governments. As part of the program, The ELDP participants met four times over the past year for one week of training on Guam, CNMI, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Honolulu, Hawaii. During each phase of the program, participants heard from guest speakers that included Guam Justice Robert Torres, CNMI Governor Ralph Torres, RMI President Hilda Heine, and Rev. Francis X. Hezel, SJ, among others.



In addition to developing an Individual Development Plan, ELDP participants identified mentors who they met with throughout the year and took part in reading and group assignments between training sessions. A major component of the ELDP were group projects in the areas as health, education, environment, finance and budgeting and leadership, which participants developed throughout the year and presented on the final day.

ELDP participants represent the governments of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau. This year's ELDP graduating class included:

American Samoa - Jewel Tuiasosopo and Sapioamoa Galeai; Chuuk - Crystal Angela Sana-Ekichy; CNMI - Marjorie Anne Daria, Matthew Deleon Guerrero, Tracy Guerrero, and Tracy Norita; FSM - Elina Paul and Lover Haimin; Guam - Ealani Flores, Jerrick Hernandez, and Sophia Diaz; Kosrae - Heidi Sigras; RMI - Anjanette Kattil, Junior Paul, and Shem Livai; Palau - Edolem Ikerdeu, Everdil Rechebei, Stephanie Nakamura, and Sweetey Kalbesang; Pohnpei - Joseph Saimon; and Yap - Jonathan Francis Waayan Chugen.

Office of Public Accountability

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

U.S. DOI Acting Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Mr. Nikolao Pula sent a letter to the Honorable Eddie Baza Calvo, Governor of Guam commending and congratulating the three representatives from Guam. The three join eleven previous ELDP graduates from Guam since the program's inception in 2008. See attached letter.

Additional information on the ELDP can be found online at <http://eldp.pitiviti.org>. The application process for the sixth ELDP cohort is expected to begin February, 2018.





United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

June 16, 2017

The Honorable Eddie Baza Calvo
Governor
Guam
Post Office Box 2950
Agana, Guam 96932

Dear Governor Calvo:

Last week I had the pleasure of joining twenty two participants of the 2017 class of our Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP) for their final group presentations and graduation ceremonies in Honolulu. The Graduate School USA, which coordinates the ELDP with funding support from the Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, received over 100 applications from across the Pacific islands for this year's program. Participants were selected based on rigorous, competitive criteria.

The 2017 program participants offered a strong cohort, with Guam represented by:

- Ealani Flores, *University of Guam*
- Jerrick Hernandez, *Office of Public Accountability - Guam*
- Sophia Diaz, *Judiciary of Guam*

The ELDP is a competitive and challenging program. Participants met four times over the course of the past year in Guam, Saipan, Majuro and Honolulu, and completed activities that included group projects, book reviews, individual leadership development plans, and fostering mentor relationships, to develop their skills in leadership and management.

Governor, I hope you will join me in commending this year's ELDP graduates for their hard work and accomplishments through the course of this program. I also commend each of their supervisors, for having the foresight to invest in the next generation of insular government leaders.

On behalf of the Department of the Interior, I would like to congratulate Guam for the successful efforts of these three individuals. They join eleven previous program graduates from Guam since the ELDP's inception in 2008. It is my sincere hope that the collective contributions of ELDP graduates to public service in Guam will be significant in the years ahead, and that their ELDP experience will provide them with a strong foundation from which to lead.

I look forward to welcoming new participants to the ELDP in May 2018.

Sincerely,



Nikolao Pula
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Insular Areas

CC Mr. Carlos Taitano (*Supervisor to Ealani Flores*)
Ms. Llewelyn Terlaje (*Supervisor to Jerrick Hernandez*)
Mr. Joshua F. Tenorio (*Supervisor to Sophia Diaz*)

Previous Guam ELDP Graduates:

- (2015) Llewelyn Terlaje, *Office of Public Accountability*
- (2015) Natalia Faculo, *Guam Economic Development Authority*
- (2015) Selina Onedera-Salas, *Office of Finance and Budget, 32nd Guam Legislature*
- (2013) Abigail Reyes, *Office of the Governor - Government of Guam*
- (2013) Artemio Hernandez, *Guam Legislature Office of Finance and Budget*
- (2011) Reynaldo Edrosa, *Department of Administration; Division of Accounts*
- (2011) Shawn Scott, *Guam Department of Admisnistration*
- (2011) Vincent Duenas, *Guam Office of Public Accountability*
- (2009) Anita Arile, *Guam Department of Admisnistration*
- (2009) Kenneth Borja, *Guam Department of Admisnistration*
- (2009) Michael Cabral, *Guam Department of Admisnistration*