

*I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN*  
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
547-37 (LS)	Amanda L. Shelton	Relative to recognizing Julie Ann L. Laxamana on receiving the premier graduate Truman Scholarship; and commending her for her dedication and commitment to academic excellence.	10/3/24 2:40 p.m.	TBA						

***I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2024 (SECOND) Regular Session**

**Resolution No. 547-37 (LS)**

Introduced by:

Amanda L. Shelton 

**Relative to recognizing Julie Ann L. Laxamana on receiving the premier graduate Truman Scholarship; and commending her for her dedication and commitment to academic excellence.**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:**

**WHEREAS**, established in 1975, the Harry S. Truman Scholarship is a highly competitive and prestigious program created in honor of the Thirty-Third (33<sup>rd</sup>) President of the United States, Harry S. Truman; and

**WHEREAS**, the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation recognizes aspiring leaders at a crucial inflection point of their development. Juniors in college are awarded for their commitment to public service and are given Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to pursue their graduate studies, participate in leadership development programs, intern and employ with the federal government, and enroll in the country's prestigious universities; and

**WHEREAS**, this year, the Foundation reviewed seven-hundred nine (709) files from two-hundred eighty-five (285) institutions. Between March 1 and April 4, 2024, one-hundred ninety-three (193) students from one-hundred thirty-six (136) institutions

1 interviewed with the Foundation's Regional Review Panel, and only sixty (60) were  
2 chosen as Truman Scholars; and

3       **WHEREAS**, the University of Guam (UOG) has been involved with this  
4 foundation since 1978, and it has produced the finest scholars that our island has to  
5 offer over the years, including: Joaquin V. Leon Guerrero (1978), Maria Nancy V.  
6 Guhit (1979), Marie T. Deloso (1983), John Jerry Ignacio (1985), Leilana V. Lujan  
7 (1986), Demian M. Fitzgerald (1988), Duane M. George (1989), Jesse T. San  
8 Nicholas (1990), Mary Grace Mendoza-Lapid (2000), Donna L. Gomez (2001), Gena  
9 A. Rojas (2002), William B. Cruz-Jones (2004), JakinDee M. Aguon-Perez (2005),  
10 Sahara June Defensor (2006), Elvira Manglona (2007), Jose Salas Cruz, Jr. (2009),  
11 Rebecca Casimbon (2015), Athena McNinch (2017), Kehani Mendiola (2021), and  
12 Christian Gyles Ramos (2023); and

13       **WHEREAS**, Julie Ann L. Laxamana was selected to be the Twenty-First (21<sup>st</sup>)  
14 Truman Scholar from the University of Guam; and

15       **WHEREAS**, Julie was born and raised on Guam, daughter of Julian Laxamana  
16 Jr. and Junellie Mae Laxamana, the sister to Mae Anne Laxamana, and who is currently  
17 majoring in Criminal Justice and Public Administration and minoring in Biology with  
18 a 3.9 GPA; and

19       **WHEREAS**, throughout her college career, Julie had dedicated her time to  
20 serving the University of Guam's community and beyond; and since 2022, she has  
21 served UOG in various capacities, such as: the current Student Regent of UOG's Board  
22 of Regents, the Treasurer of the Public Administration and Legal Studies Society  
23 (PALS) Club. Julie used these positions as a platform to advocate for her community's  
24 needs such as homelessness and recidivism; and

25       **WHEREAS**, as Student Regent along with UOG's Student Government  
26 Association, Julie has facilitated roundtable discussions with stakeholders to

1 efficiently budget for the fiscal year of 2024, and advocated for an increase of  
2 financial and legislative support for student services and financial assistance. She has  
3 expanded the campus by collaborating with partners to construct four new buildings to  
4 house nursing, engineering, marine biology, and overall students as well as  
5 establishing a new criteria and a peer list to enhance institutional benchmarking and  
6 standards to select the 12th President of the University. Julie has also developed the  
7 institutional strategic plan to reflect culturally relevant values, emphasizing the  
8 concept of Tulos Mo'na-propelling forward in unison; and

9       **WHEREAS**, Julie has used the UOG as a vessel to fulfill the needs of the  
10 people of Guam in many different capacities as she has represented the University of  
11 Guam in the Thirty-Fourth (34<sup>th</sup>) Guam Youth Congress as the Legislative Secretary.  
12 She is the current acting chair for the Committee on Public Safety, Homeland Security  
13 and Judiciary. Julie has conducted legislative research, as well as drafted and updated  
14 policies to reflect and include the youth. Her efforts enhanced locally-funded financial  
15 aid programs, lobbied support to increase funding and recognition for the territory's  
16 only public university (UOG), and addressed constituent concerns on behalf of  
17 Guam's youth; and

18       **WHEREAS**, Julie has contributed one hundred-eighty (180) hours for the  
19 Public Policy Internship at the Guam Legislature under the Office of Vice Speaker  
20 Tina Muña Barnes in which she has drafted legislation for a low-cost, high yield law  
21 study pilot program to streamline interest/production of law students in the region.  
22 Julie has also organized and met with retired Superintendent Won Pat to discuss the  
23 Department of Education concerning student school lifestyle effectiveness and its  
24 correlation with schedule times; and

25       **WHEREAS**, Julie has contributed one hundred-eighty (180) hours to online  
26 media campaigning in preparation for the election season of 2022. She compiled data

1 and designed content relevant to the campaign message and initiatives. By engaging  
2 through an active social media presence, she promoted a new generation of voters by  
3 encouraging the youth who align with her beliefs; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Julie collaborated with the Senatorial campaign of 2022 for Kelly  
5 Marsh-Taitano and Dwayne San Nicolas by assisting with their media efforts. She  
6 observed the political trends, legislative updates, and their competitors which allowed  
7 her to increase the social media presence and candidate visibility. Resulting in a  
8 successful election, Kelly Marsh-Taitano was placed sixteen (16) with eleven thousand  
9 six hundred-twenty (11620) votes and Dwayne San Nicolas placed eleven (11) with  
10 twelve thousand seven hundred seventy-seven (12777) votes; and

11 **WHEREAS**, from April to September 2023, Julie, under the Youth Page  
12 Program, took part in another internship at the Guam Legislature under the Office of  
13 Legislative Secretary Amanda L. Shelton. During her internship, she attended hearings  
14 with various departments for the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, drafted speeches and  
15 resolutions for key events, researched policy, and worked with legislative staff in  
16 various projects. Julie engaged with Guam's community through social media, emails,  
17 and phone calls; additionally assisting constituents with various aid programs like  
18 FEMA, RISEUP, and D-SNAP to address concerns after super typhoon Mawar. With  
19 her efforts, they have delivered over one hundred (100) bags of commodities to those  
20 affected the most in Zero Down, and coordinated with the local mayors to expedite the  
21 food relief process for five (5) plus villages; and

22 **WHEREAS**, from June to August 2024, Julie participated in the White House  
23 Internship Program in Washington, DC under the Office of Presidential  
24 Correspondence. She has reviewed incoming physical and digital correspondence sent  
25 to the President of the United States to identify constituents seeking assistance and  
26 connect them to the most appropriate federal agency or support organization. Julie

1 developed an understanding of several federal agencies' scope of work to perform  
2 quality control checks on correspondence rerouted the White House to federal agencies  
3 and amplified the diverse voices of the American people directly to senior staff and  
4 tracked recent trends in requests for assistance; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Julie is a recipient of the 2024 Congressional Gold medal in which  
6 she dedicated at least two years to goal-setting and community involvement. The criteria  
7 to receive this medal requires the participant to log a minimum of four hundred (400)  
8 hours of Voluntary Public Service, two hundred (200) hours of Personal Development,  
9 two hundred (200) hours of Physical Fitness, and a five (5) day, four (4) night  
10 Expedition or Exploration; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Julie has contributed one hundred (100) hours to volunteering at  
12 the United Service Organization (USO). Her efforts supported service members and  
13 families by providing essentials, entertainment, and boosting their morale. She  
14 enhanced community integration by promoting unity and understanding and reducing  
15 the gap between the civilian-military providing a new perspective on servicemen; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Julie has contributed one hundred-fifty (150) hours to volunteering  
17 at the Forensics Lab. She analyzed evidence that helped law enforcement solve crime  
18 and contributed to the safety of society. By streamlining the workload, Julie gained  
19 insight on behaviors and patterns while developing political strategies to reduce crime  
20 prevention; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Julie actively engaged with the community of Guam through her  
22 personal deeds and involvement in UOG's clubs. In September 2023, she participated  
23 in a Coastal Clean Up removing excess trash and debris from Guam's beaches. In 2022,  
24 PALS collected more than twenty (20) items to give back to the homeless and hosted a  
25 baby drive which donated over four hundred (400) dollars worth of new baby items to  
26 shelters in need. In October 2022, Julie attended the Blue Planet Alliance (BPA)

1 conference in Hawaii in which she discussed, alongside other Oceania diplomats, plans  
2 to create and declare a working sustainable action-implementation; now, therefore be  
3 it;

4 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby,  
5 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize Julie Ann L. Laxamana on receiving the  
6 premier graduate Truman Scholarship; and commend her for her dedication and  
7 commitment to academic excellence; and be it further

8 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the  
9 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Julie Ann L.  
10 Laxamana and the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guererro, *I Maga'hagan Guahan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_ 2024.**

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**THERESE M. TERLAJE**  
Speaker

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**AMANDA L. SHELTON**  
Legislative Secretary