

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
377-37 (COR)	Tina Rose Muña Barnes	Relative to recognizing Captain Nicholas R. Simmons of the U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia – Sector Guam; commending him for his exceptional leadership and tireless efforts in advancing maritime safety, security, and environmental protection in Guam and the broader Oceania region.	4/17/24 9:16 a.m.	4/23/24 10:00 a.m.						

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

Resolution No. 377-37 (COR)

Introduced by:

Tina Rose Muña Barnes

Relative to recognizing Captain Nicholas R. Simmons of the U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia – Sector Guam; commending him for his exceptional leadership and tireless efforts in advancing maritime safety, security, and environmental protection in Guam and the broader Oceania region.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I***
2 ***MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, it is the sense of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to recognize and honor
4 those distinguished citizens of the great island of Guam who have devoted
5 themselves to faithfully serving in the best interests of Guam and the needs of its
6 people; and

7 **WHEREAS**, one such faithful and great example is Captain Nicholas R.
8 Simmons, as Commander of U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia/Sector Guam and
9 Captain of the Port for the Guam Zone, has exhibited unparalleled dedicated and
10 leadership, orchestrating a multitude of critical operations and initiatives that have
11 significantly bolstered maritime safety, security, and environmental stewardship
12 across the vast expanses of the Pacific; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Captain Nicholas R. Simmons directed his forces in responding
14 to 1,593 search and rescue operations, saving or assisting 548 lives and nearly \$2
15 million in property, and showcasing exceptional commitment to maritime and aerial

1 medical evacuations, especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
2 Islands; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Captain Nicholas R. Simmons enhanced regional maritime
4 security and collaboration through the active leadership of Guam-based Fast
5 Response Cutters (FRCs), substantially increasing operational capacity and presence
6 in critical areas across the Mariana Islands, Republic of Palau, Federated States of
7 Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Papua New Guinea; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Captain Nicholas R. Simmons spearheaded advancements in
9 regional maritime surveillance, law enforcement, and intelligence-driven fisheries
10 boardings, thereby significantly impacting enforcement operations across the
11 Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and multiple bilateral
12 agreements; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Captain Nicholas R. Simmons coordinated the delivery of over
14 14,000 pounds of crucial supplies and aid throughout the Micronesia Sub-Region,
15 overcoming logistical challenges to support remote communities and strategic
16 partners; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Captain Nicholas R. Simmons established the Sector Boarding
18 Team (SBT) and enhancing Ports, Waterways, and Coastal Security measures
19 against terrorism and other maritime threats through diligent patrols and security
20 exercises and thereby protecting the Port of Guam and regional commerce; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Captain Nicholas R. Simmons led critical pollution response
22 efforts, including the coordination of 112 pollution cases and implementing
23 innovative emergency response strategies to protect the marine environment; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Captain Nicholas R. Simmons facilitated key international
25 engagements and partnerships, notably solidifying regional security through the
26 signing of enhanced maritime bilateral agreements with FSM and Palau, now
27 mirrored by partners in Samoa, and conducting pivotal SAR exercises and

1 workshops to enhance maritime law enforcement and safety cooperation across the
2 Pacific; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Captain Nicholas R. Simmons demonstrated foresight and
4 leadership in readiness and disaster response, notably commanding the
5 comprehensive response to Super Typhoon Mawar, mitigating its impact on Guam
6 and the region through swift and effective recovery efforts; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Captain Nicholas R. Simmons led organizational change and
8 operational excellence through strategic planning, community engagement, and the
9 enhancement of maritime and cyber security capabilities, thereby establishing U.S.
10 Coast Guard Forces Micronesia/Sector Guam as a cornerstone of regional stability
11 and security; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Captain Nicholas R. Simmons demonstrated an outsized effort
13 to understand and respect the people and cultures of Micronesia by making multiple
14 visits per year to each of the three COFA nations, regularly engaging in meaningful
15 dialogue with local leaders, and spearheading an unprecedented public affairs
16 program to ensure transparency and foster ongoing conversation throughout the
17 Pacific and illuminating the work and challenges of the region to the mainland U.S.
18 and the world generating over 20,000 news items; and

19 **WHEREAS**, his change of command from Commander U.S. Coast Guard
20 Forces Micronesia will take place on May 23, 2024; now therefore, be it

21 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Siette Na*
22 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
23 people of Guam, recognize and commend Captain Nicholas R. Simmons of the U.S.
24 Coast Guard Forces Micronesia – Sector Guam; commending him for his
25 exceptional leadership and tireless efforts in advancing maritime safety, security,
26 and environmental protection in Guam and the broader Oceania region; and be it
27 further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
2 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that
3 copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Captain Nicholas R. Simmons and to
4 the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY OF
MONTH.**

THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker

CHRIS BARNETT
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary