

I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
(2009) First Regular Session

~~Executive Committee~~
Resolution No. 30-158 (LS)

Introduced by:

F. F. Blas, Jr.
TELO TAITAGUE
E. B. CALVO

2009 JUL 14 AM 8:31

Relative to recognizing the accomplishments of the late Bertha Acfalle Santiago and to extend sincere condolences to her family on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I**
2 **LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:**

3 **WHEREAS**, Bertha Acfalle Santiago was born on March 3, 1957 to the
4 Former Mayor of Malesso, Jose Manalisay Acfalle and his wife, Jesusa Chargualaf
5 Acfalle. Bertha and her six sisters were all raised in her hometown village of
6 Malesso; and

7 **WHEREAS**, on July 21, 1990, Bertha was married to Jesus Aquiningoc
8 Santiago. Together they have five children, MaryAnn, Junior, Barnaby, Subrina and
9 Susie. Together they have fifteen grandchildren; and

10 **WHEREAS**, prior to the Department of Youth Affairs taking over full
11 responsibility of managing and operating the Judge Jose V. Manibusan Cottage
12 Homes Facility in Talofofu, Bertha Acfalle Santiago was initially employed with
13 Catholic Social Services as a Youth Service Officer from June 26, 1988 until
14 November 25, 1988. Due to her hard work and dedication, Mrs. Santiago quickly rose

1 in rank to Assistant Supervisor on November 26, 1988 and successfully held that
2 position until December 31, 1990, when the overall management and operations of the
3 Cottage Homes Facility eventually transferred from Catholic Social Services to the
4 Department of Youth Affairs; and

5 **WHEREAS**, on January 1, 1991, Bertha Acfalle Santiago was officially
6 employed with the Department of Youth Affairs as a Youth Service Worker I. The
7 department quickly hired her after having realized and acknowledged Bertha's
8 extensive qualifications and expertise in dealing with at-risk youth and in recognition
9 of her diligence, outstanding work and dedication, and leadership skills while still
10 under the auspices of Catholic Social Services; and

11 **WHEREAS**, almost five years into government service Bertha continued to
12 provide qualitative services to primarily the juvenile offenders within the Youth
13 Correctional and Cottage Homes Facilities respectively. Bertha was an inspiration to
14 both the youths she served, as well as to her fellow co-workers, she was well loved
15 and respected by all not only because of her friendly and outgoing personality, but
16 primarily because of her willingness to always sacrifice for the good of the team; and

17 **WHEREAS**, due to her declining health, Bertha was reassigned on December
18 17, 1996 from the Division of Special Services to the Division of Youth Development
19 within the department. Bertha was specifically assigned to the Southern Resource
20 Center which at that time was located at the old teacher's housing in Talofofu. When
21 the Southern Resource Center eventually relocated a couple years later to Pagachao,
22 Agat, Bertha assisted the department with the relocation efforts and continued to work
23 under this same division up until she officially retired from DYA; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Bertha Acfalle Santiago was employed with the Department of
25 Youth Affairs for almost seventeen years of government service as a Youth Service
26 Worker I before she medically retired on November 16, 2007; and

1 **WHEREAS**, over the years, Bertha’s great wealth of knowledge and the
2 extensive specialized skills she has acquired on the job in working with at-risk youth
3 has always been an asset to our department. Bertha assisted the department in
4 teaching the newer generations of Youth Service Workers many important skills in
5 order to be effective in their capacity and to be successful in their overall job
6 responsibilities; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Bertha Acfalle Santiago was truly a pioneer of positive change
8 during her tenure with the Department of Youth Affairs, and will be sorely missed by
9 her “DYA Family”; now, therefore, be it

10 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
11 on behalf of people of Guam, recognize the outstanding contributions, legacy and
12 services of the late Bertha Acfalle Santiago and extends sincere condolences to her
13 husband Jesus Aquiningoc Santiago, to her children, MaryAnn Santiago and Andrew
14 T. Quinata; Junior C. Acfalle; Barnaby J. Acfalle and Tina C. Naputi; Subrina C.
15 Acfalle and Robert S.N. Fonseca; to and Susie M. Acfalle and Kriston A. Elliston; and
16 be it further

17 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature
18 attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to
19 the family of the late Bertha Acfalle Santiago; to the Honorable Madeleine Z.
20 Bordallo, Guam’s Delegate to the United States Congress and to the Honorable Felix
21 P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.