

I MINA' TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
2010 (SECOND) REGULAR SESSION

Resolution No. 310-30 (LS)  
(COR) (LS)

Introduced By:

T.R.Muna Barnes  
F. Blas Jr.  
J. Won Pat, Ed.D.  
R. Respicio  
A. Palacios  
B. J. Cruz

Relative to recognizing and commending the immeasurable contributions Rlene Santos Steffy has made to the preservation of the history, culture and language of Guam.

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA' TRENTA NA

2 LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. Rlene Santos Steffy, a Chamorro-American woman, is one the best known  
4 and highly respected media personalities in Guam, having successfully conducted her own talk show,  
5 Rlene "Live," on News Talk K57 Radio for nine (9) years; and simultaneously wrote a weekly column for  
6 the Pacific Sunday News for three (3) years and The Guam Variety for (3) years, and eventually becoming  
7 Guam Variety's Managing Editor; and

8 WHEREAS, Mrs. Steffy has had a unique influence on the listening and reading audience of  
9 Guam by regularly bringing them news and cultural programming, having provided the Island  
10 Community with both a talk show known for its probing questions, illuminating interviews and unusual  
11 insight and columns recognized for their substantive, factual, and introspective stances; and

12 WHEREAS, Mrs. Steffy has dedicated her professional editorial perspectives on Rlene "Live,"  
13 her weekly columns, and her website www.rlenelive.com to continuing our culture's tradition of the  
14 storyteller and the oral history of ideas, facts, and feelings; welcoming to her show and columns

15 interesting and provocative guests who offered listeners and readers new perspectives about current  
16 events, political issues, women's issues, arts, science, religion and other meaningful topics; and

17           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy's distinct approach to interviewing those who impacted both our  
18 Island, our region, and Oceania is a remarkable combination of empathy and warmth, genuine curiosity  
19 and sharp intelligence; and

20           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy, being a mass communications specialist of 32 years, has incorporated  
21 her unmistakable fusion of professional, practical, and academic style in the areas of advertising,  
22 electronic media, journalism, photo-communications, public relations, cyber journalism, videography,  
23 oral history collection and ethnography, these efforts have resulted in profound literary and visual  
24 contributions to Guam, Micronesia and Oceania; and

25           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy has been involved with many professional and charitable  
26 organizations in Guam and has been a fighter for the furtherance of journalistic integrity and the quest  
27 for the truthful propagation of news, human interest stories, and cultural issues; and

28           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy, as a wife and mother, first and foremost, had decided to withdraw  
29 from broadcast and print journalism to spend more quality time with her family and to focus her efforts  
30 on documenting cultural and historical information for Guam, Micronesia and Oceania, thereby  
31 continuing her exemplary service to her people; and

32           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy is considered the leading oral history practitioner in the region and is  
33 equally proficient in Chamoru and English, a skill of utmost importance in producing and documenting  
34 bilingual projects in mass media forms; and

35           **WHEREAS**, her native and intuitive knowledge of the Chamoru language enables her, as a  
36 traditional scholar, to discuss and analyze sociolinguistic and sociocultural aspects of communication  
37 strategies and their significance in the oral modality, between and among Chamoru language speakers;  
38 and

39           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy's ingenuity has proffered support for her endeavors to document the  
40 oral history of Guam via federal and local grants, as well as private donations, has collected personal  
41 accounts from WWII survivors of the Mangenggon March and Concentration Camp at Ylig, Guam and  
42 other WW II survivors who witnessed the beheadings of innocent Chamorro people by Japanese soldiers  
43 during the Japanese Occupation of Guam; and

44           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy has also collected the oral history accounts of WWII survivors of the  
45 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Pohnpei, and Chamorro WWII survivors at  
46 Papua New Guinea and WWII Chamorro survivors who were at Yap during the war and relocated to  
47 Tinian after the war by the United States Navy, and those WWII survivors who moved to the United  
48 States after the war; and

49           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy collected the oral history accounts of leprosy survivors in Guam,  
50 Micronesia, New Zealand, and Oceania; and

51           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy and her husband Robert J. Steffy, CPA, have personally invested in the  
52 collection of over four hundred (400) oral history accounts of Oceanic peoples on audio and video  
53 recordings and in their native languages of Palauan, Ponapean, Yapese, English, Japanese, Fijian,  
54 Samoan, and Chamorro and continues to collect oral history accounts of the people of Guam,  
55 Micronesia, and Oceania on a regular basis; and

56           **WHEREAS**, the numerous literary publications of Mrs. Steffy have left a profound mark in the  
57 publication world of the Pacific, with several contributions to GU Magazine, Guam Variety, Marianas  
58 Variety, Pacific Sunday News; and

59           **WHEREAS**, most notably, Mrs. Steffy and her husband Robert J. Steffy, CPA published a  
60 Chamorro language preservation project, the *2005 Santa Biblia, Palabran Jesucristo Sija Gui Tinige*  
61 *Agaga, Chamorro, Red-Letter Edition*, and released it on November 11, 2005 at the University of Guam's  
62 Lecture Hall, and when one year later Mrs. Steffy and Robert J. Steffy, as publishers, released the Y

63 *Santa Biblia – The Holy Bible 2006 Chamorro-English Diglot Bible, Red-Letter Edition* in order to show  
64 that the Taitano Family, of which Mrs. Steffy is a descendent of the Budoki Clan, had a significant and  
65 historical part in the translation work of the English King James Bible into the Chamorro language in  
66 1908; and

67 **WHEREAS**, the indelible works of Mrs. Rlene Santos Steffy have culminated in her  
68 presentations to our island communities of historic video documentaries: *Historic Context: Oral History*  
69 *Overview of Guam and Micronesia (2006)*, *Hagåtña Historic District (2006)*, *Historic Context: Umatac*  
70 *Historic Sites (2007)*, and *Historic Context: Merizo Historic Sites (2010)*; and

71 **WHEREAS**, the emotionally evocative PowerPoint Presentations and placard display of  
72 *Manenggon March and Concentration Camp Survivor Accounts* that Mrs. Steffy presented in Japan  
73 (2005), U.C. Berkeley, California (2005), and Guam (2006) presented visual accounts of survivors; and

74 **WHEREAS**, on August 10, 2007, Mrs. Steffy joined the Micronesian Area Research Center as a  
75 research associate, ethnographer and oral historian; and

76 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Rlene Santos Steffy has proven her capabilities as a Magnanimous  
77 Researcher Savant; now, therefore, be it

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79           **RESOLVED**, that the Committee of Rules of *I Mina' Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, does hereby  
80 acknowledge that Mrs. Rlene Santos Steffy is an important asset to our island community, with her  
81 immeasurable contributions to our historical collections; and be it further

82           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the  
83 Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter  
84 transmitted to Mrs. Rlene Santos Steffy; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS 19<sup>st</sup> DAY OF  
MARCH, 2010.**

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JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.  
Speaker

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TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES  
Legislative Secretary