

I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2010 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 414-30(45)

Introduced by:

J.T. Won Pat, Eq.D.
F. F. Blas, Jr.
T.R. Muña-Barrios

2010 JUN 28
1:09

RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING AND COMENDING LT. COMMANDER MATTHEW SALAS AND THE CREW OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD CUTTER SEQUOIA FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN PREVENTING THE ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING OF ONE METRIC TON OF COCAINE

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN
2 GUÅHAN:

3 WHEREAS, for over two centuries the United States Coast Guard has
4 safeguarded our Nation's maritime interests in the heartland, in the ports, at
5 sea, and around the globe; and

6 WHEREAS, today's U.S. Coast Guard, with nearly 42,000 men and
7 women on active duty, is a unique force that carries out an array of civil and
8 military responsibilities touching almost every facet of the U.S. maritime
9 environment; and

10 WHEREAS, in December 2009, the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Sequoia,
11 home ported in Apra Harbor, Guam, interdicted Hong Kong's King Yue 1, a

1 vessel on the high seas with no identifiable markings, suspected of
2 transporting cocaine from South America to China; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Sequoia tracked the vessel for seventeen (17) days
4 through the Philippine Sea from Micronesia to the South China Sea near Hong
5 Kong; and

6 **WHEREAS**, as the Sequoia tracked the vessel, authorities from the Drug
7 Enforcement Agency, the Department of State, the Department of Justice, the
8 Coast Guard and the U.S. Embassy in Beijing coordinated with the People's
9 Republic of China to board the vessel and seize any contraband; and

10 **WHEREAS**, prior to being boarded by two Chinese Coast Guard
11 vessels, the crew of the King Yue 1 casted approximately 2,000 pounds of
12 cocaine overboard. The crew of the King Yue 1 were arrested and brought to
13 Hong Kong; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Sequoia crew's work prevented the landing of one
15 metric ton of cocaine ashore; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the Drug Enforcement Administration presented to the
17 crew of the Sequoia a certificate appreciation for their outstanding
18 contributions in the field of drug law enforcement;

19 **WHEREAS**, the crew of the Sequoia, a 225-foot buoy tender with a crew
20 of 50, routinely carries out the Coast Guard's missions of law enforcement,
21 maritime safety, maritime mobility, environmental protection and national
22 defense, with an area of operation that spans the Commonwealth of Northern

1 Mariana Islands, Guam, Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands; now, therefore,
2 be it

3 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guahan*, on behalf of the
4 people of Guam, commend and recognize Lt. Commander Matthew Salas, the
5 commanding officer of the Sequoia and the crew of the United States Coast
6 Guard Cutter Sequoia for their actions in preventing the illegal trafficking of
7 one metric ton of cocaine; and

8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairman of
9 the Committee on Rules certify, and the *Secretary of I Liheslaturan* attest to, the
10 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the
11 Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Cutter Sequoia - Lt. Commander
12 Matthew Salas; to the crew of the United States Coast Guard Cutter Sequoia;
13 to Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr, the Commandant of the United States Coast
14 Guard; to the Honorable Madeline Z. Bordallo, Guam's Delegate to the
15 United States Congress; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahren*
16 *Guahan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE _____ DAY OF _____ 2010.

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Speaker

Tina Rose Muña-Barnes
Senator and
Secretary of the Legislature