

*I MINA 'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*  
2011 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 283-31 (COR)

Introduced by:

R.J. RESPICIO *Romy J. Respicio*

*2011 FEB - 7 PM 12:09  
JRM*

Relative to the restoration and rededication of the  
"Justice Josephine Gofigan Taitague Memorial Park"  
in Umatac, in commemoration and remembrance of  
Guam's littlest hero, Justice Taitague, whose  
memorable battle with cancer inspired many to join  
in this worthwhile cause.

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

3 WHEREAS, Justice Josephine Gofigan Taitague was diagnosed in  
4 August 2002 with T-cell lymphoma, a cancer of the white blood cells, her  
5 illness and bravery touching the hearts of the community of Guam as the  
6 island's first ever "Bone Marrow Drive" was conducted, a transplant of  
7 bone marrow being the treatment necessary to save her life; and

8 WHEREAS, the community's concern for young Justice prompted  
9 thousands of people of Guam to be voluntarily tested to see if they were a  
10 bone marrow match for Justice, and many also donated to what would  
11 become the "Justice Foundation," raising money to care for other similarly  
12 afflicted children; and

1           **WHEREAS**, despite the best efforts of her doctors and the  
2 community, little Justice succumbed to her illness before a matching donor  
3 could be found, and passed away on February 9, 2003 at just five years old;  
4 and

5           **WHEREAS**, Justice’s short life deeply touched so many that even  
6 after her passing, work continued in her name, including establishment of  
7 the “Guam’s National Bone Marrow Registry” and passage of Public Law  
8 27-134 on December 30, 2004, which officially named the children’s  
9 playground behind the Umatac Mayor’s Office the “Justice Josephine  
10 Gofigan Taitague Memorial Park,” to keep her memory alive; and

11           **WHEREAS**, in the years since 2004, sun damage, severe storms, and  
12 other natural occurrences had damaged the original playground  
13 equipment to the extent that it became unusable; and

14           **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam are once again joining together to  
15 remember Justice and honor her through the repair and rededication of the  
16 “Justice Josephine Gofigan Taitague Memorial Park”; and

17           **WHEREAS**, local telecommunications company IT&E has been a  
18 major sponsor in the providing of playground equipment for Guam’s  
19 children throughout the island, and has also adopted the “Justice Josephine  
20 Gofigan Taitague Memorial Park” in Umatac; and

21           **WHEREAS**, the “Justice Josephine Gofigan Taitague Memorial Park”  
22 has been restored to its former glory and is ready for children to once again

1 create positive memories of childhood as they play in the park named for  
2 the brave little girl who will be able to join them only in spirit; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the people, and especially the children of Guam, come  
4 together on this day to celebrate the re-opening of the newly restored  
5 “Justice Josephine Gofigan Taitague Memorial Park”; now, therefore, be it

6 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina’ Trentai Unu Na*  
7 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the  
8 people of Guam, join in thanking major sponsor IT&E; Dr. Thomas Shieh  
9 and Mrs. Erlinda Monte Calvo, Co-Chairs of the Justice Park Restoration  
10 Committee; parents Anthony and Lynn Taitague; the community of  
11 Umatac; and the many people who have contributed to the Justice  
12 Foundation; and be it further

13 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee  
14 on Rules certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption  
15 hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to IT&E, Dr.  
16 Thomas Shieh, Erlinda Monte Calvo, Anthony and Lynn Taitague, and to  
17 the Honorable Edward Baza Calvo, *I Maga’Låhen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON  
RULES OF I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
ON THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF DECEMBER 2011.**

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**JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.**  
Speaker

**RORY J. RESPICIO**  
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**  
Legislative Secretary