

**I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN  
RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
378-35 (COR)	Tina Rose Muña Barnes	Relative to recognizing the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence (GCASAFV) and Erica's House on their work honoring victims of family violence through the Silent Witness Project.	9/21/20 11:21 a.m.	10/1/20 10:00 a.m.						

***I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2020 (SECOND) Regular Session**

**Resolution No. 378-35 (COR)**

Introduced by:

Tina Rose Muña Barnes

**Relative to recognizing the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence (GCASAFV) and Erica's House on their work honoring victims of family violence through the Silent Witness Project.**

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

3           **WHEREAS**, one (1) in four (4) women and one (1) in nine (9) men  
4 experience domestic violence each year in the United States, and many of these  
5 cases are often known by members of the victim's friends, family, and community;  
6 and

7           **WHEREAS**, these silent witnesses to domestic violence are often  
8 discouraged from intervening in an emergency situation, whether it is a case of  
9 domestic assault or some other form of crime; and

10           **WHEREAS**, the greater the number of known witnesses there are in a case  
11 of domestic assault the less likely it is for them to provide assistance to a victim in  
12 distress according to the bystander effect; and

13           **WHEREAS**, twenty-three (23) years ago on the eve of former Governor  
14 Carl Gutierrez's Proclamation of October as Family Violence Awareness Month

1 seven-year-old Erica Mesericordia Crisostomo Aquino and her mother Therese  
2 Crisostomo tragically lost their lives to family violence; and

3 **WHEREAS**, in an effort to end the violence, and encourage witnesses  
4 intervention Guam's leaders, community advocates, and the youth have taken the  
5 opportunity to come together and give the victims of this ongoing crisis a voice;  
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, in coordination with the Crisostomo Family and the Judiciary  
8 of Guam Erica's House opened on November 15, 2000, providing a safe and fair  
9 venue for family visitation services and creating a positive change in the lives  
10 those affected by violence; and

11 **WHEREAS**, domestic violence especially family violence has been on the  
12 rise in our island community. In March 2020, the number of calls to Guam's  
13 resource centers had increased drastically; and according to the Guam Behavioral  
14 Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC) the 24-hour crisis hotline at GBHWC was  
15 receiving around twenty-five (25) to thirty (30) calls per day, compared to the  
16 twenty-five (25) calls it usually receives per month; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the spike in domestic violence is an alarming trend in our  
18 community, and as our island commemorates the 20 years of the invaluable service  
19 of Erica's House the 23rd anniversary of the passing of Ms. Crisostomo and Erica  
20 Aquino, the need for witness intervention is necessary in order address this issue;  
21 and therefore be it

22 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules *of I Mina'trentai Singko Na*  
23 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize the  
24 Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence (GCASAFV) on their  
25 work honoring victims of family violence through the Silent Witness Project; and  
26 be it further

1           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chair of the Committee on Rules  
2 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies  
3 of the same be thereafter transmitted to The Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
4 & Family Violence (GCASAFV); Erica’s House; and to the Honorable Lourdes A.  
5 Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF  
I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE     DAY  
OF MONTH 2020.**

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**TINA ROSE MUÑA-BARNES**  
Speaker

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**RÉGINE BISCOE LEE**  
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

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**AMANDA L. SHELTON**  
Legislative Secretary