

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
**BILL STATUS**

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	FISCAL NOTES	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
307-37 (COR)	Telo T. Taitague Chris Barnett	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 9.7 TO DIVISION 1 TITLE 7 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO THE PARALEGAL PROFESSION.	5/20/24 4:33 p.m.						

***I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2024 (SECOND) Regular Session**

**Bill No. 307-37 (COR)**

**Introduced by:**

Telo T. Taitague  
Chris Barnett



**AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 9.7 TO DIVISION 1  
TITLE 7 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED  
RELATIVE TO THE PARALEGAL PROFESSION.**

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that a  
3 paralegal is a legal professional that works under the supervision of a licensed  
4 attorney or a governmental practice attorney and performs tasks such as legal  
5 research, drafting legal documents, and assisting with client/constituent  
6 communication. Paralegals typically have a certificate or degree in paralegal  
7 studies and may specialize in a particular area of law, such as corporate law,  
8 intellectual property law, or family law. Paralegals generally cannot provide legal  
9 advice or represent clients in court. They do, however, play an important role in  
10 the legal profession by providing support to attorneys and helping to ensure that  
11 legal matters are handled efficiently and effectively. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds  
12 that, in contemplation of a nationwide shortage of attorneys, the supreme courts in  
13 several state are adopting training and licensing programs that allow qualified  
14 paralegals to perform duties that are traditionally reserved for practicing attorneys  
15 or law clerks. These certified, registered, or advance practice paralegals allow  
16 attorneys to handle larger case loads and avoid delays in court proceedings.

1 It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to allow the Supreme Court of Guam the  
2 authority to license and regulate the paralegal profession and determine the  
3 qualifications for advanced paralegal practice.

4 **Section 2.** A new Chapter 9.7 is *added* Division 1, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated  
5 to read as follows:

6 **Chapter 9.7**

7 **Paralegals**

8 **§ 9701. Paralegals.**

9 A paralegal is a legal professional who works under the supervision of a lawyer  
10 and performs tasks such as legal research, drafting legal documents, and assisting  
11 with client communication. Paralegals typically have a certificate or degree in  
12 paralegal studies and may specialize in a particular area of law, such as corporate  
13 law, intellectual property law, or family law. While paralegals cannot provide legal  
14 advice or represent clients in court, they play an important role in the legal  
15 profession by providing support to lawyers and helping to ensure that legal matters  
16 are handled efficiently and effectively.

17 **§ 9702. Paralegals: Qualifications and Licensing**

18 The Supreme Court of Guam may adopt paralegal rules for the qualifications,  
19 licensing requirements and scope of practice. In the absence of such rules, the  
20 following restrictions apply:

- 21 (a) The use of any professional designations such as Certified Paralegal (CP)  
22 or Registered Paralegal shall not be used by any person who has not met the  
23 requirements to attain and maintain such designations,

1           (b) Advanced Practice Paralegals shall be licensed only upon approval by the  
2           Supreme Court of Guam pursuant to §§ 9703, 9704 and 9705 of this  
3           Chapter.

4           **§ 9703. Advanced Practice Paralegals**

5           Advance Practice Paralegals are licensed paralegals who are permitted to practice,  
6           by authorization of the Supreme Court of Guam, beyond the scope of what is  
7           commonly and traditionally expected of the paralegal profession.

8           **§ 9704. Advanced Practice Paralegals: Qualifications and Licensing**

9           The Supreme Court of Guam shall determine the qualification and licensing  
10          requirements for Advanced Practice Paralegals.

11          **§ 9705. Advanced Practice Paralegals: Scope of Practice**

12          The Supreme Court of Guam shall determine the scope and limitations of practice  
13          for Advanced Practice Paralegals.

14          **§ 9706. Adoption and Maintenance of Rules**

15          The Supreme Court of Guam shall create and publish rules for the this Chapter  
16          consistent with its Organic authority under 48 U.S.C.: §1424-1(a)(6).”