

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

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

Introduced by:

T. R. Muña Barnes  
F. F. Blas, Jr.  
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.  
R. J. Respicio  
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.  
B. J.F. Cruz  
T. C. Ada  
F. B. Aguon, Jr.  
E. J.B. Calvo  
J. V. Espaldon  
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA  
v. c. pangelinan  
Telo Taitague  
Ray Tenorio

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

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

3           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Rlene Santos Steffy, a *Chamorro*-American woman, is a  
4 well-known and highly-respected media personality on Guam, having  
5 successfully conducted her own radio talk show, Rlene“Live,” on News Talk  
6 K57 Radio for nine (9) years; simultaneously writing weekly column for the  
7 Pacific Sunday News for three (3) years and for the Guam Variety for (3)  
8 years; and the eventually becoming Guam Variety’s Managing Editor; and

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

15           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy has dedicated her professional editorial  
16 perspectives on Rlene“Live,” her weekly columns, and her website  
17 [www.rlenelive.com](http://www.rlenelive.com) to continuing our culture’s tradition of the storyteller and  
18 the oral history of ideas, facts, and feelings; and welcoming to her show and  
19 columns interesting and provocative guests who offered listeners and readers  
20 new perspectives about current events, political issues, women’s issues, arts,  
21 science, religion and other meaningful topics; and

22           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy’s distinct approach to interviewing those who  
23 have impacted our Island, our region, and Oceania is a remarkable

1 combination of empathy and warmth, genuine curiosity and sharp  
2 intelligence; and

3           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy, being a mass communications specialist of  
4 thirty-two (32) years, has incorporated her unmistakable fusion of  
5 professional, practical, and academic style in the areas of advertising,  
6 electronic media, journalism, photo-communications, public relations, cyber  
7 journalism, videography, oral history collection and ethnography, and these  
8 efforts have resulted in profound literary and visual contributions to Guam,  
9 Micronesia and Oceania; and

10           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy has been involved with many professional  
11 and charitable organizations on Guam, and has been a fighter for the  
12 furtherance of journalistic integrity and the quest for the truthful propagation  
13 of news, human interest stories, and cultural issues; and

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

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

1           **WHEREAS**, her native and intuitive knowledge of the *Chamoru*  
2 language enables her, as a traditional scholar, to discuss and analyze  
3 sociolinguistic and socio-cultural aspects of communication strategies and  
4 their significance in the oral modality, between and among *Chamoru* language  
5 speakers; and

6           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy's ingenuity has proffered support for her  
7 endeavors to document the oral history of Guam via federal and local grants,  
8 as well as private donations, and she has collected personal accounts from  
9 World War II survivors of the *Mangenggon* March and Concentration Camp at  
10 *Ylig*, Guam, and other WW II survivors who witnessed the beheadings of  
11 innocent *Chamorro* people by Japanese soldiers during the Japanese  
12 Occupation of Guam; and

13           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy has also collected the oral history accounts of  
14 World War II survivors of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana  
15 Islands, Palau, and Pohnpei; *Chamorro* World War II survivors at Papua New  
16 Guinea; World War II *Chamorro* survivors who were at Yap during the war  
17 and relocated to Tinian after the war by the United States Navy; and those  
18 World War II survivors who moved to the United States after the war; and

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

21           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Steffy and her husband, Robert J. Steffy, CPA, have  
22 personally invested in the collection of over four hundred (400) oral history

1 accounts of Oceanic peoples on audio and video recordings and in their native  
2 languages of Palauan, Ponapean, Yapese, English, Japanese, Fijian, Samoan,  
3 and *Chamorro*, and continue to collect oral history accounts of the people of  
4 Guam, Micronesia, and Oceania on a regular basis; and

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

9         **WHEREAS**, most notably, Mrs. Steffy and her husband, Robert J.  
10 Steffy, CPA, have published a *Chamorro* language preservation project, the  
11 *2005 Santa Biblia, Palabran Jesucristo Sija Gui Tinige Agaga, Chamorro, Red-Letter*  
12 *Edition*, and released it on November 11, 2005, at the University of Guam's  
13 Lecture Hall; and one (1) year later, Mrs. Steffy and Robert J. Steffy, as  
14 publishers, released *Y Santa Biblia – The Holy Bible 2006 Chamorro-English*  
15 *Diglot Bible, Red-Letter Edition*, in order to show that the Taitano family, of  
16 which Mrs. Steffy is a descendent of the *Budoki* clan, had a significant and  
17 historical part in the translation work of the English King James Bible into the  
18 *Chamorro* language in 1908; and

19         **WHEREAS**, the indelible works of Mrs. Rlene Santos Steffy have  
20 culminated in her presentations to our island communities of historic video  
21 documentaries: *Historic Context: Oral History Overview of Guam and Micronesia*

1 (2006); *Hagåtña Historic District* (2006); *Historic Context: Umatac Historic Sites*  
2 (2007); and *Historic Context: Merizo Historic Sites* (2010); and

3           **WHEREAS**, the emotionally evocative PowerPoint Presentations and  
4 placard display of the *Manenggon March and Concentration Camp Survivor*  
5 *Accounts* that Mrs. Steffy presented in Japan (2005), U.C. Berkeley, California  
6 (2005), and Guam (2006) presented visual accounts of survivors; and

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

10           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Rlene Santos Steffy has proven her capabilities as a  
11 magnanimous researcher; now, therefore, be it

12           **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina' Trenta Na Lihelslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,  
13 on behalf of the people of Guam, acknowledge Mrs. Rlene Santos Steffy as an  
14 important asset to our island community; and does further recognize and  
15 commend her for the immeasurable contributions to our historical collections;  
16 and be it further

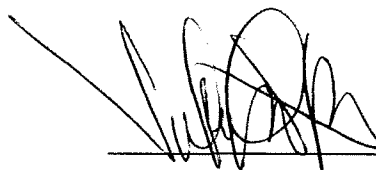
17           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary  
18 attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter  
19 transmitted to Mrs. Rlene Santos Steffy; and to the Honorable Felix P.  
20 Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINATRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN* ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2010.



---

JUDITH T. WONPAT, Ed.D.  
Speaker



---

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES  
Legislative Secretary