

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

**Resolution No. 451-30 (COR)**

Introduced by:

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

**Relative to recognizing and commending the members of the “Family Violence Awareness Month” Task Force, and Guam’s practitioners and advocates, for their efforts in helping to raise awareness, and for their support of the victims of family violence, on the observance of the month of October 2010 as “Family Violence Awareness Month”; and to further extending our sincere gratitude to these individuals and organizations for the significant**

contributions they have made, and continue to make, to reduce the crime of family violence.

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

3        **WHEREAS**, family violence is physical, sexual, emotional or verbal  
4 violence directed against a person who is the abuser's intimate partner or  
5 relative, and affects people regardless of age, sexual orientation, physical  
6 ability, marital status, ethnicity, culture, education, religion, or economic  
7 status; and

8        **WHEREAS**, children in homes where abuse among adults occurs, are  
9 often neglected at a rate higher than the national average in the general  
10 public; and studies show that children from violent homes have a higher risk  
11 of alcohol or drug abuse and juvenile delinquency; they are six (6) times more  
12 likely to commit suicide; they are twenty-four (24) times more likely to  
13 commit sexual assault crimes; and they are fifty (50) times more likely to  
14 abuse drugs or alcohol; and

15        **WHEREAS**, children from abusive homes carry the terrible experiences  
16 of violence with them into adulthood, and into the next generation; and

17        **WHEREAS**, Guam Police Department statistics show family violence-  
18 related offenses included two hundred four (204) cases of misdemeanor and  
19 felony family violence combined; five (5) cases of misdemeanor sexual assault;

1 fifty-two (52) cases of felony sexual assault with arrest of abuse and neglect  
2 offenses against family and children; and two (2) deaths as a result of family  
3 violence; and

4         **WHEREAS**, the Courts and Ministerial Division of the Superior Court of  
5 Guam reported four hundred seven (407) combined cases of felony and  
6 misdemeanor family violence; eighty-seven (87) combined cases of felony and  
7 misdemeanor criminal sexual conduct; and ninety-three (93) protection orders  
8 filings; and Probation Services Division reported six hundred ninety-nine  
9 (699) new family violence, sexual assault and child abuse cases, with nine  
10 hundred ninety-seven (997) defendants under supervision by the end of 2009;  
11 and

12         **WHEREAS**, Alee Shelter, Erica's House, the Public Defender Service  
13 Corporation and the Attorney General's Office have provided one thousand  
14 seven hundred thirty-five (1,735) victims with direct services, and have  
15 facilitated one hundred sixty-five (165) referrals to service providers; and

16         **WHEREAS**, family violence is often ignored and tolerated by our  
17 society, and many victims feel isolated, ashamed, and even responsible for the  
18 abuse, often blaming themselves; and

19         **WHEREAS**, many men and women are reluctant to admit to the  
20 incidence of family violence and are reluctant to seek help beyond their  
21 families, and some experts believe that the actual prevalence of family  
22 violence is much higher than the statistics indicate; and

1           **WHEREAS**, the Family Violence and Sexual Assault Task Force, STOP  
2 VAW subgrantees, government and non-government organizations, faith-  
3 based organizations, and other community partners have joined forces to  
4 directly confront this crisis. They include: Alee Shelter-Catholic Social  
5 Service; Andersen Family Support Services-Fleet & Family Support Services;  
6 the Archdiocese of *Agana*; the Office of the Attorney General of Guam-Crime  
7 Victim Response Unit; the Department of Corrections-Parole  
8 Division/Training; the Department of Education; the Department of Mental  
9 Health and Substance Abuse-Healing Hearts Crisis Center (HHCC); the  
10 Department of Public Health and Social Services; the Department of Youth  
11 Affairs; Erica’s House-Visitation Center; the Governor’s Community  
12 Outreach-Federal Programs Office and the Governor’s Legal Counsel; the  
13 Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority; *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*; the  
14 Guam Police Department-Victim Assistance Unit; *Guma’Mami*, Inc.;  
15 *Inafa’Maolek*; the Mayors Council of Guam; Guam’s Media; Mothers Against  
16 Drunk Driving (MADD); the Public Defender Service Corporation; the Guam  
17 Judiciary – the Superior Court of Guam Client Services and Family  
18 Counseling Division, the Judicial Council, and the Superior Court of Guam  
19 Probation and Marshals Divisions; Sanctuary, Inc.; the University of Guam;  
20 and the Victim Advocates Reaching Out (VARO); and

1           **WHEREAS**, the effort, compassion, and dedication of these volunteers,  
2 professionals, and organizations should be recognized and applauded; now,  
3 therefore, be it

4           **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina' Trenta Na*  
5 *Lihsaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Lihsaturan Guåhan* and the  
6 people of Guam, recognize and commend the members of the “Family  
7 Violence Awareness Month” Task Force, and Guam’s practitioners and  
8 advocates, for their efforts in helping to raise awareness, and for their support  
9 of the victims of family violence, on the observance of the month of October  
10 2010 as “Family Violence Awareness Month”;; and does further extend much  
11 gratitude to these individuals and organizations for the significant  
12 contributions they have made, and continue to make, to reduce the crime of  
13 family violence; and be it further

14           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on  
15 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and  
16 that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the members of the “2010  
17 Family Violence Awareness Month” Task Force; and to the Honorable Felix P.  
18 Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*

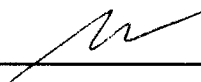
DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES  
OF *I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN* ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF  
SEPTEMBER 2010.



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JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.

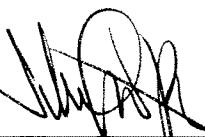
Speaker



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RORY J. RESPICIO

Chairperson, Committee on Rules



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TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES

Legislative Secretary