

MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2009 (FIRST) Regular Session

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Resolution No. 90(COR)

Introduced by:

Edward J.B. Calvo
Ray Tenorio
Frank F. Blas, Jr.

Relative to congratulating and commending Colonel (COL) Diron J. Cruz, Guam Army Reserve National Guard, on his promotion and express *Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* for his leadership, accomplishments, and service to the United States of America and our island Community.

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

WHEREAS, COL Diron J. Cruz, born in Tamuning, Guam on April 28, 1962 is the second child of six siblings - Anthony Kenneth, Esther Lynn, Therese Bernadette, Patrick Greg and Connie Marie born to Mr. Antonio Babauta and Mrs. Guadalupe Santiago, residents of *Malesso*, Guam. COL Cruz was originally from the village of *Malesso*; and

WHEREAS, COL Diron J. Cruz attended Merizo Elementary School and Inarajan Middle School. He graduated from Father Duenas Memorial School in 1980, later went on to receive his Bachelor of Arts in Business Management and commission as a

second lieutenant of Field Artillery from the University of Guam in 1984; and

WHEREAS, COL Diron J. Cruz has two (2) daughters Lenika (18) attending her first year of college in Los Angeles, California, and Nozomi (16) a junior at Guam High School; and

WHEREAS, COL Diron J. Cruz completed the Field Artillery Officers Basic Course at Ft Sill, Oklahoma in 1985 and then served in his first assignment with the 1st Battalion, 36th Field Artillery in Augsburg, Germany from 1985 to 1988 as a Battalion Ammunition Officer, Service Battery Executive Officer, Howitzer Platoon Leader and Howitzer Battery Nuclear Weapons Officer; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, COL Diron J. Cruz returned to Ft. Sill, Oklahoma to complete the Field Artillery Officers Advanced Course, served his second assignment from 1989 to 1993 with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) where his duties encompassed Targeting Officer for 3rd Brigade (Rakkasans), Battalion Fire Support Officer for 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm; and

WHEREAS, COL Diron J. Cruz's tour at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky culminated with command of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 101st Airborne Division Artillery. From 1993 to 1994, COL Cruz moved to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where he

served as Field Artillery Operations Advisor to the 479th Field Artillery Brigade; and

In late 1994, COL Cruz left the active component Army and moved to Cincinnati, Ohio where he worked as a territorial sales manager for International Paper Co. until 1996. In early 1996, COL Diron J. Cruz moved to Guam where he then worked as General Manager of Guam Freight Forwarders; and

WHEREAS, in early 1999, COL Diron J. Cruz joined the ranks of the famed Guam Army National Guard. His first assignment was as S-3 Operations Officer of 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry and then was accepted into the Active Guam/Reserve (AGR) program as State Training Officer and Domestic Operations Officer. In March 2001, COL Cruz entered the National Guard Federal AGR Program and served his first tour as Assistant Brigade Operations Officer, 196th Infantry Brigade, Ft. Shafter, Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, COL Diron J. Cruz served as Current Operations Officer with Joint Task Force-Civil Support at Ft. Monroe, Virginia, from 2004-2006. COL Cruz reverted to State Title 32 AGR and returned to the Guam Army National Guard in March 2006 where he served as Director of Military Support in the J-3 directorate and then later acquired the reins as the J-3/G-3 until his selection to his current post as Chief of Staff in November 2008; and

WHEREAS, COL Diron J. Cruz's Military Education includes the following courses - Field Artillery Officers Basic in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, Field Artillery Officers Advanced Course and Nuclear Target Acquisition Course, both in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, Combined Arms Services Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and Command and General Staff Course, also in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. COL Cruz has been selected to attend the U.S. Army War College (non-resident studies) beginning in May 2009 at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, and

WHEREAS, COL Diron J. Cruz's awards and decorations include: the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, The Army Meritorious Service Medal (2nd award), Army Commendation Medal (6th award), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement (4th award), Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and numerous other awards; and

WHEREAS, in his personal and professional life, COL Diron J. Cruz constantly stresses integrity and respect for others and serves as a source of inspiration to his fellow officers, friends, and family, to whom he has always encouraged personal and professional growth; and now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the members of *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* congratulate and commend Lieutenant Colonel Diron J. Cruz,

Guam National Guard, and express *Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* for his leadership, accomplishments, and service to the United States and our island Community; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attests to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Colonel Diron J. Cruz, Guam Army National Guard, his parents, Mr. Antonio Bababuta and Mrs. Guadalupe Santiago Cruz, and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan.*