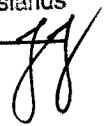


AUG 30 2000

For The Northern Mariana Islands
By _____
(Deputy Clerk)



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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

RUI LIANG and LIAO DA NIAN,)
MOHAMMED KAMAL HOSSAIN, and)
JANE ROE I,)
Plaintiffs,)
ROBERT GOLDBERG, in his personal)
capacity, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN)
MARIANA ISLANDS, and DOES 1-25,)
Defendants.)

Civil Case No. 99-0046

ORDER RE PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF
TIME TO REPLY

Upon consideration of the plaintiffs' written submission filed on August 25, 2000, plaintiffs' Motion for Extension of the August 24, 2000 Reply Deadline is GRANTED. Although the Court believes a written response by plaintiffs will not provide them any greater opportunity to respond then they would otherwise have at oral argument, the Court believes there will be no prejudice to defendants in permitting plaintiffs to file a written reply because defendants have already filed their opposition to plaintiffs' motion and permitting a written reply will serve to further inform matters prior to the hearing on the motion. Accordingly, plaintiffs shall have until September 5, 2000 to file their Reply to defendants' August 17, 2000 Opposition of CNMI to Cross-Motion for Partial Summary Judgment Against the CNMI.

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Plaintiffs' motion to consolidate and motion seeking waiver of the local counsel requirement or, alternatively an order directing the CNMI Bar Association to provide pro bono counsel, are not properly before the Court and are therefore DENIED without prejudice.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 30th day of August, 2000.


Alex R. Munson
Judge