

## **BIOGRAPHY**

### **Maya B. Kara, Esq.**

Mailman & Kara, LLC



Ms. Kara was born in Budapest, Hungary. She came to the United States at age 11 as a political refugee, and was later naturalized as a U.S. citizen. She attended Sarah Lawrence College and later graduated from Golden Gate University School of Law. She was admitted to practice in California in 1985, and moved to Saipan in early 1989 with her husband, Bruce Mailman.

Ms. Kara served in the CNMI government from 1989 through 2005 in varied capacities including chief legal counsel to the House of Representatives CNMI Legislature; Attorney General of the CNMI; and legal counsel first to Governor Pedro T. Tenorio and later to Lt. Governor Diego T. Benavente. She also served as a Hearing Officer at the CNMI Department of Labor as well as the Northern Marianas Retirement Fund. She retired from government service in late 2005, and joined her husband at Mailman & Kara, LLC.

During her 17 years as a government attorney, Ms. Kara's main interest was policy; particularly policies involving immigration and labor, which she has always seen as the critical issue facing the CNMI: politically, economically and socially. Her current practice focus is U.S. immigration, including both family based and employment based immigration.

Ms. Kara has been an member of the CNMI Bar Association since 1989. She served as president of the Association from 2007 through 2011 and again this year.

### **Mailman & Kara, LLC**

Mailman & Kara, LLC is a general practice law firm that focuses on United States immigration, business and financial issues, real property and due diligence investigations. Mr. Mailman and Ms. Kara publish Immigration Forum, a newspaper column on immigration issues.