



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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RAMONA V. MANGLONA
Chief Judge

FOREWORD

Our Drug Offender Re-Entry (D.O.R.E.) program continues to produce successful results. In 2019, four participants graduated from the program. I am very grateful to the members of the D.O.R.E. team who work together to provide the participants with the tools they need to re-integrate into our community. The Court also had the honor of naturalizing more than 200 new U.S. citizens in 2019, including one person who is no longer stateless.

Community youth engagement continues to be a priority for the Court. This past year high school students from five schools from three islands participated in the annual mock trial competition held in our courtrooms. I presided over the final round and I was very impressed by the students' presentation of the case. In addition, student participation in the Ninth Circuit's civic contest continues to increase every year. This year, we celebrated the winning submissions at an awards ceremony for the students and their families in May 2019. In October, the Court welcomed the NMI Girl Scouts to the courthouse for the Justice Patch Program. It is an event that I look forward to repeating.

It is truly a privilege and pleasure to serve as Chief Judge for this District. I am grateful to the outstanding court employees who work hard to provide equal access to justice to our community.

I am pleased to share the 2019 Annual Report for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands with you. Each year, I look forward to the opportunity to reflect on the Court's accomplishments, challenges, and goals.

In early 2019, due to the government shutdown, we were unable to hold our annual district conference as planned. Happily, this coming year's district conference will go forward, and I am delighted to announce that Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan will be speaking along with several other distinguished guests. It is truly an honor to have Justice Kagan visit our district as well as our grand opening of our new courthouse.

Construction of our new federal courthouse building is entering the final stages. I, along with the rest of the court staff, am excited to see the progress and look forward to welcoming the community at the official opening ceremony in July 2020.

Our Clerk's Office, Judicial Chambers, and U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services was awarded the 2019 Director's Award for Extraordinary Actions from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts for overcoming the challenges of super typhoon Soudelor and super typhoon Yutu. I am proud of the hard work and dedication that kept our courthouse doors open after both storms and I am happy to see those efforts recognized on a national level.



While attending the 2019 Annual District Judges Conference in Washington D.C., Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona met with the three leading female jurists of the U.S. Supreme Court - Associate Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Ruth Bader Ginsburgs, and Elena Kagan. Joining her were Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood of Guam (far left) and Jennifer Romero (far right), an attorney with the U.S. Senate Committee of Indian Affairs.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands is to serve the community by ensuring equal access to justice for all by providing an impartial forum to resolve disputes in a fair, effective, and timely manner pursuant to the rule of law.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands was established by an act of Congress in 1977 and became operational in January 1978. It sits on the island of Saipan, in the CNMI, but may also sit at other places within the Commonwealth. The District Court has the same jurisdiction to hear federal cases as the United States District Courts, including bankruptcy cases. Appeals are taken directly to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

As the smallest and youngest district among the 94 district courts, the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands employs three chambers staff and 13 clerk's office staff. The Office of Pretrial and Probation Services for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands has three employees stationed on Saipan. These hard-working employees serve chambers and the community by assisting Chief Judge Manglona with court operations.

Citizens from the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota provide an invaluable service to the court and the community each year by serving as jurors during civil and criminal trials and grand jury proceedings.

JUDGES



On January 26, 2011, President Barack Obama nominated the Honorable Ramona Villagomez Manglona to serve as District Court Judge. Judge Manglona's nomination was confirmed by the Senate on July 27, 2011. On July 29, 2011, President Obama signed the commission, which was the official act of appointment of Judge Manglona to the District Court. Judge Manglona assumed office as Chief Judge on July 30, 2011. Chief Judge Manglona is the first person of Northern Mariana Islands descent to serve as a federal judge.

The Honorable Alex R. Munson served as the Chief Judge of the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands from 1988 to 2010, when he then took senior status. Judge Munson continues to serve the court and the community by presiding over settlement conferences and other court matters a few times a year.

In 2013, Chief Judge Manglona appointed the Honorable Heather L. Kennedy to serve as the first Magistrate Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands. Judge Kennedy became Clerk of Court on April 15, 2013 and assumed magistrate judge duties on June 11, 2013. On February 6, 2017, she was reappointed for a second four-year term after undergoing a review by a Merit Selection Panel and public comment period.



HEATHER L. KENNEDY
Clerk of Court/Magistrate Judge

DESIGNATED JUDGES

On occasion, federal judges from districts throughout the Ninth Circuit preside over certain matters in the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands. The Court is grateful to Chief Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood (District of Guam), Senior Judge John C. Coughenour (Western District of Washington), Judge David O. Carter (Central District of California), Magistrate Judge Joaquin V. Manibusan, Jr. (District of Guam) and Chief Bankruptcy Judge Robert J. Faris (District of Hawaii) for their assistance.

Pursuant to 48 USC § 1821, judges of courts of record of the Northern Mariana Islands may be assigned temporarily to serve as a judge in the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands. The District Court thanks Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja and Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio, of the Commonwealth Superior Court, who serve this Court as designated judges.



ROBERTO C. NARAJA
Presiding Judge
CNMI Superior Court



FRANCES M. TYDINGCO-GATEWOOD
Chief Judge
District Court of Guam



TERESA KIM-TENORIO
Associate Judge
CNMI Superior Court

ATTORNEY REPRESENTATIVES

NINTH CIRCUIT LAWYER REPRESENTATIVE



VINCENT J. SEMAN

The District's Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representative is Vincent J. Seman. The Lawyer Representative plays an important role in the administration of justice in the circuit's 15 districts, including the planning and execution of the annual Circuit Conference. The 2019 Ninth Circuit Conference will be held in Portland, Oregon in July.

Vincent J. Seman opened his law practice, Seman Law Office, LLC, in November 2019. Before starting his own firm, he served as a general counsel for Century Insurance. Prior to joining Century Insurance, he was an attorney with Carlsmith Ball, LLP. He is licensed to practice law in the CNMI, Guam, and Hawaii

From 2011-2019, Mr. Seman has served on numerous governmental, professional, and civic organizations, including the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the CNMI Bar Association Board of Directors. He is also a Pacific Century Fellow. He received his J.D. degree from Whittier Law School and his B.S. degree in management from Bentley College.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REPRESENTATIVE AND RESOURCE COUNSEL

Bruce L. Berline, is the District Court's Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Representative and Resource Counsel. In districts, such as the Northern Mariana Islands, that do not have a federal public defender, the District Court appoints a Resource Counsel to provide support and guidance to the CJA panel members and to liaise with the Defender Services Office in Washington D.C. and other CJA panel representatives throughout the nation.

Mr. Berline is also the chairperson of the CJA Standing Committee. He along with Robert T. Torres and David Banes assist the District Court in ensuring the CJA panel consists of knowledgeable, well-trained attorneys capable of upholding the guarantee of the Sixth Amendment of providing competent assistance of counsel to individuals charged with crimes.

Mr. Berline has served the court as CJA Representative and Resource Counsel since 2015. He has been a member of the CJA panel since 1999 and has been in practice in the CNMI for over 23 years, with a focus on criminal defense, admiralty, and personal injury litigation.



BRUCE BERLINE

ATTORNEY ADMISSIONS

In 2019, four attorneys were admitted to practice in the District Court: [Joey P. San Nicolas](#), [Richard C. Miller](#), [Keisha Blaise](#), and [Leslie Ann Healer](#).



Magistrate Judge Kennedy and Keisha Blaise



Chief Judge swore in Richard C. Miller
(Law Clerk)



Magistrate Judge Kennedy and Leslie Ann Healer

ATTORNEY ADMISSIONS FUND

The Attorney Admission Fund for this District Court is primarily used to support educational programs and events for members of the District Court bar, including the annual district conference and other continuing legal education programs throughout the year. Other expenditures include support for civics programs for students, the Drug Offender Re-Entry (D.O.R.E) Program, the reimbursement of attorney costs associated with attorney disciplinary matters, and the Pacific Judicial Council.

In 2018, the District Court first implemented Local Rule 83.5, which established the Attorney Admission Biennial Renewal fee of \$30.00 as a requirement for all attorneys admitted to the District Court. The renewal fee ensures that the District Court has an accurate listing of its current bar members and that all contact information is up to date, as well as funding educational programs.

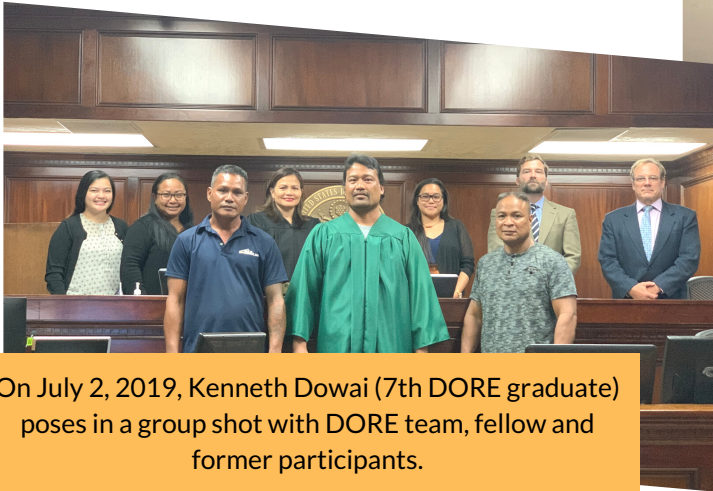
HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019

DRUG OFFENDER RE-ENTRY PROGRAM (D.O.R.E.)

DRUG COURTS WORK!

The first NMI District Court Drug Offender Re-Entry (DORE) program, popularly known as "drug court", was established on January 26, 2016. With the cooperation of the CJA Panel, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the U.S. Probation Office, the Court entered into an agreement to create the DORE team and program.

In 2019, the District Court congratulated four participants who graduated from the program. The graduates were [Ryan Babauta](#), [Manuel Sablan](#), [Kenneth Dowai](#), and [Roque Norita](#). All graduates thanked their families and the D.O.R.E team during the ceremonies with each earning one year off their terms of supervised release. During the intensive program, participants are offered a creative blend of treatment and sanction alternatives to effectively address offender behavior, rehabilitation and the safety of our community.



On July 2, 2019, Kenneth Dowai (7th DORE graduate) poses in a group shot with DORE team, fellow and former participants.



On March 13, 2019, two D.O.R.E. participants graduated the D.O.R.E. program. In green robes, Ryan Babauta (5th DORE graduate) and Manuel Sablan (6th DORE graduate) pose in a group shot with DORE team,

CNMI JUDICIARY CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLANNING MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NMI

In March of 2018, the Guma Hustisia, which houses the Superior and Supreme Courts of the Commonwealth, became unusable due to central air-conditioning problems and mold infestation. On March 21, 2018, the NMI Judiciary requested to activate the Continuity of Operations Planning Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the District Court. The MOA provides the framework for cooperation in the event of an emergency or unforeseen event which results in access or suitability problems in the NMI Judiciary's Guma Hustisia or the District Court's courthouse. In the MOA, each court commits to assisting the other with space, telecommunications, information management, and other administrative support. Unfortunately, the Guma Hustisia's mold remediation and air-conditioning repair were delayed due to procurement issues and then further complicated by the extensive damage to the Guma Hustisia's roof caused by Super Typhoon Yutu. From March 22, 2018 through 2019, the District Court has provided courtroom and conference room space for numerous Superior Court proceedings, including settlement conferences, juvenile and drug court proceedings, bench trials and jury trials, as well as Supreme Court oral arguments.

AT&T REMOTE MOBILITY ZONE (ARMZ) IP SATELLITE SERVICE TRAINING

The ARMZ IP Satellite will be utilized for the Court's Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) during any disaster. Within 30 minutes, it can provide telephone service and voiceover internet. Satellite access will allow the District Court, U.S. Probation Office, and the U.S. Marshal Service to continue to conduct business in case of any communications failure.

On July 16-19, 2019, the court I.T. department received training about the setup and operation of the ARMZ IP Satellite led by Gino Freselli (AO), Kyle Yoder (AO), and a manufacturer representative. The training provided knowledge about the functionality and capability of the system.



On July 16, 2019, AT&T ARMZ Mobile Satellite Communications System Trainers with the District Court's IT Department Staff.



GREAT SHAKE-OUT EARTHQUAKE DRILL

In October 17, 2019, the district court participated in the Great Shake-Out, the world's largest earthquake drill ever. At exactly 10:17 a.m. on October 17, 2019, court employees learned to "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" in the Great Shake-Out. Millions of people worldwide have participated in the Great Shake-Out Earthquake Drills since 2008. The Great Shake-Out is held on the third Thursday of October each year.

Everyone can participate. Individuals, families, businesses, schools, colleges, government agencies, and organizations are all invited to register. For more information visit <https://www.shakeout.org/>.



U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NMI RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD



In 2019, the employees of the District Court for the Northern Marianas Clerk's Office, Judicial Chambers, and U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services received the Director's Award for Extraordinary Actions. This award from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts recognizes court employees across the nation for exhibiting bravery and concern for others while ensuring that the Judiciary's Mission is met during an adverse situation. Under extraordinary emotional and physical stress, the employees of the District Court for the NMI overcame the challenges of Typhoon Soudelor and Super Typhoon Yutu to continue to operate the court and support each other and the community shortly after the storms devastated Saipan in 2015 and 2018.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

In September 27, 2019, the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands held its Employee Recognition Luncheon. Chief Judge Manglona and Magistrate Judge Kennedy recognized the employees that received the Manhita Todu, Special Achievement and Service Pin Awards.



Staff of the District Court for the N.M.I. Clerk of Court's Office, Judicial Chambers, and Probation & Pretrial Services pose for a group photo.

- Special Achievement Award

This award acknowledges an employee for on-going excellent performance, superior accomplishments, or particularly valuable ideas or contributions. The 2019 recipient was [Timothy V. Wesley](#).



TIMOTHY V. WESLEY
Systems Specialist/ Jury Administrator

- 20 Years of Service Pin

[Mario Glenn Mendoza](#) received a service pin recognizing his 20 years of service with the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands.

- Manhita Todu Awards

The recipients of this award promote unity and create a collegial work environment by fostering a spirit of "Manhita Todu," which is a Chamorro phrase meaning "we are all in this together" or "together we are one". This award provides positive feedback to an employee for performing a special act of service to a coworker. The 2019 recipients were [Francine Atalig](#), [Daniel Brown](#), [Bertha Camacho](#), [Aiko Erungel](#), and [Amanda Hayes](#).



MARIO GLENN MENDOZA
Information Systems Manager

- Richard C. Miller, Law Clerk Retirement

[Richard C. Miller](#), Career Law Clerk for Chief Judge Manglona, retired after eight years of service in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands.



Richard C. Miller and Chief Judge Manglona

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID (MHFA)

In May 22, 2019, the District Court staff and U.S. Probation and Pre-trial Services Office participated in an 8-hour Mental Health First Aid training facilitated by Commonwealth Health Care Corporation - Community Guidance Center Systems of Care.

The MHFA training course teaches how to help someone who has a mental health problem or is experiencing a mental health crisis. It teaches you to identify risk factors, warning signs of crisis and how to respond.



REAL SOLUTIONS & REAL TEAMS

In August 8-9, 2019, the District Court staff and U.S. Probation and Pre-trial Services Office participated in an all-day Advanced Real Colors - Real Solutions and Real Teams Training workshop facilitated by Michelle Rush from the Michigan Western Probation Office.



Real Colors is where participants can learn how to quickly identify their own temperament of "color" and that of others. It can develop more effective communication skills and build better relationships in and out of the workplace.

Real Solutions is an advanced workshop designed to take Real Colors participants to the next level of understanding how Real Colors creates a system to process stressful and uncomfortable situations.

Real Teams is a workshop that takes participants through a series of fast paced, interactive, and fun activities allowing them to learn the strengths of each team member. As the old saying goes, "There is no I in team."

IT SECURITY AWARENESS

On December 3, 2019, the District Court staff and U.S. Probation Office participated in our annual IT Security Training facilitated by Systems Specialist Timothy V. Wesley and Network Administrator Bernard Paraiso. The training covered what is Social Engineering and Phishing, best I.T. security practices, and a review of KnowB4 training enrollment. KnowB4 is a training software that provides security awareness to staff about social engineering.

NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES



In 2019, the District Court held 12 naturalization ceremonies. Over two hundred individuals were naturalized from countries including Armenia, Bangladesh, Canada, the People's Republic of China, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Japan, Kiribati, Madagascar, Nepal, Philippines, Russia, South Korea, Thailand, and United Kingdom, as well as Stateless individuals.

Keynote speakers included Kelley Butcher, Legal Counsel of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC; Galvin Deleon Guerrero, President of Mount Carmel School; Rose Ada-Hocog, President of CNMI Women's Association; John Hirsh, Executive Director of American Red Cross-NMI Chapter; Shawn N. Anderson, U.S. Attorney-Districts of Guam and the NMI; David Mangarero Sablan, Author and Consultant of Tan Holdings Corporation; Barbara Alberti, Superintendent of National Park Service, American Memorial Park; Congressman Gregorio Kilili Sablan, U.S. House of Representatives; Rear Admiral John Menoni, Commander – Joint Region Marianas; Matthew Uhalde, Law Clerk for the District Court for the NMI; Peter A. Callaghan, Retired Lt. Colonel, United States Air Force and Veteran of Foreign Wars; and Sheila Kelty, Immigration Services Officer.

With the help of USCIS officers, the District Court has been conducting ceremonies every month over the past year.



Martin Luther King Jr. Day Naturalization Ceremony
Guest Speaker: Kelley Butcher with Chief Judge Manglona, Sheila Kelty, Immigration Services Officer, and the new citizens.



Naturalization Ceremony
 Guest Speaker: John Hirsh, Executive Director of American Red Cross-NMI Chapter with Sheila Kelty, Immigration Services Officer, Magistrate Judge Kennedy, and the new citizens.



Independence Day Naturalization Ceremony
 Guest Speaker: Barbara Alberti, Superintendent, National Park Service American Memorial Park with Chief Judge Manglona, Sheila Kelty, Immigration Services Officer, and the new citizens.



Veteran's Day Naturalization Ceremony
 Guest Speaker: Peter A. Callaghan, Retired Lt. Colonel, United States Air Force and Veteran of Foreign Wars with Chief Judge Manglona, Sheila Kelty, Immigration Services Officer, and the new citizens.



Columbus Day Naturalization Ceremony
 Guest Speaker: Matthew Uhalde, Law Clerk, U.S. District Court for the N.M.I. with Chief Judge Manglona, Sheila Kelty, Immigration Services Officer, and the new citizens.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

USPTO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

On May 11, 2019, the District Court welcomed Mr. Peter Fowler to conduct an Intellectual Property presentation to members of the CNMI Bar. Mr. Fowler is a Senior Counsel for Enforcement, Office of Policy and International Affairs, United States Patent and Trademark Office. Mr. Fowler has been a senior attorney at the USPTO since 1995, providing policy analysis,

advice, and global training and capacity-building on the topics of intellectual property and enforcement matters. Mr. Fowler previously worked as an Attorney-Advisor on domestic and international copyright issues, facilitated the Conference on Fair Use, and worked on the WIPO Internet Treaties and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. He also served as the Acting Deputy Administrator for the External Affairs, the agency's Chief of staff, a Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary and Director, and the Regional Intellectual Property Attaché for Southeast Asia based in Bangkok, Thailand, from 2011-2017.



Participants at the USPTO Intellectual Property pose for a group photo with Chief Judge Manglona.

The CLE presentation was on the topic of the role of cybercrime in the realm of intellectual property. It provided a basic overview of IP cybercrimes and familiarized the attendees with the common types of cybercrime committed that affect intellectual property rights.

POWER ACT PRESENTATION

Give a little, get a little. The POWER Act and Pro Bono Opportunities in the CNMI

In September 2018, the Pro Bono Work to Empower and Represent (POWER) Act, Pub. L. No. 115-237 became law. The Power Act requires the Chief Judge of each judicial district to hold at least one public event annually designed to encourage pro bono representation for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

On June 21, 2019, the District Court held its first POWER Act presentation with participation from other vital CNMI stakeholders including the CNMI Judiciary, Micronesian Legal Services Corporation, the Community Guidance Center, Karidat, and the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. Attendees left with a clear understanding of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Act of 2000 (PL 12-19) and the Anti-Violence Leave Act (PL 18-31). Other topics included an overview of the CNMI Temporary restraining Order (TRO) and Protection Laws, TRO forms, and working with victims and perpetrators. The event ended with a panel discussion providing perspectives from counsel, service providers, and the bench.



Participants at the Power Act Presentation pose for a group photo with Chief Judge Manglona and Magistrate Judge Kennedy.

FIRST EVER NMI GIRLS SCOUTS JUSTICE PATCH PROGRAM



NMI Girls Scouts Committee poses for a group photo with Chief Judge Manglona.

On October 26, 2019, Chief Judge Ramona Manglona, Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy and CNMI Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio hosted the first CNMI Justice Patch Program for the NMI Girl Scouts in observance of Red Ribbon Week and to instill a greater understanding of the legal system in the young scouts.

The scouts participated in panel discussions with female law enforcement officers and local attorneys who offered advice and gave the girls an insight into the work they do on a daily basis and shared their journeys to their current careers. After the panel presentations, the Scouts participated in an interactive quiz learning about the different positions in the Court before receiving their patch.

The brand-new patch was tailor-made for the CNMI. The turtle combines the symbolism of the decorative turtles at the U.S. Supreme Court’s building that represent the deliberate pace of justice with the sea turtles of the islands. The turtle is merged with the scales of justice, and the Latte Stone (ancient pillar supporting buildings) and mwarmwar (traditional flower crown) from the CNMI flag representing the indigenous Chamorros and Carolinians.



NMI Girls Scouts Justice Patch



The NMI Girls Scouts and their leaders pose for a group photo with Chief Judge Manglona, Magistrate Judge Kennedy, and CNMI Superior Court Judge Kim-Tenorio.

BANKRUPTCY WEBINAR

On November 15, 2019, the Honorable Robert J. Faris, Chief Judge, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Hawaii; Curtis Ching, Assistant U.S. Trustee, Office of the U.S. Trustee, District of Hawaii; and Neil Verbrugge, Trial Attorney, Office of the U.S. Trustee, District of Hawaii, conducted a webinar from Honolulu for the CNMI Bar Members.

The presentation covered topics including bankruptcy fundamentals, property and foreclosure, and creditor remedies.



21st ANNUAL CNMI HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

On March 6-8, 2019, the NMI Judiciary conducted the 21st Annual High School Mock Trial competition at the U.S. District Court for the Northern Marianas, Saipan. The 2019 CNMI High School Mock Trial Program was sponsored by the NMI Judiciary, the CNMI Bar Association, and the CNMI Public School System. Public schools and private schools from across the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota participated in the competition.

Marianas High School broke Mount Carmel School's three-year winning streak and won the competition for the first time. They represented the CNMI at the national championship in Athens, Georgia, where they competed with over 40 teams from across the country in May 2019.

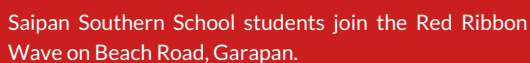
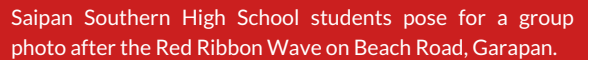
At the local competition, Mount Carmel School placed second and Grace Christian Academy placed third. Career Law Clerk Richard Miller and Term Law Clerk Daria Campion judged rounds of the competition. Chief Judge Manglona presided over the championship round held in the District Court courtroom. As long-time supporters of the CNMI High School Mock Trial Program, Judges Manglona and Kennedy often provide instruction to students at the Mock Trial Academy and look forward to presiding over competition rounds every year.



Marianas High School Mock Trial Team gathered together emotionally after finally winning the CNMI Mock Trial competition after six years. Photo Credit: Kimberly A. Bautista (Saipan Tribune)

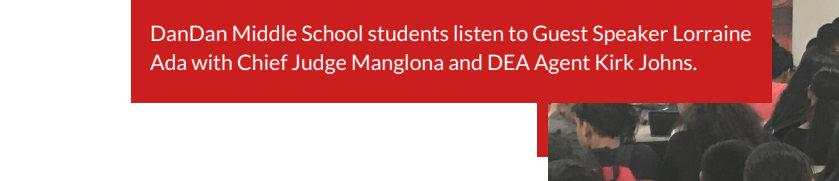


RED RIBBON WAVE

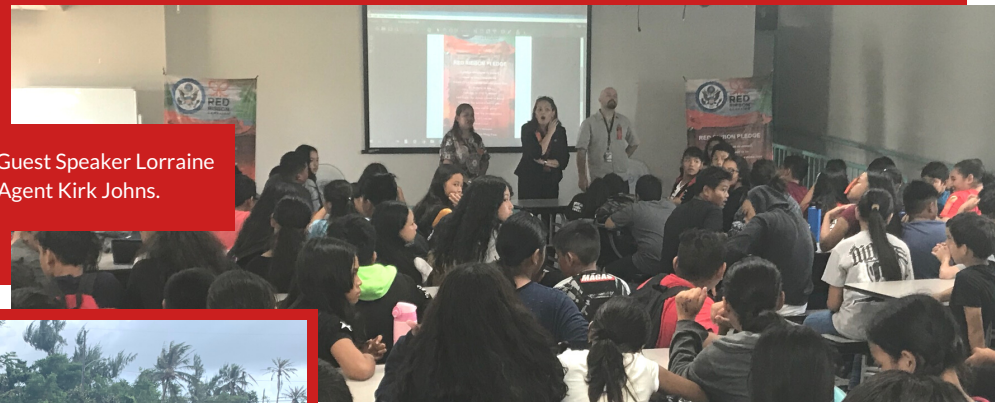




Kagman High School students reciting the Red Ribbon Pledge with Guest Speaker Roland Cruz and Chief Judge Manglona.



DanDan Middle School students listen to Guest Speaker Lorraine Ada with Chief Judge Manglona and DEA Agent Kirk Johns.



Oleai Elementary School students watch as the CNMI K-9 Unit demonstrates a canine sniff for illegal substances.



Marianas High School students listen to Guest Speaker Eric Mafnas with Magistrate Judge Kennedy and Gregory Arriola, U.S. Probation Officer.



Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School students reciting the Red Ribbon Pledge with Magistrate Judge Kennedy.



Da'ok Academy students with Guest Speaker Bob Yamagishi, Chief Judge Manglona, and Gregory Arriola, U.S. Probation Officer

U.S. PROBATION & PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICE



STAFFING

On March 31, 2019, after 33 years of service with the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Administrative Support Specialist, Mary Rasmussen, serving on Guam, retired. Mary was always one of the first to volunteer her time in to support outreach activities. Mary was a pleasure to work with and was a positive addition to the office. She was dependable, committed and kind and we will miss her.

In December 2019, Probation Officer Assistant Juanette David-Atalig was promoted to Probation Officer. Her family and colleagues joined her swearing-in ceremony conducted by Chief Judge Manglona.



Newly sworn-in U.S. Probation Officer Juanette David-Atalig poses for a group photo with her colleagues, Magistrate Judge Kennedy, and Chief Judge Manglona.

In April 2019, Tyanna Sablan, a full-time student at the Northern Marianas College (NMC) joined the U.S. Probation Office as a student intern. Tyanna received her Associate degree in Criminal Justice in June 2019. She is currently pursuing her Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice under the University of Guam's program through NMC and will be with us another 9 months. She aspires to become an FBI profiler.



From left to right: Barbara Hattori, IT Systems Administrator (District Court of Guam); Gregory Arriola, U.S. Probation Officer (NMI); Juanette David-Atalig, U.S. Probation Officer (NMI); Tyanna Sablan, U.S. Probation (Intern); Devin Macaranas, District Court for the NMI (Intern); Kim Walmsey, Chief U.S. Probation Officer for Guam and NMI; and Fleuretta Inos, U.S. Probation Administrative Assistant.

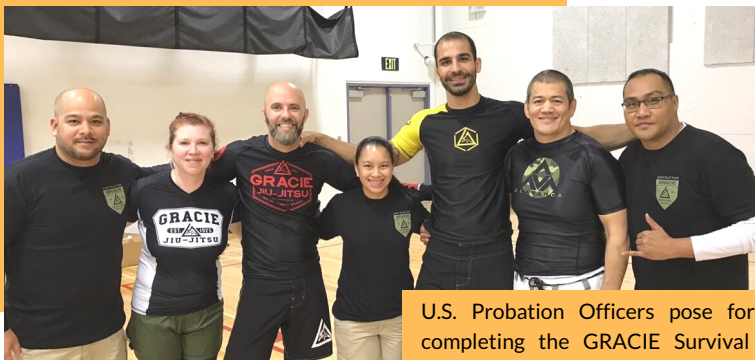
TRAINING



Participants of the U.S. Probation and Pre-Trial Academy pose for a group photo.

In April 2019, Officers Janet Yamashita and Ricardo Leon Guerrero traveled to the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Academy in Charlestown, South Carolina and successfully completed a week long training on Search and Seizure.

From June 21-28, 2019, U.S. Probation Officers Gregory Arriola, Trina Duenas and Ricardo Leon Guerrero attended the GRACIE Survival Tactics (GST) Level I course and earned certification as Level I instructors. GST is a defensive tactics program based on Brazilian jiu jitsu customized for law enforcement officers. It has been taught to agencies at the local, state and federal level. The program has undergone medical and legal review and has been found to be effective in the use of leverage to defend against individuals who may be larger and stronger.



U.S. Probation Officers pose for a group photo after completing the GRACIE Survival Tactics (GST) Level I course.



In August 2019, Chief Trey Burton and Probation Officer Cassidi Lundell from the District of Kansas came to Guam to conduct training on the Gallup Strengths Finder Assessment, a personal development tool. All staff members from both Districts took an assessment identifying their top five strengths. Chief Burton and PO Cassidi then met with each staff member to discuss their individual assessment and the areas that they naturally excel in. Gallup found that when people understand their strengths, the effect on their lives and work is transformational. People who use their strengths every day are six times more likely to be engaged in their work.

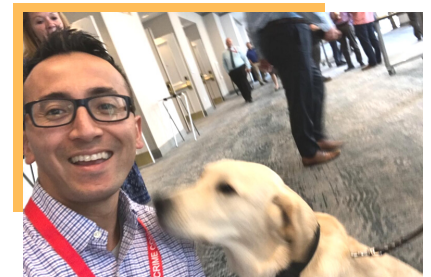


U.S. Probation Officers from Guam and NMI Office pose for a group photo.

In August 2019, the USPO District of Guam hosted Mr. Joel Francis, the National Director for the Verbal Judo Institute to come to Guam to hold a two-day Verbal Judo course. There were 24 attendees, representing staff from USPO District of Guam and NMI; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; Department of Corrections; Parole Services; Judiciary of Guam Probation Services; Federal Public Defender's Office; and Department of Agriculture.

The training provided an opportunity to focus on Officer Presence and Verbal Commands as options in Use of Force situations. Officers had the opportunity to put the Verbal Judo methodology into practices in small and large groups.

From September 17-19, 2019, U.S. Probation Officers Jeffrey Ventura and Gregory Arriola attended the National Cybercrime Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. The conference aims to provide U.S. probation officers nationwide with a better understanding of the policies and procedures that come with supervising persons who used a computer or the internet as an instrument or tool for their criminal behavior.

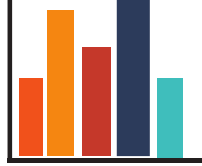


U.S. Probation Officer Jeffrey Ventura poses for photo with a canine that specializes in detecting digital items and electronics.

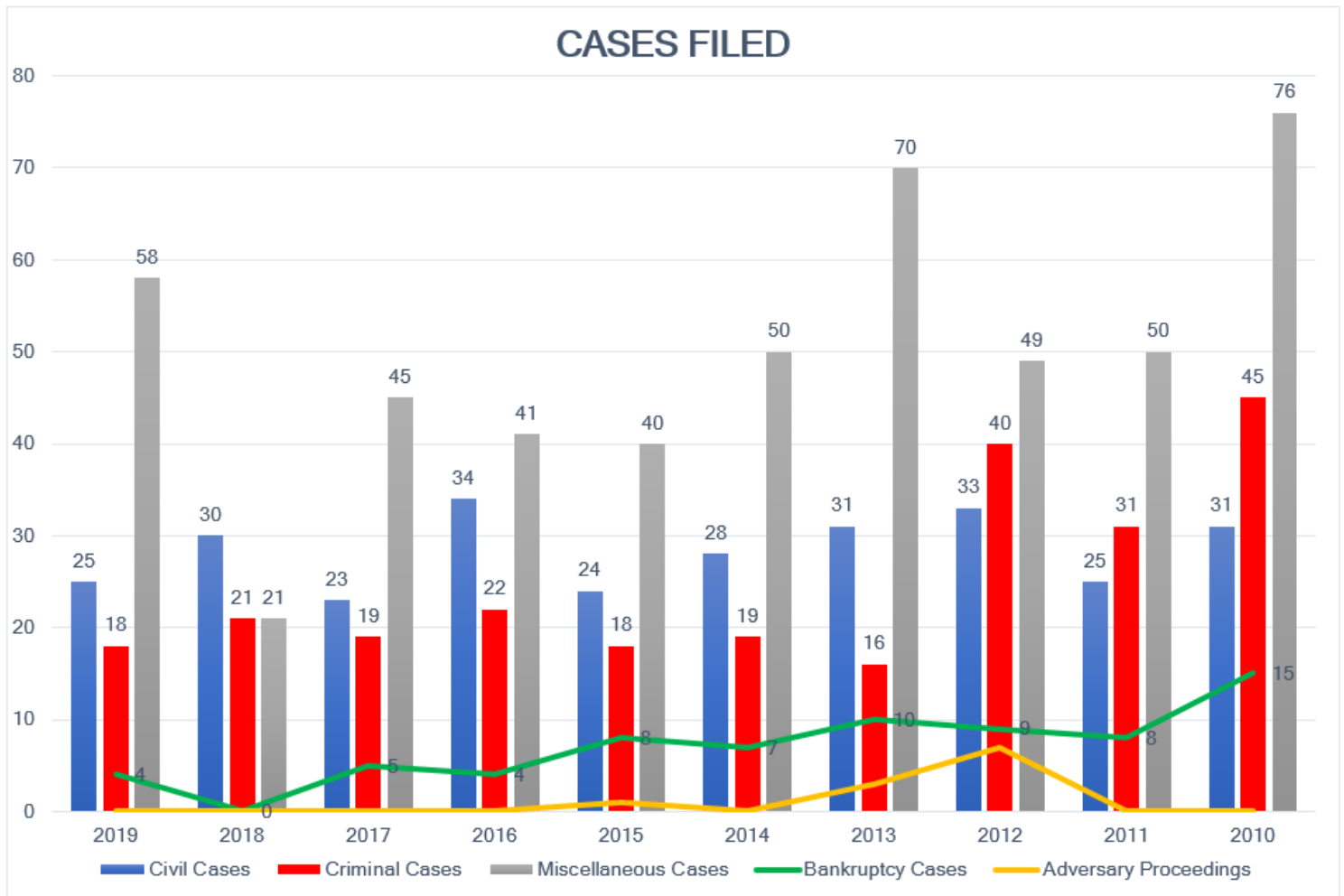
Some of the topics discussed during the conference included: Deep and Dark Web; Computer Criminal Behavior and Psychopathy; Internet Investigations; Policy/Procedure and Legal Considerations; and Search and Seizure. Officers were able to take a tour of the national forensic laboratory, which conducts forensic analysis for over 30 Districts, and also got the chance to meet Champ, a K-9 that specializes in detecting digital items and electronics.

EVENTS/OUTREACH

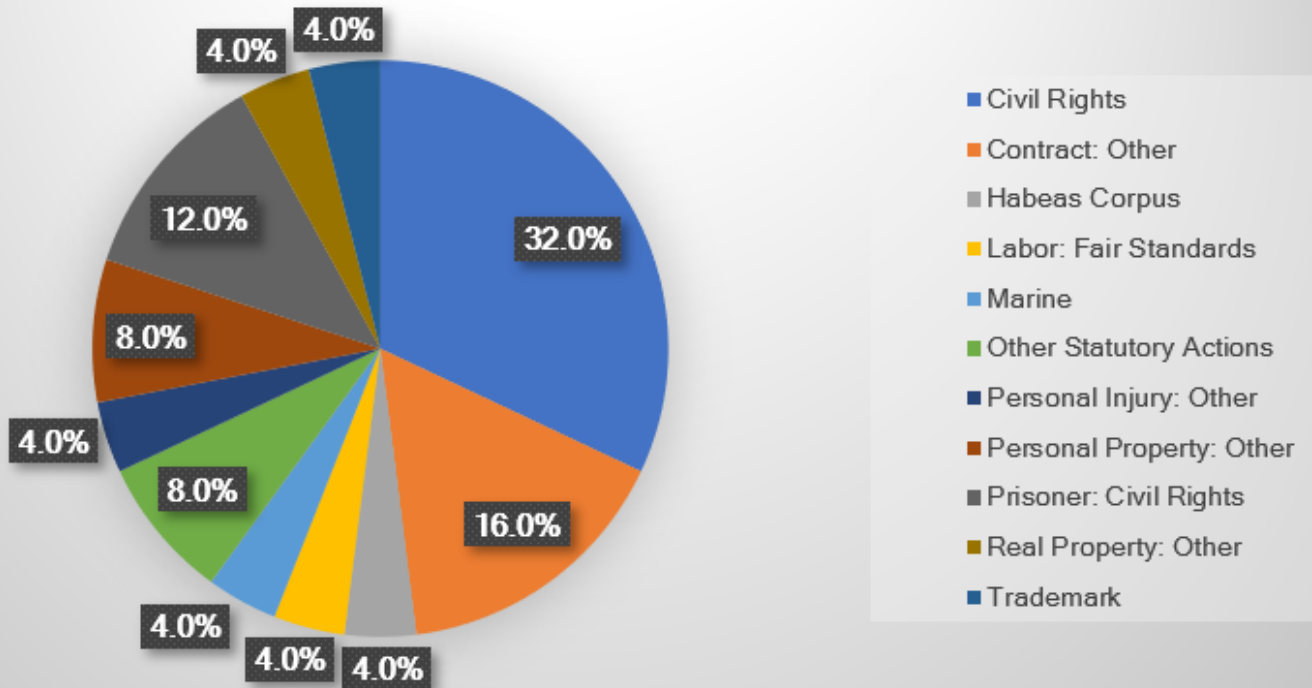
In April 2019, the national Probation and Pretrial Services Office sent an eleven-person team to conduct an on-site review of the work of the U.S. Probation Office in the District of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. The team members were comprised of officers with years of expertise. The review was extensive, covering over 208 policies. The Probation Office was found to be performing well-above the benchmarks of compliance. In fact, the results exceeded the national average in eight out of nine program areas. Some of the comments made by the team were "your Presentence Reports are the best I have every reviewed"; "your Officer does exceptional work in this area" and "I am going to be taking this back to my district."



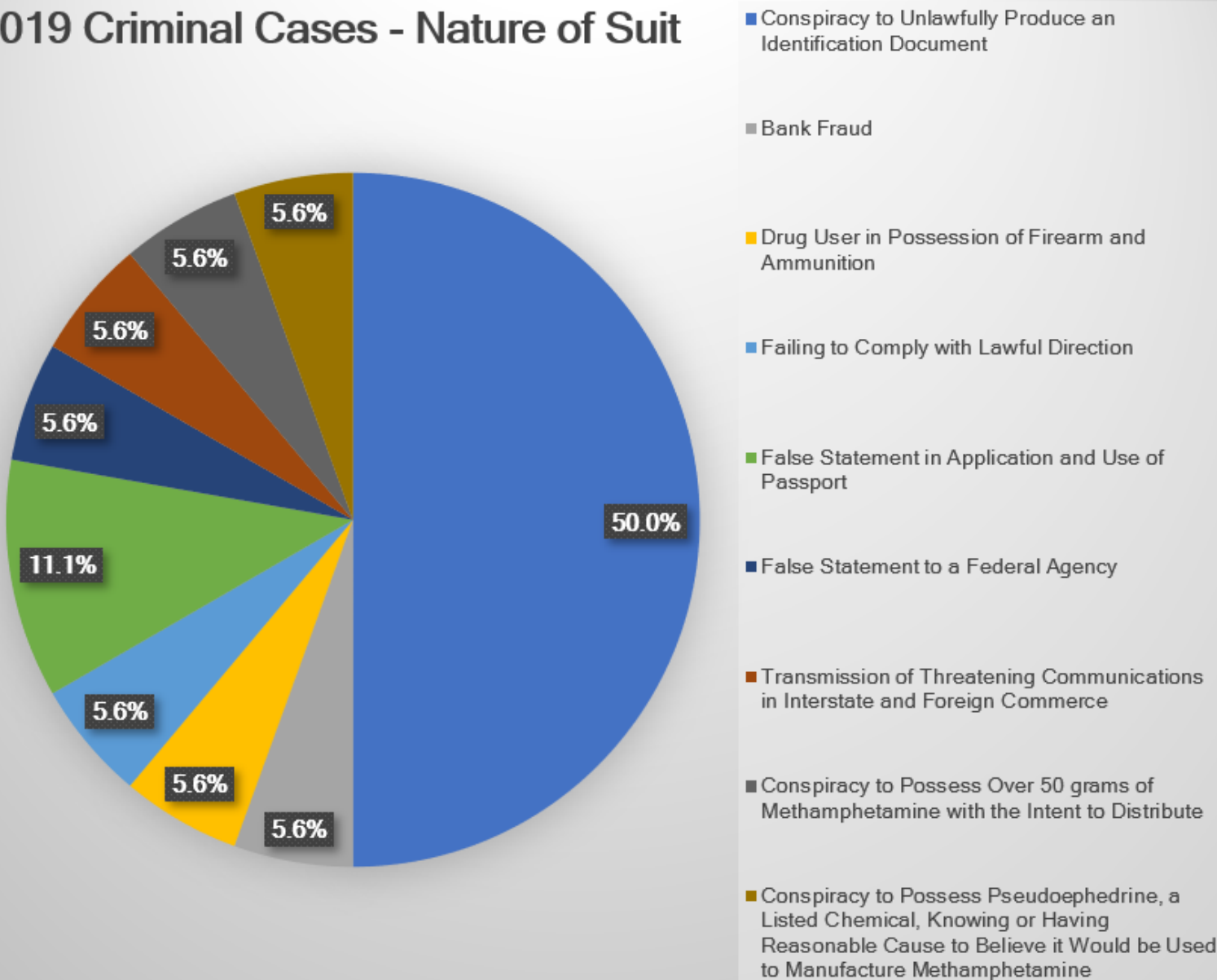
STATISTICS



2019 Civil Cases - Nature of Suit



2019 Criminal Cases - Nature of Suit





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