



COMMITTEE ON

EDUCATION, LIBRARIES, & PUBLIC BROADCASTING

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN GUAM
CONGRESS
BUILDING
I Liheslaturan Guahan
The Guam Legislature

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OFFICE OF SENATOR
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JANUARY 2025

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

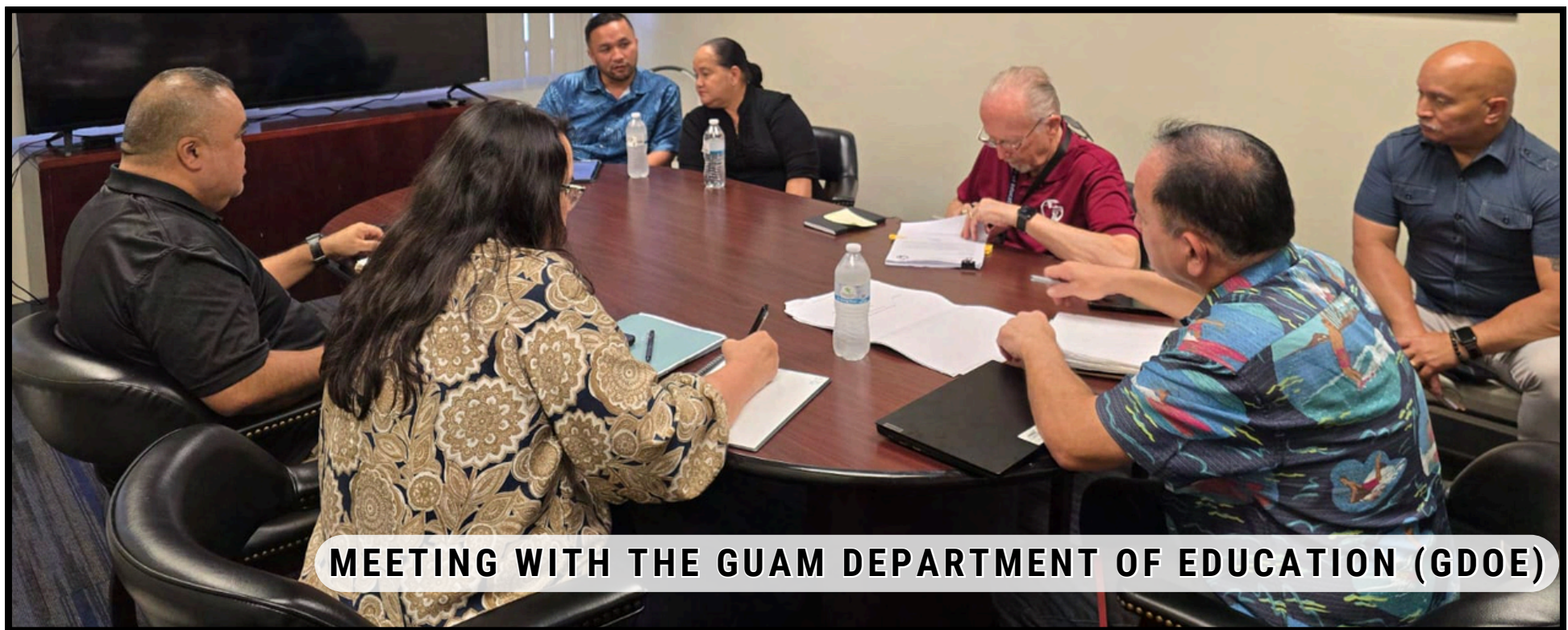


STARTING STRONG

The 38th Guam Legislature has officially begun and I am honored to serve our island in key leadership roles. As we embark on this new term, I am committed to advancing policies that benefit our community and uphold the values we stand for.

Chairperson, Committee on Education, Libraries, & Public Broadcasting
Vice Chairperson for Veterans Affairs, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

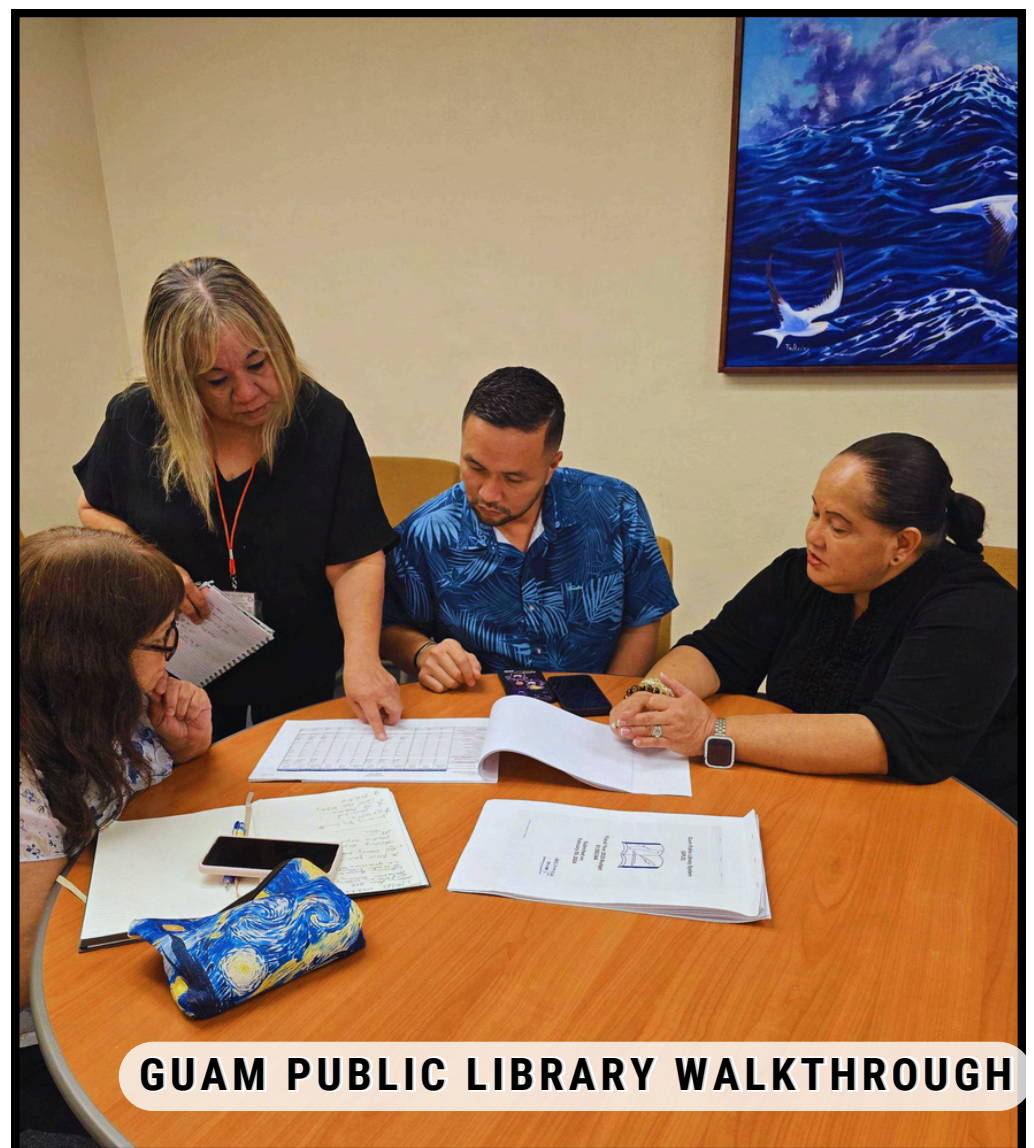
I was also appointed as member of the following legislative committees: (1) Committee on Rules, (2) Committee on Land, Environment, Housing, Agriculture, Parks, and Infrastructure, (3) Committee on Finance and Government Operations, (4) Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Customs, Utilities, and Federal and Foreign Affairs.



MEETING WITH THE GUAM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (GDOE)

We recently attended the **Educational Financial Supervisory Commission** meeting, focusing on *budget oversight* to ensure high-quality education for our students. During my meeting with **Superintendent Erik Swanson** and representatives from the **University of Guam (UOG)**, we explored strategies to enhance student engagement, including plans for *monthly town halls* at every **Guam Department of Education (GDOE)** campus. These initiatives aim to foster a *student-centered approach* to education policy.

I also had the opportunity to tour the facility alongside **Vice Chair Senator Tina Muna Barnes**. Our discussions centered on *library services, infrastructure improvements, and future expansion plans*. As strong advocates for *literacy and community engagement*, we are committed to enhancing library programs and ensuring greater access to educational resources for all.



GUAM PUBLIC LIBRARY WALKTHROUGH



Speaker Frank Blas Jr. talks about his planned initiatives for the 38th Guam Legislature during the Guam's Chamber of Commerce General Membership meeting



GUMA FAMALAO'AN RIBBON CUTTING



GUAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

At the **Guam Chamber of Commerce** meeting, **Speaker Frank Blas Jr.** reaffirmed the Republican Party's commitment to fostering a *business-friendly environment* by reviewing overreaching regulations and promoting policies that drive economic growth.

FEBRUARY 2025

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH



STRENGTHENING EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS AT GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

We started this month with a meeting with the **Guam Community College (GCC) Youth Build Program** leaders to discuss ways to strengthen workforce training, expand student resources, and enhance career pathways, ensuring students have the support they need to succeed.



Our community participation also included celebrating the **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for GUMA Famalao'an Lighthouse Recovery Center**, marking the opening of a vital facility dedicated to supporting women's recovery and empowerment and participating in **public hearings** to address legislative priorities aimed at improving public services and fostering economic growth. Additionally, we engaged with **KUAM News** to discuss key policy initiatives focused on strengthening Guam's workforce, education system, and community development efforts.



Public Hearing & TAG Briefing with Brigadier Michael W. Cruz



Exclusive interview with KUAM News



ADDRESSING THE FUTURE: SOUTHERN HIGH TOWN HALL FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS, MAINTENANCE AND REFURBISHMENT

On February 25th, I had the privilege of joining colleagues from the **Guam Department of Education (GDOE)**, the **38th Guam Legislature**, and the **local school community** for the first of many opportunities for the public to voice their questions and concerns. It was an honor to be among individuals who share a strong commitment to education and student success.



MARCH 2025

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

CELEBRATING THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM: 57TH CHARTER DAY AND 73 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



I had the opportunity to present my first resolution with my colleagues from the **38th Guam Legislature** commending the University of Guam on their **57th Charter Day** and celebrating the **73rd anniversary** of the university's founding. This milestone underscores the invaluable contributions of UOG to our community and education in Guam.

BIBA TRITONS!





VIETNAM WAR VETERANS PROCLAMATION SIGNING



NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY



OUR ISLAND'S HEROES: CELEBRATING OUR VETERANS

I proudly celebrate the strength and resilience of veterans while reflecting on my own journey in the military. As Vice Chairman of Veterans Affairs I am dedicated to honoring our shared experiences and advocating for the needs of those who have served for our island. Each moment captured serves as a tribute to the unwavering camaraderie among veterans, celebrating the bonds forged through sacrifice and service for our people. Together, we honor the valor of all veterans, creating a lasting legacy that inspires future generations to cherish and support those who have bravely worn the uniform.



VETERANS COMMANDERS LUNCHEON

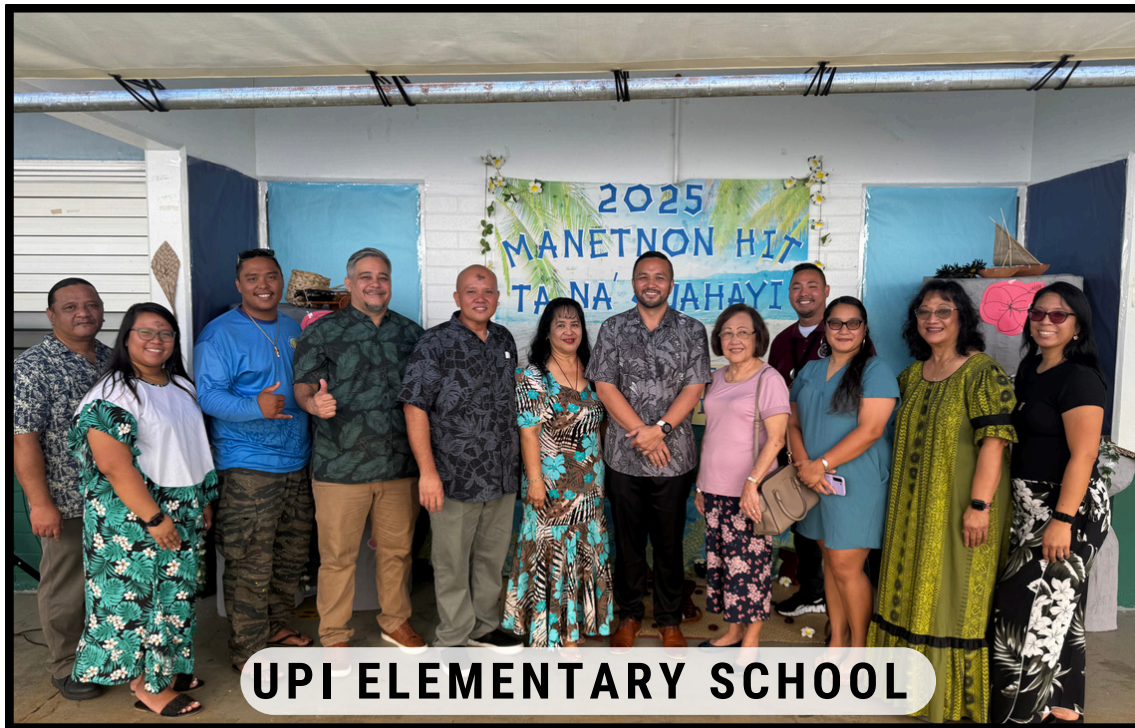


HONORING COMMUNITIES: CELEBRATING SOCIAL WORK AND CHAMORU HERITAGE

The month of March commemorates both Social Workers and CHamoru heritage. We honor the vital contributions of social workers in promoting social justice and support within our community.

This month and always, we celebrate our island's unique culture and history and keep tradition and our people's values close to heart in all we do.





UPI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ENGAGEMENT & INSPIRATION: SCHOOL VISITS & EVENTS

I am excited to share my recent experiences visiting our local schools, attending educational events, and recognizing various institutions throughout the month of March. These visits provided me with the opportunity to engage with our students, educators, and parents and see firsthand the innovative programs and initiatives being implemented in our island.



UNTALAN MIDDLE SCHOOL
SCIENCE FAIR



JOHN F. KENNEDY DAY



GUAM SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
CENTER DAY

AHEAD — LOOKING



Office of Senator Vince Borja



The 38th Guam Legislature

The first four months of this term have been busy and productive for my office. As we take on one of the largest legislative committees, our team remains steadfast in its mission. As we move into the second fiscal quarter of 2025, we have identified several key priorities:

- ★ **Funding for GDOE, University of Guam, UOG Press, Charter Schools, & Public Libraries**
- ★ **School Communities Town Halls**
- ★ **GDOE Alignment Bill, 1:1 School Aid Support, Veteran Higher Education, Maintenance Project Management for GDOE, & More**

Your Voice Matters!

Progress is only possible with your input and support. The needs of our island cannot be met without community engagement and collaboration. I encourage you to stay involved, share your thoughts, and sign up for our email updates to receive the latest news on our initiatives.

Stay connected: www.senatorborja.com

SI YU'OS MA'ÅSE'