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Pacific Islands Judicial Education Programs

2020 Preliminary Fiscal Year Report

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2020 Fiscal Year Report

This report describes the judicial education training programs funded by grants from the Department of the Interior in fiscal year 2018 benefitting the judiciaries of the American territories and Freely Associated States in the Pacific. This document is submitted to satisfy the reporting requirements stipulated in the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Department of the Interior and the Administrative Office of the United States Federal Courts. The report enables the Office of Insular Affairs of the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Congress to assess the performance of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council Pacific Islands Committee relative to its mission and stewardship of the funds entrusted to it. Additional copies of this report are available by sending a request to:

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About the Pacific Islands Committee

The Judicial Council of the Ninth Circuit established the Pacific Islands Committee to fulfill the oversight responsibilities of the Council and of the Judicial Conference of the United States with respect to the judiciaries of the American territories in the Pacific (American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) and of the former Trust Territories: the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. The United States assisted with the formation of the judiciaries in these islands and the Pacific Islands Committee is charged with monitoring their judicial development. Traditionally, the courts of the Pacific administered justice with modest levels of resources.

The specific responsibilities of the Pacific Islands Committee include assisting in the development and provision of continuing judicial education and court professional training, and overall improvement of the administration of justice in the courts. The committee also has oversight responsibility for judicial education grants from the Department of the Interior which provide the funding for the training activities contained in this report.

The Pacific Islands Committee is composed of federal judges appointed by the chief judge of the Ninth Circuit. In FY 2019-2020, the membership included:

Pacific Islands Committee	Title	2018
Hon. M. Margaret McKeown	<i>Chair</i> Circuit Judge	United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
Hon. A. Wallace Tashima	Senior Circuit Judge	United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
Hon. Richard R. Clifton	Senior Circuit Judge	United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
Hon. Morgan Christen	Circuit Judge	United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
Hon. Donald W. Molloy	Senior District Judge	District of Montana
Hon. Michael W. Mosman	Chief District Judge	District of Oregon
Hon. Frances Tydingco-Gatewood	Chief District Judge	District of Guam
Hon. Ramona Villagomez Manglona	Chief District Judge	District of the Northern Mariana Islands
Ms. Elizabeth Smith	Circuit Executive	Office of the Circuit Executive
Ms. Renée S. Lorda	Assistant Circuit Executive	Office of the Circuit Executive
Mr. Russell W Mathieson	Education Specialist	Office of the Circuit Executive

Overview of the Pacific Islands Judicial Education Program

The Department of the Interior appropriates funds each fiscal year to the Ninth Circuit to provide judicial training programs in the Pacific territories and Freely Associated States. This funding, which is mandated by Congress, covers the cost of presenter/staff travel, training materials and the travel costs of attendees for judicial education programs developed for the American territories and former territories in the Pacific. Each year, the Pacific Islands Committee of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council provides Interior with a written report summarizing the programs and related expenses.

In Fiscal Year 2018, the courts of American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, the Marshall Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Palau participated in a wide variety of training programs designed to strengthen court governance and the rule of law, improve judicial systems and processes, and develop the skills of newly appointed judicial officers. The objectives of the training programs are as follows:

- The training of judges to provide fair, impartial, and speedy justice, with a bench imbued with integrity, professionalism and competence
- The training of court leaders with ethical principles to train court staff and lead courts in the 21st century
- The training of lawyers to provide a pool of qualified candidates to fill future judicial vacancies
- The training of court interpreters to provide access to justice to local communities
- The training of probation officers, court security officers, and other court personnel to effectively and efficiently administer access to justice

Program Development

The Pacific Islands Committee of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, which oversees the delivery of judicial training in these island jurisdictions, works closely with the Education Committee of the Pacific Judicial Council [PJC] to plan, develop, and deliver judicial training and court development services locally. In addition, the Committee works independently with the leadership of the judiciary of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to coordinate training consistent with the goals established by the judiciary's strategic plan and to provide scholarship opportunities to U.S. mainland trainings when those programs best serve the needs of the stakeholders. Compact Funds also support programs developed independently by the courts of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Target Audience

The assessment performed by the National Judicial College identifies the principal target audience for judicial training. This document, along with the FSM and RMI strategic plans, and the leadership of the judges who make up the PJC Education Committee, determine the training priorities each year. In fiscal year 2018, the highest educational needs have included practical training for probation officers, court administrators, and judicial officers. For judges, training focused on a wide variety of topics ranging from evidence, judicial writing, FAS/Territorial immigration issues, and attorney discipline.

Measuring the Impact of Judicial Training

Each program is evaluated to determine the impact of professional development on judicial (or staff) knowledge, beliefs/attitudes, and skills. Evaluation assures that the beneficiaries of this training have the knowledge and skills required to perform their judicial branch responsibilities with fairness and integrity. It preserves impartiality and access to the justice system; and ensures the administration of justice as well as public trust and confidence in the judicial branch.

For each program, ongoing evaluation is carried out to monitor cost efficiencies and evaluate program impact. To enable effective evaluation, precisely defined learning objectives are established for each program developed or attended by a funded participant. Careful evaluation of each program by participants is carried out and a summary reviewed by the program planning committee.

The effectiveness of the judicial education programs developed in FY 2014 in terms of learning gain, attitudinal or behavioral change, and improved professional conduct and performance was measured by a combination of the following:

- Participant satisfaction and self-evaluation forms
- Assessment of learning outcomes
- Reports written and submitted by scholarship recipients and program attendees
- A review of court annual reports.

2020 Programs at a Glance

In fiscal year 2020, ten judicial education projects were supported by funds from the Department of the Interior. The number of funded programs was greatly reduced from previous years because the COVID19 pandemic and related travel bans in place on many of the islands. Funding sources include the Technical Assistance Grant for judicial education awarded to the Ninth Circuit for training programs to benefit the judiciaries of American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of Palau and Compact Funds for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI). The programs in this section are listed in chronological order and outcomes can be found beginning on page 13 of this report.

1. GENJR NJC: General Jurisdiction

Dates: October 7-17, 2019
Location: Reno, NV
Attendees: 1 Judge
Total Cost: \$7,285.08
Funding: Compact Funds

2. CTINT PJC Advanced Court Interpreter Training

Dates: November 5-7, 2019
Location: Pohnpei, FSM
Attendees: 26 Sponsored Participants
Total Cost: \$79,473.18
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

3. AJIDC Appellate Judges Education Institute

Dates: November 14-17, 2019
Location: Washington, DC
Attendees: 2 Justices
Total Cost: \$6,614.47
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

4. LIEVD Pacific Islands Legal Institute – Evidence
Dates: December 2-5, 2019
Location: Honolulu, HI
Attendees: 14 Judges
Total Cost: \$70,136.60
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

5. DECIS NJC: Decision Making
Dates: December 9-12, 2019
Location: Reno, NV
Attendees: 1 Chief Justice
Total Cost: \$9,227.85
Funding: Compact Funds

6. MDWIN FJC Mid-Winter Workshop
Dates: January 27-29, 2020
Location: Palm Springs
Attendees: 4 Island Chief Justices
Total Cost: \$13,333.80
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

7. ACTLS ACTL Trial Practice Training
Dates: January 27-29, 2020
Location: Saipan
Attendees: 26 Sponsored Participants
Total Cost: \$53,019.44
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

8. ETHIC NJC: Ethics and Reaching Higher Ground
Dates: June 6 – July 24, 2020
Location: Web-Based Training Series
Attendees: 1 Judge
Total Cost: \$689.00
Funding: Compact Funds

9. COVID COVID19 and the Courts
Dates: June 19, 2020
Location: Zoom Webinar
Attendees: 21 Judges and Court Managers
Total Cost: \$1,146.06
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

10. SCIEV NJC: Scientific Evidence Webinar Series

Dates: July 31 – October 22, 2020

Location: Web-Based Training Series

Attendees: 23 Judges and Law Clerks

Total Cost: \$4,461.00

Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

PARTICIPANTS AND JURISDICTIONS SERVED

American Samoa			
1	Tafito Aitaoto	Court Interpreter	High Court of American Samoa
2	Iosefa Faiai	Associate Judge	High Court of American Samoa
3	Elvis Patea	Acting Associate Justice	High Court of American Samoa
4	Fiti Sunia	Associate Justice	High Court of American Samoa
5	Alaalafaga Tunupopo	Associate Judge	High Court of American Samoa
6	Claude Young	Deputy Probation Officer/Interpreter	High Court of American Samoa
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands			
1	Anthony Aguon	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
2	Wesley Bogdan	Associate Judge	CNMI Superior Court
3	Carmen Borja	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
4	Matthew Brown	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
5	Joseph Camacho	Associate Judge	CNMI Superior Court
6	Alexandro C. Castro	Chief Justice	Supreme Court, CNMI Judiciary
7	Keith Chambers	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
8	Emily Dombrowski	Law Clerk	Supreme Court, CNMI Judiciary
9	Kenneth Govendo	Associate Judge	CNMI Superior Court
10	Alan Gudino	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
11	Crispulo Hilario	Interpreter	CNMI Supreme Court
12	Perry B. Inos	Associate Justice	CNMI Supreme Court
13	Heather Kennedy	Magistrate Judge	U.S. District Court for the NMI
14	JUNGHEE KIM	Interpreter	CNMI Supreme Court
15	Teresa Kim-Tenorio	Judge	CNMI Superior Court
16	Claudia Larson	Interpreter	CNMI Supreme Court
17	John Brendan Layde	Law Clerk	Supreme Court, CNMI Judiciary
18	Hyun Jae Lee	General Counsel	CNMI Judiciary
19	John A. Manglona	Associate Justice	Supreme Court, CNMI Judiciary
20	Ramona Manglona	Chief Judge	U.S. District Court for the NMI
21	Roberto Naraja	Presiding Judge	CNMI Superior Court
22	Andrew Ojeda	Law Clerk	Supreme Court, CNMI Judiciary
23	Obi Onyeozili	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
24	Dean Palacios	Executive Legal Assistant	CNMI Judiciary
25	George Smith	Public Health Insurance Admin.	U.S. District Court for the NMI
26	Gretchen Smith	Clerk of Court	Supreme Court, CNMI Judiciary
27	John Henry Tagabuel	Interpreter	CNMI Supreme Court
28	Dennis Tse	Interpreter	CNMI Superior Court
29	Mercedes Usenuku	Interpreter	CNMI Superior Court

Guam			
1	Shelterihna Alokoa	Chamber/Courtroom Clerk	Guam Supreme Court
2	Kristina Baird	Administrator of the Courts	Judiciary of Guam
3	Kirsten L. Bamba	ASL Interpreter	Judiciary of Guam
4	Arthur Barcinas	Judge	Superior Court of Guam
5	Michael Bordallo	Magistrate Judge	Guam District Court
6	Michael Bumagat	Research Attorney	Supreme Court of Guam
7	F. Philip Carbullido	PJC STAFF	Supreme Court of Guam
8	Maria Cenzon	Judge	Superior Court of Guam
9	Yvonne Cruz	Clerk	Superior Court of Guam
10	Yvonne Cruz	Clerk	Superior Court of Guam
11	Dianne Gudmalin	Finance Administrator	Judiciary of Guam
12	Chung Ling Harrell	Mandarin Interpreter	Judiciary Of Guam
13	Elyze Iriarte	Judge	Superior Court of Guam
14	Ronald Laguaña	CHamoru Language Interpreter	US DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM
15	Alberto Lamorena III	Presiding Judge	Judiciary of Guam
16	Alicia Limtiaco	Director of Policy, Planning and Community Relations	Judiciary of Guam
17	Katherine Maraman	Associate Justice	Supreme Court of Guam
18	Daniel Mensching	Staff Attorney	Superior Court of Guam
19	Casanova Nakamura	Chuukese interpreter	Judiciary Of Guam
20	Vern Perez	Judge	Superior Court of Guam
21	Andrew Quenga	Staff Attorney	Judiciary of Guam
22	Danielle Rosete	Clerk of Court	Superior Court of Guam
23	Thomas Son	Interpreter	District Court of Guam
24	Anita Sukola	Judge Superior Court of Guam	Guam Judiciary
25	Robert Torres	Associate Justice	Guam Supreme Court
26	Frances Tydingco- Gatewood	Chief Judge	Guam District Court
27	Petrina Ula	Chamber Administrator	The Supreme Court of Guam
28	David Welle	Language Assistance Manager	Judiciary of Guam
29	Yoshinobu Israel Yoshinobu	Language Assistant Technician	Judiciary of Guam
Palau			
1	Nicole Gabriel	Courtroom Clerk/Interpreter	Palau Supreme Court
2	Zonalynn Jonathan	Courtroom Clerk Interpreter I	Palau Supreme Court
3	Kathleen Salii	Associate Justice	Palau Judiciary - Supreme Court Trial Division
4	Knox Tkel	Senior Computer Technician	Palau Supreme Court

Chuuk

1	Peterson Chutin	Assistant Clerk of Court	Chuuk State Supreme Court
2	Joanne Nakamura	Chief Clerk of Court	Chuuk State Supreme Court
3	Camillo Noket	Chief Justice	Chuuk State Supreme Court
4	Kerio Walliby	Associate Justice	Chuuk State Supreme Court

FSM Supreme Court

1	Lovelynn Berdon	Assistant Clerk of Court	FSM Supreme Court
2	Mayleen David	secretary court reporter 1	FSM Supreme Court
3	Carleila Edgar	Staff Attorney/Law Clerk	FSM Supreme Court
4	Enlet Jr. Enlet	Staff Attorney	FSM Supreme Court
5	Peter Garangmau	Ombudsman	FSM Supreme Court
6	Johnny Peter	State Justice Ombudsman	FSM Supreme Court
7	Melisa Petrus	Secretary Court reporter	FSM Supreme Court
8	Larry Wentworth	Associate Justice	FSM Supreme Court
9	Joyleen Wichep	Secretary/Court Reporter	FSM Supreme Court-Pohnpei
10	Dennis Yamase	Chief Justice	FSM Supreme Court
11	Belan Yoma	Justice Ombudsman	FSM Supreme Court

Kosrae State Court

1	Mary Belcourt	Legal Counsel	Kosrae State Court
2	Shrue Lonno	Chief Clerk of Court	Kosrae State Court
3	Tulpe Penrose	Sec/Court Reporter	Kosrae State Court
4	Edmond H. Salik	Associate Justice	Kosrae State Court
5	Robinson Timothy	Judge	Kosrae Land Court
6	Atina Waguk	Principal Clerk	Kosrae Land Court
7	Chang William	Chief Justice	Kosrae State Court

Pohnpei State Supreme Court

1	Dania Aisawa	Assistant Clerk of Court	Pohnpei State Supreme Court
2	Esmirelda Elias	Assistant Clerk of Court	Pohnpei State Supreme Court
3	Gustin Harris	Court Administrator	Pohnpei State Supreme Court
4	Nickontro W. Johnny	Associate Justice	Pohnpei State Supreme Court
5	Erwine Hadley Nanpei	Associate Justices	Pohnpei State Supreme court
6	Kimbert Route	Assistant Clerk	Court of Land Tenure/Pohnpei
7	Jackleen Santiago	Principal Clerk	Court of Land Tenure/Pohnpei

Yap State Court

1	Prescilla Figir	Deputy Chief Clerk	Yap State Court
2	Genevieve Mangefel	Pro Tem Judge	Yap State Court
3	Cyprian Manmaw	Chief Justice	Yap State Court
4	Aaron Pongliyab	Admin. Director	Yap State Court
5	Arnold Tawerilfeg	Assistant Clerk 1	Yap State Court
6	Jesse Torwan	Associate Justice	Yap State Court, FSM
7	Jonathan Tun	Associate Justice	Yap State Court

Kosrae State Court

1	Robinson Timothy	Principle Judge	Kosrae Land Court
2	Casey J. Freddy	Staff Attorney	Kosrae State Court
3	Lanl-ilyann A. Nena	Court Reporter/Secretary	Kosrae State Court
4	Airln E. Palik	Secretary/Court Reporter	Kosrae State Court
5	Kenye C. Phillip	Secretary/Court Reporter	Kosrae State Court
6	Verna T. Sigrah	Secretary	Kosrae State Court
7	Atina E. Waguk	Deputy Clerk	Kosrae State Court
8	Marciano Wakuk	Administrator	Kosrae State Court
9	Chang. B. William	Chief Justice	Kosrae State Court

Marshall Islands

1	Dan Cadra	Chief Justice	Supreme Court of the RMI
2	Nixon David	Associate Judge	RMI Traditional Rights Court
3	Walter Elbon	Chief Judge	RMI Traditional Rights Court
4	Carl B. Ingram	Chief Justice	High Court of the Marshall Islands
5	Ingrid Kabua	Chief Clerk of the Courts	Marshall Islands Judiciary
6	Grace Leban	Associate Judge	RMI Traditional Rights Court
7	Caios Lucky	Associate Judge	Marshall Islands District Court
8	Ablos Tarry Paul	Presiding Judge,	Marshall Islands District Court
9	Witten T. Philippo	Associate Justice	RMI High Court

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2020 Program Highlights and Outcomes

1. GENJR NJC General Jurisdiction

Dates: October 7-17, 2019

Location: Reno, NV

Funding: Compact Funds

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The course introduced participants to a variety of subjects and skills they will need and use in their judicial careers. Both academic and experiential teaching techniques were used to provide them with the solid, basic understanding of various topics from ruling on evidence to handling the self-represented litigant. In addition to the substantive law sessions, participants learned about courtroom control, ethical pitfalls and solutions, effective communication techniques, and decision-making strategies. This nine-day course prepared new judges with the tools and resources to face most courtroom situations with confidence.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the completion of the program, attendees were able to:

- Manage their courtroom and individual cases, including cases involving self-represented litigants
- Conduct jury and bench trials more effectively
- Make fair and unbiased decisions
- Communicate more effectively from the bench, using both verbal and nonverbal communication techniques
- Summarize and apply developments in criminal law and procedure, family law, judicial discretion, judicial ethics, and sentencing
- Rule on evidence more confidently
- Address electronically stored information issues

PROGRAM BUDGET

GENJR	Compact Funds	Totals
Airfare		
Participants	\$2,491.00	
Totals	\$2,491.00	\$2,491.00
Tuition & Fees		
NJC	\$2,378.00	
Totals	\$2,378.00	\$2,378.00
Per Diem		
Sleeping rooms	\$2,415.58	
Totals	\$2,415.58	\$2,415.58
Total Expenses	\$7,284.58	\$7,284.58

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Compact

Name	Title	Court
Witten Philippo	Associate Justice	High Court of RMI

2. CTINT PJC Court Interpreter Conference
Dates: November 5-7, 2019
Location: Pohnpei
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This course focused on the court interpreter’s role and ethics guidelines for court interpreters. The course allowed participants to practice skills in the areas of site translation, simultaneous translation, vocabulary building, and note taking skills. These practical activities were designed to encourage short term and long-term memory development. Such activities included learning to listen for meaning, memory exercises, shadowing, dual task training, paraphrasing, and sight translation.

PROGRAM BUDGET

CTINT	Technical Assistance	Compact Funds	Totals
Airfare			
Participants	\$24,882.63	\$3,886.47	\$28,769.10
Faculty and Staff	\$5,062.58	\$3,621.09	\$8,683.67
Totals	\$29,945.21	\$7,507.56	\$37,452.77
Hotel			
Participants	\$11,609.69	\$4,100.43	\$15,710.12
Faculty and Staff	\$3,118.88	\$2,230.83	\$5,349.71
Totals	\$14,728.57	\$6,331.26	\$21,059.83
Per Diem			
Participants	\$4,610.00	\$1,478.00	\$6,088.00
Faculty and Staff	\$1,536.71	\$1,064.05	\$2,600.76
Totals	\$6,146.71	\$2,542.05	\$8,688.76
Miscellaneous			
Refreshments	\$1,443.69	\$902.30	\$2,345.99
Meeting Room Rental	\$1,808.86	\$1,130.55	\$2,939.41
Supplies	\$640.89	\$400.55	\$1,041.44
Equipment Rental	\$360.00	\$240.00	\$600.00
Ground Transportation	\$800.00	\$500.00	\$1,300.00
Shipping	\$335.38	\$209.60	\$544.98
Professional Services	\$2,153.85	\$1,346.15	\$3,500.00
Totals	\$7,542.67	\$4,729.15	\$12,271.82
Total Expenses	\$58,363.16	\$21,110.02	\$79,473.18

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Technical Assistance Grant

Name	Title	Court
Tafito Aitaoto	Court Interpreter	High Court of American Samoa
Kirsten L. Bamba	ASL Interpreter	Judiciary of Guam

F. Philip Carbullido	PJC STAFF	Supreme Court of Guam
Yvonne Cruz	Clerk	Superior Court of Guam
Chung Ling Harrell	Mandarin Interpreter	Judiciary Of Guam
Crispulo Hilario	Interpreter	CNMI Supreme Court
Junghee Kim	Interpreter	CNMI Supreme Court
Ronald Laguaña	Interpreter	Guam District Court
Claudia Larson	Interpreter	CNMI Supreme Court
Casanova Nakamura	Chuukese interpreter	Judiciary of Guam
Thomas Son	Interpreter	District Court of Guam
John Henry Tagabuel	Interpreter	CNMI Supreme Court
Dennis Tse	Interpreter	CNMI Superior Court
Mercedes Usenuku	Interpreter	CNMI Superior Court
David Welle	Language Assistance Manager	Judiciary of Guam
Yoshinobu Israel Yoshinobu	Language Assistant Technician	Judiciary of Guam
Claude Young	Deputy Probation Officer/Interpreter	High Court of American Samoa
Nicole Gabriel	Courtroom Clerk/Interpreter	Palau Supreme Court
Zonalynn Jonathan	Courtroom Clerk Interpreter I	Palau Supreme Court

Funded by Compact Funds

Name	Title	Court
Dania Aisawa	Assistant Clerk of Court	Pohnpei State Supreme Court
Lovelynn Berdon	Assistant Clerk of Court	FSM Supreme Court
Peterson Chutin	Assistant Clerk of Court	Chuuk State Supreme Court

Mayleen David	secretary court reporter 1	FSM Supreme Court
Merlisa Elesha	Chief Clerk of Court	Sokehs Municipal Court
Esmirelda Elias	Assistant Clerk of Court	Pohnpei State Supreme Court
Prescilla Figir	Deputy Chief Clerk	Yap State Court
Peter Garangmau	Ombudsman	FSM Supreme Court
Shrue Lonno	Chief Clerk of Court	Kosrae State Court
Joanne Nakamura	Chief Clerk of Court	Chuuk State Supreme Court
Tulpe Penrose	Sec/Court Reporter	Kosrae State Court
Johnny Peter	State Justice Ombudsman	FSM Supreme Court
Melisa Petrus	Secretary Court reporter	FSM Supreme Court
Kimbert Route	Assistant Clerk	Court of Land Tenure/Pohnpei
Jackleen Santiago	Principal Clerk	Court of Land Tenure/Pohnpei
Arnold Tawerilfeg	Assistant Clerk 1	Yap State Court
Atina Waguk	Principal Clerk	Kosrae Land Court
Joyleen Wichep	Secretary/Court Reporter	FSM Supreme Court- Pohnpei

3. AIATL Appellate Judges Education Institute
Dates: January 27-29, 2020
Location: Washington, DC
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Two Chief Justices participated in this conference which focused on the education needs of appellate judges. The 2019 institute focused on constitutional law and brought together state and federal appellate judges, lawyers and staff attorneys for a practical, cutting-edge discussions on emerging trends, challenges, and legal issues affecting appellate practitioners and the judiciary. Presenters included leading practitioners from private and government practice, outstanding law professors, and experienced appellate judges and court attorneys. AJEI is the preeminent provider of appellate judicial education in the United States.

PROGRAM BUDGET

AJDC	Technical Assistance	Compact Funds	Totals
Airfare			
	\$ 1,860.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,860.00
Totals	\$ 1,860.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,860.00
Per Diem			
	\$ 1,417.27	\$ 1,836.25	\$3,253.52
Totals	\$ 1,417.27	\$ 1,836.25	\$3,253.52
Other			
Registration	\$595.00	\$745.00	\$1,340.00
Transportation	\$160.95		
Totals	\$755.95	\$745.00	\$1,500.95
Total Expenses	\$4,033.22	\$2,581.25	\$6,614.47

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Technical Assistance Grant

Name	Title	Court
F. Philip Carbullido	Associate Justice	Guam Supreme Court

Funded by Compact Funds

Name	Title	Court
Camillo Noket	Chief Justice	Chuuk State Supreme Court

4. LIEVD Pacific Islands Legal Institute - Evidence
Dates: December 2-5, 2019
Location: Honolulu
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The primary goal of this session was to provide practical knowledge about the rules of evidence that govern trials. This course focused on witness examination, impeachment, physical and demonstrative evidence, expert testimony, writings, relevance, judicial notice, and hearsay. The judges engaged in class discussions as well as hands-on exercises using rules of evidence.

Learning Outcomes:

- Describe the substance of the various rules of evidence used in most jurisdictions
- Work through evidence problems in class using problem-solving skills
- Present evidence at mock trial and respond to objections
- Analyze evidence issues
- Make legal arguments, taking into consideration the facts of a particular situation, the language of applicable rules, the reasoning of case law, and underlying policy considerations
- Describe ethical and professional issues related to the presentation of evidence
- Properly handle evidence presented in court
- Develop processes for requests to view evidence
- Maintain integrity of evidence

PROGRAM BUDGET

LIEVD	Technical Assistance	Compact Funds	Totals
Airfare			
	\$12,460.11	\$17,896.99	\$30,357.10
Totals	\$12,460.11	\$17,896.99	\$30,357.10
Hotel			
	\$1,870.00	\$5,950.00	\$7,820.00
Totals	\$1,870.00	\$5,950.00	\$7,820.00
Per Diem			
	\$0.00	\$4,511.00	\$4,511.00
Totals	\$0.00	\$4,511.00	\$4,511.00
Miscellaneous			
Tuition	\$3,600.00	\$21,600.00	\$25,200.00
Materials	\$230.23	\$1,124.09	\$1,354.32
Refreshments	\$108.45	\$529.47	\$637.92
Ground Transportation	\$43.56	\$212.70	\$256.26
Totals	\$3,982.24	\$23,466.26	\$27,448.50
Total Expenses	\$18,312.35	\$51,824.25	\$70,136.60

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Technical Assistance Grant

Name	Title	Court
Iosefa Fai'ai	Associate Judge	High Court of American Samoa
Alaalafaga Tunupopo	Associate Judge	High Court of American Samoa

Funded by Compact Funds

Name	Title	Court
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Nixon David	Associate Judge	RMI Traditional Rights Court
Walter Elbon	Chief Judge	RMI Traditional Rights Court
Grace Leban	Associate Judge	RMI Traditional Rights Court
Davidson Jajo	Associate Judge	RMI District Court
Nelson Joseph	Chief Justice	Pohnpei State Supreme Court
Caios Lucky	Associate Judge	Marshall Islands District Court
Genevieve Mangefel	Pro Tem Judge	Yap State Court
Erwine Nanpei	Associate Justice	Pohnpei State Supreme Court
Ablos Paul	Presiding Judge	RMI District Court
Robinson Timothy	Judge	Kosrae Land Court
Jesse Torwan	Associate Justice	Yap State Court
Kerio Wallaby	Associate Justice	Chuuk State Supreme Court

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5. DECIS NJC Decision Making
 Dates: December 9-12, 2019
 Location: Palm Springs, CA
 Funding: Compact Funds

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This course focused on the factors that affect the judicial decision-making process and assist judges in the analysis of their own thinking and style. Faculty addressed the psychology of decision making, how personality type may influence decision making, ethical considerations that may impact decision making, how appellate courts review decisions, and practical suggestions to aid in making decisions from the bench.

BUDGET

DECIS	Compact Funds	Totals
Airfare		
	\$5,331.85	
Totals	\$5,331.85	\$5,331.85
Tuition & Fees		
	\$3,896.00	
Totals	\$3,896.00	\$3,896.00
Total Expenses	\$9,227.85	\$9,227.85

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Compact Funds

Name	Title	Court
Mayceleen Anson	Associate Justice	Pohnpei State Supreme Court
Chang William	Chief Justice	Kosrae State Court

6. ACTLS PJC / ACTL Trial Practice Training
Dates: January 27-29, 2020
Location: Saipan
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The training was offered in partnership with the American College of Trial Attorneys (ACTL), which waives all professional fees for their nationally and internationally recognized list of fellows. The training included sessions on the topics of writing judicial opinions, best practices for Pro Se litigants, human trafficking, and international crime law. The sessions on days two and three were open to attorneys in the regions and focused on topics such as mediation ethics, Brady obligations, search and seizure, encouraging civility in the practice of law, and handling domestic violence cases. Additionally, judges and justices served on panels relevant to their expertise and assisted with the dissemination of knowledge to the participating body.

PROGRAM BUDGET

ACTLS	Technical Assistance	Compact Funds	Totals
Airfare			
	\$7,077.18	\$7,960.34	\$15,037.52
Totals	\$7,077.18	\$7,960.34	\$15,037.52
Hotel			
	\$10,767.68	\$15,022.82	\$25,790.50
Totals	\$10,767.68	\$15,022.82	\$25,790.50
Per Diem			
	\$2,187.61	\$3,650.39	\$5,838.00
Totals	\$2,187.61	\$3,650.39	\$5,838.00
Miscellaneous			
Meeting Room Rental	\$1,930.31	\$1,380.69	\$3,311.00
Supplies	\$504.83	\$361.09	\$865.92
Shipping	\$262.35	\$187.65	\$450.00
Ground Transportation	\$1,006.55	\$719.95	\$1,726.50
Totals	\$3,704.04	\$2,649.38	\$6,353.42
Total Expenses	\$23,736.51	\$29,282.93	\$53,019.44

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Technical Assistance Grant

Name	Title	Court
Anthony Augon	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
Arthur Barcinas	Judge	Superior Court of Guam
Wesley Bogdan	Associate Judge	CNMI Superior Court

Michael Bordallo	Judge	Judiciary of Guam
Matthew Brown	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
Michael Bumagat	Research Attorney	Supreme Court of Guam
Joseph Camacho	Associate Judge	CNMI Superior Court
F. Philip Carbullido	Chief Justice	Supreme Court of Guam
Alexandro C. Castro	Chief Justice	CNMI Supreme Court
Maria Cenzon	Judge	Superior Court of Guam
Keith Chambers	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
Yvonne Cruz	Clerk	Superior Court of Guam
Emily Dombrowski	Law Clerk	CNMI Supreme Court
Kenneth Govendo	Associate Judge	CNMI Superior Court
Alan Gudino	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
Perry B. Inos	Associate Justice	CNMI Supreme Court
Elyze Iriarte	Judge	Superior Court of Guam
Heather Kennedy	Magistrate Judge	U.S. District Court for the NMI
Teresa Kim-Tenorio	Associate Judge	CNMI Superior Court
Alberto Lamorena	Presiding Judge	Superior Court
John Brendan Layde	Law Clerk	CNMI Supreme Court

Hyun Jae Lee	General Counsel	CNMI Judiciary
John A. Manglona	Associate Justice	CNMI Supreme Court
Roberto Naraja	Presiding Judge	CNMI Superior Court
Roberto Naraja	Presiding Judge	CNMI Superior Court
Andrew Ojeda	Law Clerk	CNMI Supreme Court
Obi Onyeozili	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court
Dean Palacios	Executive Legal Assistant	CNMI Judiciary
Elvis Patea	Acting Associate Justice	High Court of American Samoa
Vern Perez	Judge	Superior Court of Guam
Gretchen Smith	Clerk of Court	Supreme Court, CNMI Judiciary
Anita Sukola	Judge	Guam Judiciary
Robert Torres	Justice	Supreme Court of Guam
Rochelle Vazquez	Special Assistant	CNMI Superior Court

Funded by Compact Funds

Name	Title	Court
Mary Belcourt	Legal Counsel	Kosrae State Court
Carleila Edgar	Staff Attorney/Law Clerk	FSM Supreme Court
Enlet Enlet, Jr.	Staff Attorney	FSM Supreme Court
Gustin Harris	Court Administrator	Pohnpei State Supreme Court

Nickontro W. Johnny	Associate Justice	Pohnpei State Supreme Court
Cyprian Manmaw	Chief Justice	Yap State Court
Joab Paul	prosecutor	Pohnpei State AG Office
Edmond H. Salik	Associate Justice	Kosrae State Court
Kachie Sana	Trial Counselor	FSM Public Defender Office
Robinson Timothy	Judge	Kosrae Land Court
Jonathan Tun	Associate Justice	Yap State Court
Chang William	Chief Justice	Kosrae State Court

Additional Training Beneficiary (at no added cost)

Name	Title	Court
Mary Belcourt	Legal Counsel	Kosrae State Court
Kathleen Aguon	Attorney	Guam Public Defender Service
Nixon Aldan	Prosecutor	Kolonia Town Court
Nixon Alten	Assistant Public Defender	FSM Public Defender Office
Keisha Blaise	Assistant Attorney General	Attorney General's Office
John Bradley	Chief Prosecutor	Attorney General's Office
Pamela Brown Blackburn	Executive Director	Pacific Ombudsman for Humanitarian Law
Catherine Cachero	Of Counsel	Marianas Legal Strategy Group
Barbara Cepeda	Directing Attorney	Micronesia Legal Services Corporation

Dack McCoy Daniel	Trial Counselor	FSM Public Defender Office
Tyson Elias	assistant Public Defender	FSM Public Defender Office
Earl Anthony Espiritu	Attorney	Guam Public Defender Service
Sean Frink	Attorney	CNMI & Guam
Ana Maria Gayle	Managing Attorney	Alternate Public Defender/PDSC
Matthew Gregory	Attorney	CNMI
Hanky Hadley	Trial Counselor/Investigator	FSM Public Defender Office
Leslie Healer	Assistant Attorney General	Office of the Attorney General
Charity Hodson	Attorney	Law Office of Charity Hodson
Jackson F. Joseph	Chief Prosecutor	Office of the Attorney General
Nathaniel Inglemog	Assistant Public Defender	FSM Public Defender Office
Kastle Lund-Turner	Assistant Attorney General	Office of the Attorney General
Jose Mafnas	Assistant Attorney General	Office of the Attorney General
Oliver Manglona	Lawyer	Private Practice
Joe McDoulett	Attorney	Private Practice
Michael Nakasone	Trial Counselor	FSM Public Defender Office
Brien Sers Nicholas	Attorney	Law Office
Jacqueline Nicolas	Admin. Hearing Officer	CNMI Department of Labor

Jean Pierre Nogues	Assistant Public Defender	CNMI Public Defender's Office
Deanna Ogo	Assistant Attorney General	Office of the Attorney General
Steven Pixley	Attorney at Law	Private Practice
Joey San Nicolas	Attorney	San Nicolas Law Office, LLC
Theresa Rojas	Attorney	Guam Public Defender Service
Vincent Seman	Attorney	Private Practice
James Sirok	Attorney	CNMI
Joseph Taijeron	Legal Counsel	CNMI Legislative Bureau
Lillian Tenorio	Deputy Attorney General	Office of the Attorney General
Jacqueline Terlaje	Attorney	Guam Bar Association
Colin Thompson	Managing Attorney	Thompson Law, LLC
Erin Toolan	Assistant Attorney General	OAG - Criminal Division
Nicole Torres-Ripple	In-House Counsel	NMI Settlement Fund
Samantha Vickery	Assistant Attorney General	Office of the Attorney General
Mysud Wesley	Trial Counselor	FSM Public Defender Office
Michael White	Attorney at Law	None
Kulian William	Trial Counselor	FSM Public Defender Office
Heather Zona	Assistant Public Defender	Public Defender

7. MDWIN FJC Mid-Winter Workshop
 Dates: January 27-29, 2020
 Location: Palm Springs
 Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Ninth Circuit’s Mid-Winter Workshop is a biennial program funded by the Federal Judicial Center. The general sessions included presentations by experts in environmental law, cyber security, first amendment issues, competency and dangerousness assessment, and immigration issues. The chief justices also participated in the Ninth Circuit’s Pacific Islands Committee biannual meeting which is held on site at this workshop.

PROGRAM BUDGET

MDWIN	Technical Assistance	Compact Funds	Totals
Airfare			
	\$1,384.05	\$6,645.83	\$8,029.88
Totals	\$1,384.05	\$6,645.83	\$8,029.88
Hotel			
	\$759.52	\$3,534.40	\$4,293.92
Totals	\$759.52	\$3,534.40	\$4,293.92
Per Diem			
	\$380.00	\$630.00	\$1,010.00
Totals	\$380.00	\$630.00	\$1,010.00
Total Expenses	\$2,523.57	\$10,810.23	\$13,333.80

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Compact Funds

Name	Title	Court
Dan Cadra	Chief Justice	RMI Supreme Court
Carl B. Ingram	Chief Justice	RMI High Court
Dennis K. Yamase	Chief Justice	FSM Supreme Court

Funded by Technical Assistance Grant

Name	Title	Court
Katherine Maraman	Associate Justice	Guam Supreme Court

8. ETHIC Ethics & Judging-Reaching High Ground

Dates: June 6 – July 24, 2020

Location: Online

Funding: Compact Funds

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This faculty-led online course allowed participants to identify and distinguish between proper and improper court-related behavior, communication between lawyers and litigants, and interactions with pro se/unrepresented litigants. This course also explored how inherent bias may impact court proceedings, and how to mitigate those effects in your courtroom, and how to deal with immigrants or court participants with different cultural values

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the completion of the program, attendees were able to:

- Identify and distinguish between proper and improper court-related behavior
- Identify and distinguish between proper and improper action in dealing with pro se/unrepresented litigants
- Identify and distinguish between proper and improper action in dealing with ex parte communication
- Identify and explain how perceptions of immigrants, different cultures, and gender may impact court proceedings
- Nullify the effect of any bias and prejudice to maintain the integrity of the court for all participants
- Identify and rectify areas of bias in the courtroom

PROGRAM BUDGET

ETHIC	Compact Funds	Totals
Tuition & Fees		
	\$ 689.00	
Totals	\$ 689.00	\$ 689.00
Total Expenses	\$ 689.00	\$ 689.00

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Compact Funds

Name	Title	Court
Larry Wentworth	Associate Justice	FSM Supreme Court

9. COVID COVID19 and the Courts Webinar
 Dates: June 19, 2020
 Location: Webinar
 Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Grant

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Pacific Island Committee developed this 1-hour webinar in response to the issues they courts were having with shutdowns and delays related to the COVID19 pandemic. The webinar featured a panel of court leadership participating in a moderated discussion.

PROGRAM BUDGET

COVID	Technical Assistance	Compact Funds	Totals
Miscellaneous			
Annual Zoom Webinar License	\$ 687.64	\$ 458.42	
Totals	\$ 687.64	\$ 458.42	\$ 1,146.06
Total Expenses	\$ 687.64	\$ 458.42	\$ 1,146.06

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Technical Assistance Grant

Name	Title	Court
Shelterihna Alokoa	Chamber/Courtroom Clerk	Guam Supreme Court
Kristina Baird	Administrator of the Courts	Judiciary of Guam
Arthur Barcinas	Judge	Superior Court of Guam
Wesley Bogdan	Associate Judge	CNMI Superior Court
Dianne Gudmalin	Finance Administrator	Judiciary of Guam
Heather Kennedy	Clerk of Court	US District Court - NMI

Teresa Kim-Tenorio	Judge	CNMI Superior Court
Alberto Lamorena III	Presiding Judge	Judiciary of Guam
Alicia Limtiaco	Director	Judiciary of Guam
Katherine Maraman	Associate Justice	Guam Supreme Court
Daniel Mensching	Staff Attorney	Superior Court of Guam
Andrew Quenga	Staff Attorney	Judiciary of Guam
Danielle Rosete	Clerk of Court	Superior Court of Guam
Robert Torres	Associate Justice	Guam Supreme Court
Frances Tydingco-Gatewood	Chief Judge	Guam District Court / Pacific Islands Committee
Petrina Ula	Chamber Administrator	The Supreme Court of Guam
Ingrid Kabua	Chief Clerk of the Courts	Marshall Islands Judiciary
Witten T. Philippo	Associate Justice	RMI High Court
Kathleen Salii	Associate Justice	Palau Judiciary
Knox Tkel	Senior Computer Technician	Palau Supreme Court

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Compact Funds

Name	Title	Court
Aaron Pongliyab	Admin. Director	Yap State Court
Chang William	Chief Justice	Kosrae State Court
Belan Yoma	Justice Ombudsman	FSM Supreme Court

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10. SCIEV Scientific Evidence Webinar Series

Dates: July 31 – October 22, 2020
Location: Online
Funding: Compact Funds and Technical Assistance Funds

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Judges are the guardians of our system of justice, but forensic developments in the last 50 years have made their jobs significantly harder. The existing rules of evidence and procedure have not always anticipated new scientific discoveries. As evidentiary gatekeepers, judges must be able to anticipate and prepare to rule on admission of new areas of scientific evidence. In addition, some previously admitted evidence has now been discredited by the scientific community. This series of courses was developed to provide judges with the knowledge they need to have a detailed understanding of their role in admitting scientific evidence.

PROGRAM BUDGET

SCIEV	Technical Assistance	Compact Funds	Totals
Registration Fees			
Tuition	\$ 2,676.60	\$ 1,784.40	
Totals	\$ 2,676.60	\$ 1,784.40	\$ 4,461.00
Total Expenses	\$ 2,676.60	\$ 1,784.40	\$ 4,461.00

PARTICIPANTS

Funded by Technical Assistance Grant

Name	Title	Court
Arthur Barcinas	Judge	Superior Court of Guam
Wesley Bogdan	Associate Judge	CNMI Superior Court
Michael Bordallo	Magistrate Judge	Guam District Court
Carmen Borja	Law Clerk	CNMI Superior Court

Emily Dombrowski	Law Clerk	CNMI Supreme Court
Perry B. Inos	Associate Justice	CNMI Supreme Court
Heather Kennedy	Magistrate Judge	U.S. District Court for the NMI
Alberto Lamorena	Presiding Judge	Superior Court
John Brendan Layde	Law Clerk	CNMI Supreme Court
John A. Manglona	Associate Justice	CNMI Supreme Court
Ramona Manglona	Chief Judge	NMI District Court
Katherine Maraman	Chief Justice	Guam Supreme Court
Elvis Patea	Acting Associate Justice	High Court of American Samoa
George Smith	Health Insurance Admin.	U.S. District Court - Northern
Gretchen Smith	Clerk of Court	CNMI Supreme Court
Fiti Sunia	Associate Justice	High Court of American Samoa
Robert Torres	Associate Justice	Supreme Court of Guam
Frances Tydingco-Gatewood	Chief Judge	Guam District Court

Funded by Compact Funds

Name	Title	Court
Carl Ingram	Chief Justice	High Court of the Marshall Islands

Cyprian Manmaw	Chief Justice	Yap State Court
Witten Philippo	Associate Justice	High Court of the Marshall Islands
Larry Wentworth	Associate Justice	FSM Supreme Court
Chang William	Chief Justice	Kosrae State Court

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Financial Management

The financial management functions of the Department of the Interior grants awarded to the Ninth Circuit are performed in accordance with the financial and travel policies of the U.S. Federal Courts with oversight provided by the Office of Financial Management of the Ninth Circuit office of the Circuit Executive.

Technical Assistance Grant

For fiscal year 2020, a Technical Assistance Grant of \$333,800 was awarded to assist the judiciaries of American Samoa, CNMI, Guam, and Palau. After subtracting administrative expenses, there was a total of \$239,944 available. Program expenses for fiscal year 2020 totaled \$110,333 leaving a balance of \$129,611 at the close of the fiscal year.

The expenditures for fiscal year 2020 were much less than anticipated due the cancellation of seven live trainings and several scholarships because of the COVID19 pandemic and related travel disruptions.

Technical Assistance Summary (4-Isles)	FY 2020	Totals
Fiscal Year Appropriation	\$333,800	
Less Administrative Fees	(\$93,856)	
FY20 Amount Available	\$256,891	
FY20 Program Expenses	\$110,333	
FY20 Closing Balance	\$129,611	

Compact Funds

Section 105(i) of Public Law 108-188 established an annual program for the training of judges and court staff of the judiciaries in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands in cooperation with the Pacific Islands Committee of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council. The base amount of the program was established at \$300,000, an amount adjusted annually for inflation by Section 118 of the Compact of Free Association. The FY 2020 adjusted total was set at \$366,390. After subtracting administrative expenses, there was a total of \$313,100 available for education programs. Program expenses for FY 2020 Compact Funds for judicial education totaled \$135,035 leaving a balance of \$178,046 at the close of FY 2020.

The expenditures for fiscal year 2020 were much less than anticipated due the cancellation of seven live trainings and several scholarships because of the COVID19 pandemic and related travel disruptions.

Compact Funds		FY 2020	
FY20 Appropriation	\$372,900		
Less Administrative Fees	\$59,800		
Sub-Total	\$313,100		
		FSM	RMI
Division of Funds	70:30	70%	30%
FY20 Amount Available		\$219,170	\$93,930
FY20 Program Expenses		\$91,702	\$ 43,352
FY20 Closing Balance		\$127,468	\$50,578

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