



UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

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Attorney General Abandons Organic Act Duty Bringing Critical Government Services to Grinding Halt

Hagåtña, Guam - The Office of the Governor issues the following statement:

“Attorney General Doug Moylan has decided to disregard the Organic Act of Guam, which requires him to serve as the Chief Legal Officer of the Government of Guam. This means his Organic Act responsibility is to serve as the attorney for the Government of Guam and the taxpayers it serves. Every Attorney General has upheld this Organic Act mandate without drama except this one.

Instead, the Attorney General has sent a letter to dozens of GovGuam agencies, who are by law his clients, notifying them that he is "temporarily withdrawing" from representing them or providing legal services to them. Attorney General Moylan appears to have taken this action in response to impending court decisions considering whether his office violated his ethical obligations by advising agencies on legal issues, then prosecuting that same agency director and employees who followed the Attorney General's office's advice, a clear conflict of interest.

In addition to refusing to provide legal advice to agencies, the Office of the Attorney General is refusing to sign documents as mandated by law, including critical government procurement documents and contracts, placing tens of millions of federal grant dollars at risk, stalling procurements that the Office of the Attorney General has already delayed reviewing for months, and effectively grinding critical GovGuam services to a halt to the detriment of our people. This includes the Adult Day Care, the Guma Mina'ase Foster Care Group Home, GovGuam Health Insurance, the Guam Department of Education's school repairs, various Department of Public Works projects, and virtually any pending GovGuam procurement and contracts. These are just some examples, but the full scope of the impacts are far-reaching and still being compiled.

Attorney General Moylan is the only attorney general in Guam's history unable to manage both his Organic Act responsibility to agencies and his public prosecutor role. By refusing to fulfill his responsibility to government agencies, many of which do not have attorneys on staff, the Attorney General is effectively abandoning his Organic Act duties to preserve his ability to prosecute agency officials whom his office previously advised.”

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