

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
199-38 (COR)	Tina Rose Muña-Barnes V. Anthony Ada Frank F. Blas, Jr. Joe S. San Agustin Vincent A.V. Borja	Relative to posthumously recognizing the Late Chief of Police †Stephen Cruz Ignacio for his Exemplary Service, Leadership, and Dedication to the People of Guam; Honoring His Distinguished Career in Law Enforcement; and Expressing Sincere Condolences to His Family, Friends, and Colleagues.	6/30/26 12:03 p.m.	7/7/26 10:00 a.m.						

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2026 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 199-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Tina Rose Muña-Barnes

V. Anthony Ada

Frank Blas, Jr.

Joe S. San Agustín

Vincent A.V. Borja

Relative to Posthumously Recognizing the Late Chief of Police †Stephen Cruz Ignacio for his Exemplary Service, Leadership, and Dedication to the People of Guam; Honoring His Distinguished Career in Law Enforcement; and Expressing Sincere Condolences to His Family, Friends, and Colleagues.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:

WHEREAS, the people of Guam mourn the passing of Chief †Stephen Cruz Ignacio, a respected law enforcement leader, devoted public servant, mentor, husband, father, friend, and guardian of our island community whose life was defined by an unwavering commitment to serving others; and

WHEREAS, Chief Stephen Cruz Ignacio, a proud son of Guam, was born on May 15, 1968, to the late Maria Cruz Ignacio and Daniel Ignacio. A native of Malesso' and longtime resident of Barrigada, he remained deeply connected to the people and communities of Guam throughout his life and career; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Chief Ignacio was the devoted husband of the late Betty Jean L.
2 Ignacio and a loving father whose greatest pride was his family. He is survived by his
3 children, Frances Jean Barnes and her husband, Coby Barnes; Stephanie Lorenzo and
4 Mason Obispo; and Stephen Matthew Lorenzo; his grandchildren, Gabriel Barnes and
5 his wife, Corri Barnes, and Liam Barnes; his great-granddaughter, Inina Barnes; and his
6 sister, Brenda Pangelinan, and her husband, Raymond Pangelinan; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Chief Ignacio received his early education at Merizo Elementary
8 School, Inarajan Middle School, and Inarajan High School, where he developed the
9 values of discipline and service that would guide him throughout his life and
10 distinguished career in law enforcement; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Chief Ignacio dedicated nearly thirty-nine (39) years of faithful
12 service to the people of Guam through the Guam Police Department, beginning his
13 career as a Police Recruit in the 28th Police Recruit Training Academy on August 31,
14 1987, and serving continuously until June 15, 2026; and

15 **WHEREAS**, throughout his distinguished career, Chief Ignacio embodied the
16 ideals of public service and steadily rose through every rank of the Guam Police
17 Department, serving as Police Officer I from August 31, 1988, to December 6, 1989;
18 Police Officer II from December 7, 1989, to September 19, 1992; Police Officer III
19 from September 20, 1992, to July 25, 1998; Police Sergeant from July 26, 1998, to
20 November 3, 2004; Police Lieutenant from November 4, 2004, to April 25, 2009; Police
21 Captain from April 26, 2009, to January 6, 2019; Acting Chief of Police from January
22 7, 2019, to April 24, 2019; and Chief of Police from April 25, 2019, until his passing
23 on June 15, 2026; and

24 **WHEREAS**, his advancement through the ranks reflected not only his
25 professional competence, but the trust and confidence placed in him by his fellow
26 officers, elected leaders, and the people of Guam, who recognized in him a steady and
27 principled leader capable of guiding the department; and

1 **WHEREAS**, during his tenure, Chief Ignacio served in numerous command and
2 administrative assignments, including as Division Chief of the Highway Patrol
3 Division, Auxiliary Services Division Chief, Administration Division Chief, Acting
4 Chief of the Criminal Investigations Division, Acting Neighborhood Patrol Division
5 Chief, Acting Services Bureau Chief, Acting Operations Bureau Chief, and Acting
6 Police Commander, acquiring extensive experience across virtually every major
7 operational function of the Guam Police Department and demonstrating a deep
8 understanding of the complex responsibilities entrusted to law enforcement agencies;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS**, Chief Ignacio's distinguished service was recognized throughout
11 his career through numerous commendations, citations, and awards that reflected his
12 unwavering dedication to public safety and the protection of the people of Guam,
13 including the Governor's Distinguished Medal, one of the highest recognitions
14 bestowed upon public servants for exceptional service; and

15 **WHEREAS**, during Police Week 2003, he was awarded the Distinguished
16 Service Award in recognition of his commendable work performance and exceptional
17 contributions to law enforcement, further affirming his reputation as a dedicated and
18 highly respected officer within the Guam Police Department; and

19 **WHEREAS**, as Chief of the Highway Patrol Division, he led the division to
20 receive the Unit Citation for Excellence Award in 2009, reflecting his commitment to
21 operational excellence and effective leadership; and

22 **WHEREAS**, throughout his law enforcement career, Chief Ignacio received
23 numerous Letters of Commendation recognizing his investigative successes, including
24 the apprehension and conviction of suspects in homicide investigations, the resolution
25 of major theft and robbery cases, and the successful prosecution of offenders who
26 threatened the safety and security of the community; and

1 **WHEREAS**, among his most notable acts of service were those that
2 demonstrated extraordinary courage and compassion, including receiving a Letter of
3 Commendation in 1998 for saving the life of a suicidal individual in Yigo and another
4 for assisting in the evacuation and rescue of eleven (11) minors and one (1) adult during
5 the height of Typhoon Paka, exemplifying his commitment to preserving life under the
6 most challenging circumstances; and

7 **WHEREAS**, even as a Police Recruit, Chief Ignacio distinguished himself
8 through academic excellence and physical achievement, earning recognition for his
9 outstanding performance during recruit training and establishing a foundation of
10 discipline and professionalism that would characterize his entire career in law
11 enforcement; and

12 **WHEREAS**, as a police officer and later as Chief of Police, Stephen Ignacio
13 earned a reputation as a leader who believed that effective law enforcement is rooted in
14 service to the community and that public trust, compassion, and accountability are
15 essential to maintaining safe and healthy communities; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Chief Ignacio served as Chief of Police from April 25, 2019, until
17 June 15, 2026, making him one of the longest-serving Chiefs of Police in the history of
18 the Guam Police Department; and

19 **WHEREAS**, as Chief of Police, his leadership advanced numerous significant
20 initiatives, including the Land Mobile Radio Upgrade Project; the planning and
21 construction of the Guam Police Department's new Evidence Storage Building; the
22 planning and construction of the Peace Officers Memorial at Skinner Plaza; the
23 acquisition of the department's first armored vehicle; the implementation of the School
24 Resource Officer Program; the establishment of a three-year Career Technical
25 Education Law Enforcement Pathway at Tiyan High School; and the planning and
26 construction of the Guam Police Department Eastern Substation; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Chief Ignacio worked tirelessly to strengthen the Guam Police
2 Department through improved professional standards, expanded opportunities for
3 officer development and training, and enhanced operational readiness, helping to
4 prepare a new generation of law enforcement professionals to serve the people of Guam
5 with distinction; and

6 **WHEREAS**, his commitment to professional growth was evident in his pursuit
7 of higher education, earning an Associate of Science Degree in Law Enforcement
8 Administration from Guam Community College in 1995, a Bachelor of Science Degree
9 in Public Administration from the University of Guam in 2006, and a Master of Public
10 Administration from the University of Guam in 2014; and

11 **WHEREAS**, he further distinguished himself as a graduate of the United States
12 Army Criminal Investigation Division Special Agent Course and the Federal Bureau of
13 Investigation's Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar (LEEDS),
14 demonstrating his belief that effective public service requires continuous learning and
15 professional development; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in March 2021, the University of Guam School of Business and
17 Public Administration recognized Chief Ignacio as its Distinguished Alumni Award
18 recipient, honoring his exceptional leadership and contributions to public service; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Chief Ignacio's service extended beyond his official duties through
20 his involvement in numerous civic and professional organizations, including the Peace
21 Officer Standards and Training Commission, where he served as Chairman from 2019
22 through 2021 and later as Executive Director; the Guam Coalition Against Sexual
23 Assault and Family Violence; the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee; the
24 Barrigada Municipal Planning Council; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Chief Ignacio, knowing the importance of a strong and safe Pacific
26 and the need for regional policing collaboration, represented Guam at the Pacific Islands

1 Chiefs of Police, where he was one of the longest serving member of the organization;
2 and

3 **WHEREAS**, Chief Ignacio's leadership style was characterized by humility,
4 accessibility, and a profound sense of responsibility, earning him the admiration of
5 fellow officers, government leaders, community stakeholders, and residents throughout
6 Guam, many of whom viewed him not merely as a police chief, but as a trusted friend
7 and steadfast public servant; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Chief Ignacio spent more than three decades serving directly on the
9 front lines of public safety before serving as the Chief of Police, earning firsthand
10 knowledge of the challenges faced by the officers under his command and the
11 communities they served. He answered the call to serve whenever and wherever he was
12 needed and leaves behind a legacy of leadership and service; and

13 **WHEREAS**, while his passing leaves a tremendous void within the law
14 enforcement community and throughout our island, his legacy will endure through the
15 officers he mentored, the lives he touched, the communities he served, and the enduring
16 example he set through a lifetime of honorable public service; now, therefore, be it

17 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na*
18 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people
19 of Guam, posthumously recognize the Late Chief of Police †Stephen Cruz Ignacio for
20 his Exemplary Service, Leadership, and Dedication to the People of Guam; Honoring
21 His Distinguished Career in Law Enforcement; and Expressing Sincere Condolences to
22 His Family, Friends, and Colleagues.; and be it further

23 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
24 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
25 the same be thereafter transmitted to the family of the Late †Stephen Cruz Ignacio; and
26 to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY
OF MONTH 2026.**

Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker

V. Anthony Ada
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary