

FEB 18 2026

Time: 9:24AM

Received by: 

**INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT**  
***I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***

This Independent Contractor Agreement (“Agreement”), effective February 1, 2026, is entered into by and between *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, whose mailing address is 163 W. Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910, and **Marianas Digital Strategy** (“Contractor”), whose mailing address is P.O Box 25099 Barrigada, GU 96921, (hereafter collectively referred to as the “Parties”).

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, it is the intention of the Parties that Contractor provide services to the member, under the direction of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja (“Member”), and *I Liheslaturan Guåhan shall* pay for said services from the Member’s budget;

**WHEREAS**, it is the intention of the Parties that Contractor be deemed an independent contractor, *not* an employee and, therefore, *not* entitled to any benefits otherwise available to employees of the government of Guam; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the intention of the Parties that Contractor *not* be entitled to payment for any services rendered until such time as all signatures are affixed to this Agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Parties agree to the terms and conditions as set forth below.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**1.0. Specified Deliverables.** In consideration for the amount and payment terms specified below, Contractor *shall* provide the following specialized services to the Member:

- (i) Conducting policy and budgetary research and analysis to support the office of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja, including preparing background materials, Issue briefs, and analytical summaries to inform budget discussions, public hearings, and legislative sessions, consistent with policy objectives and fiscal responsibility.
- (ii) Conducting research on policy issues impacting the people of guam,

including but not limited to matters related to education, libraries, and public broadcasting, and preparing bill summaries, policy memoranda, and compaanalyses for the Senator's review and deliberation;

- (iii) Providing advisory consultation to the office of Senator Vincent Anthony V. Borja based on the Contractor's expierence in business, education, and policy analysis, including guidance on budgetary considerations, and legislative impacts; provided, however, that all final policy decisions, legislative drafting and amendments shall remain under the authority of the Senator and the legislature; and
- (iv) Preparing written reports and updates for the member on the status findings, analysis related to the services described in subsections (i) through (iii), to support informed discussions during public hearings, committee meetings, and legislative session.

**2.0. Payment Terms.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan shall pay Contractor the total amount of [Forty Thousand Dollars and 00/100] (\$40,000.00) for the specialized services identified in Paragraph 1.0 above, in semi-monthly installment amounts of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and 00/100] (\$2,500.00). Payments shall commence on said basis after the effective date of this Agreement. Contractor shall not be paid before the commensurate value of services is rendered.*

**2.1. Availability of Funds.** This Agreement is expressly subject to the availability of funds of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

**3.0. Contract Period.** This Agreement is effective February 1, 2026 and *shall* remain in effect through September 30, 2026, unless otherwise earlier terminated in accordance with this Agreement.

**4.0. Representations and Warranties.**

**4.1. Capacity.** Contractor represents and warrants that it has the legal capacity to enter into this Agreement.

**4.2. Licensure.** Contractor represents and warrants that it holds and will continuously maintain any and all licenses and permits necessary to perform its obligations under this Agreement for the duration of this Agreement, and will comply with all Guam laws pertinent to such licenses and permits.

**4.3. Lobbyist Status.** Contractor represents and warrants that it is not a legislative lobbyist.

**4.4. Contractor's Agents.** Contractor shall be liable for any and all of its agent's acts and omissions under this Agreement.

**5.0. Covenants.**

**5.1. Covenant not to Sue; Conflicts of Interest.** Contractor covenants not to bring, file, or maintain any claim, grievance, suit, or legal action or proceeding of any nature whatsoever where the Committee on Rules, by Rules Resolution, deems its representation to be contrary to the interest of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, or to constitute a conflict of interest in any administrative or judicial proceeding, or in any case or legal matter whatsoever. If the Committee on Rules makes such a determination, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan shall* transmit a copy of the resolution to Contractor. Unless *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and Contractor otherwise agree to continued representation, Contractor covenants to take necessary steps to withdraw from representation of the adverse interest against *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* within fourteen days of receiving a copy of the resolution. Notice of such withdrawal *shall* be given in writing to *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. Failure to abide by this Paragraph *shall* constitute a breach of the entire Agreement and all rights of Contractor herein are thereafter automatically terminated.

**5.2. Assignment and Delegation.** Unless otherwise agreed to, this Agreement shall not be assignable or delegable. Contractor covenants not to assign any right nor delegate any responsibility under this Agreement without the written consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. Violation of this Paragraph *shall* constitute a material breach of this Agreement, which shall terminate this Agreement and any and all rights of Contractor.

**5.3. Indemnification.** In addition to other legal remedies, in the event that an action is filed against *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* because of the acts or omissions of Contractor and its agent(s), Contractor covenants to defend, indemnify and hold harmless *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* for any judgment rendered against it that is the result of Contractor and/or its agent(s) acts or omissions.

**6.0. Notices.** Unless otherwise indicated, all notices shall be delivered under this Agreement via U.S. Mail; hand-delivery, with receipt confirmation; or e-mail, with receipt confirmation, to *each* of the following persons at either of the following addresses:

	<i>I Liheslaturan Guåhan</i>	Contractor
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Persons Receiving Notice	Executive Director Member/Committee Chairperson Legislative Counsel	Marianas Digital Strategy
Physical Address	Guam Congress Building 163 W. Santo Papa Hagåtña, GU 96910	Lot 12 1 Tract 158 #150 Palomares Dr.
Mailing Address	(Same)	P.O Box 25099 Barrigada, Gu 96921
E-mail Address	[Executive Director email] [Member/Committee email] legislativecounsel@guamlegislature.gov	guam@Marianasdigitalstrategy.com

**7.0. Waiver.** No term, condition, or covenant of this Agreement shall be deemed waived unless executed in writing by the waiving party. No payment by *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to Contractor *shall* constitute an acknowledgement that services rendered were appropriate. Failure to exercise a right under this Agreement *shall not* be deemed a waiver to exercise that right in the future.

**8.0. Integration.** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties relating to matters stated herein. All prior discussions and agreements with respect to these matters, except to the extent stated in this Agreement, shall be of no further force and effect.

**9.0. Amendments.** No amendment to this Agreement, including deletion or additions, may be made except via written addendum signed by the Parties or as otherwise stated herein.

**10.0. Termination.**

**10.1. Mutual Termination Right.** This Agreement may be immediately terminated upon written notice at any time and for any reason by either party. Termination *shall* be effective as of the date specified in the written notice of termination.

**10.2. Automatic Termination.** This Agreement *shall* automatically terminate upon any of the following events: (i) assignment of the Agreement without the prior written consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*; (ii) Contractor's failure to maintain or renew the appropriate licenses required in order to perform this Agreement; (iii) Contractor's failure to pay the applicable federal or local government taxes arising from this Agreement, e.g., Guam gross receipts tax; or (iv) death of Contractor; (v) dissolution or termination of Contractor who is a business partnership, joint venture, corporation, or any other type of business entity.

11.0. **Payment Upon Termination.** Upon termination under any provision of this Agreement—whether automatic or otherwise—Contractor *shall* be entitled to the value of services rendered to *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* up to the date of termination, less any and all damages incurred or anticipated by *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* arising out of or deriving from Contractor's breach or anticipatory breach of this Agreement.

12.0. **Governing Law.** The laws of Guam *shall* govern the construction, interpretation, and resolution of any disputes under this Agreement.

13.0. **Remedies.** In addition to any other remedies available under law, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan shall* have the right to withhold any amounts that may be due Contractor in order to mitigate any and all damages incurred and anticipated by *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* arising out of or deriving from Contractor's breach or anticipatory breach of this Agreement.

14.0. **Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid, void or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining parts of this Agreement *shall* remain in full force and effect.

15.0. **Signatures Required.** This Agreement *shall not* be effective, and Contractor *shall not* be entitled to any monies from *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, *nor shall* it be binding upon *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, until such time as all identified signatures are affixed herein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement in Hagåtña, Guam on the date set forth below.

**CONTRACTOR:**



Ellie Jo Sablan  
For: Marianas Digital Strategy  
Member

02/06/26

Date

***I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***

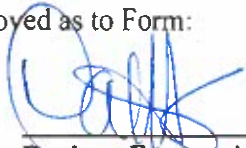


Vincent A. V. Borja  
Authorizing Senator

02/13/26

Date

Approved as to Form:

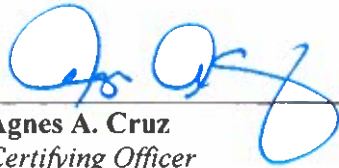


**Darleen Eustaquio Phillips**  
*Legislative Counsel*

2/18/26

Date

Certification as to Availability of Funds and as to Expenditure of Funds in Accordance with the Budgetary Requirements of the Standing Rules:



**Agnes A. Cruz**  
*Certifying Officer*

2/23/2026

Date

Executed by:



**Frank F. Blas, Jr.**  
*Speaker*

2/23/2024

Date

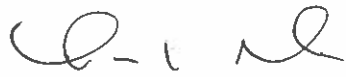
Attested by:



**Sabrina Salas Matanane**  
*Legislative Secretary*

2/23/24  
Date

Countersigned by:



**V. Anthony Ada**  
*Chairperson, Committee on Rules*

Date

2/23/24

FOR USE BY CENTRAL OPERATIONS STAFF OF I LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN:

Allotment Number: 06302-516

Authorized Amount: \$ 40,000 -

Contract Number: 2638CO 019

**GUAM LEGISLATURE  
FISCAL OFFICE**

**FEB 23 2015**

TIME 1647 [ ] AM [x] PM

RECEIVED BY [Signature]