



District Court of Guam
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CHAMBER OF
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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**"Equali-TEA Pride Month Panel Discussion" at the District Court of Guam
Celebrating Pride Month 2021**

The United States Federal District Court of Guam and the Guam Bar Association proudly join in celebrating Pride Month for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) community's contributions in the Judiciary.

On Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., District Court of Guam and the Guam Bar Association will host a Pride Month Equali-Tea Panel Discussion entitled ***"Equality and inclusivity in the workplace and in the community."***

Over tea and lunch, the event will feature a guest appearance by the Honorable Benjamin Joseph "BJ" Franquez Cruz, Public Auditor, former Speaker of the 34th Guam Legislature, and retired Chief Justice of Guam. The panel will also present six successful individuals from the LGBTQ+ community: Honorable Joshua F. Tenorio, Lieutenant Governor of Guam; Ms. Leilani Lujan, Assistant Federal Public Defender; Attorney Julian Aguon, Indigenous Human Rights Lawyer and Writer; Mr. F. Glenn Lujan, Teacher/Speech Therapist; Ms. Trinity-Naima D. Hufana, Miss Queen of the Pacific; and Ms. Dana Benavente, a mother and professional athlete. Moderators for the panel discussion are the Honorable Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, Chief Judge, District Court of Guam and Ms. Tanya Muna, Judicial Security Inspector and Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal for Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The panel will engage in an open and honest discussion that will serve to educate the community about equality and inclusivity in both the workplace and our community. Panelists will offer some tips for people who are not part of the LGBTQ+ community on how to be an advocate. There will be a live question and answer segment.

Panelists will be present in-person in the fourth-floor courtroom, District Court of Guam, Hagatna. In-person guests are limited and are by invitation only. The media is welcome to attend in-person and should contact Ms. Haley Gibbons at: Haley_Gibbons@gud.uscourts.gov or 969-4503, if attending in-person.

The live discussion will be open to the public through a virtual platform. A zoom link will be provided upon registration. Registration will be open to the public and Guam Bar Association members on Monday, June 7, 2021, on the Guam Bar Association website at: www.guambar.org Guam Bar Association members will earn two (2) Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits for attending.

Since 1999, when a presidential proclamation cited June as Pride Month, Americans have recounted and recognized the struggles and achievements of a community striving for equality and inclusion. Many consider the Stonewall Uprising that made the news on June 28, 1969, as the tipping point in the rights movement that has impacted lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer individuals and their communities as well as the broader society. You can learn more about how the United States Courts, the federal judiciary, honors Pride Month at: www.uscourts.gov

Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood states: “Although the LGBTQ+ community has overcome many challenges in the last few years, there is still so much more progress to be made. We must embrace both the commonalities and the differences amongst people from all walks of life for everyone to feel included in the community.”

U.S. Magistrate Judge Michael J. Bordallo states: “Having successful individuals openly identify as LGBTQ+ inspires members of the community to spread awareness, be kind, be respectful, and be inclusive.”

A flyer announcing this event is attached with this Press Release.