

Guam Veterans Affairs

Fiscal Year 2015



Table of Contents

About Us..... 1
 Performance Measures 2
 Financials..... 3
 Future Outlook..... 4

Our Mission

To ensure that all Veterans and their dependents are well informed on their possible benefits under Title 38, U.S. Code of Veterans Benefits, a codification of laws under the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Our Vision

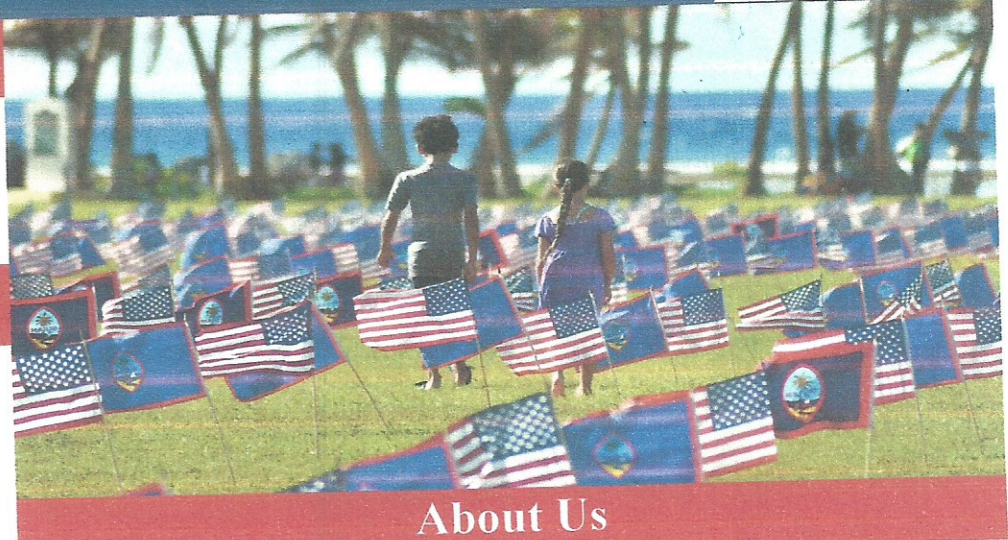
To improve the quality of health care services to all veterans and to assist all veterans with other benefits or privileges to which they are entitled to by reason of their service in the Military.

Our Strategic Goals

- Continue Outreach Programs
- Work continuously to improve the Guam Veterans Cemetery
- Expansion of the Guam Veterans Cemetery

Our Functions

- Interview and counsel veterans and dependents on their benefit claims.
- Coordinate with respective military branches of service for military honors for deceased veterans.
- Do home and hospital visits on disabled veterans and dependents.



About Us

The Guam Office of Veterans Affairs was established under Public Law 17-25 (III: II Chapter 67) and operates under the Office of Maga 'lahen Guåhan or U.S. Veterans Affairs. Our agency is accountable in enforcing all local laws pertaining to the veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States.

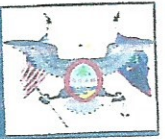
Our service is for the current and former members of the United States Armed Forces and/or their families. Our agency is responsible for assisting every veteran of Guam and their dependents or survivor of every veterans of Guam. We prepare claims for health care services, benefits programs and process access to the Guam Veteran's Cemetery to former military personnel and their dependents. We carry out our duties through two main sections: Benefits Section, and Cemetery and Burial Section.

The periods of military service are defined by time period, as follows:

- Gulf War (Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts): September 2001 or later.
- Gulf War: August 1990 to August 2001.
- Vietnam Era: February 1961 to April 1975, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period, or August 1964 to April 1975 for all other cases.
- Korean War: July 1950 to January 1955.
- World War II: December 1941 to December 1946.
- Pre-World War II only: November 1941 or earlier.

	2013	2014	2015
Guam Population (est.)	165,121	167,543	169,989
GovGuam Employment (March)	11,660	11,600	11,760
Unemployment Rate (March)	13.30%	7.40%	6.90%

Our Performance



PERFORMANCE MEASURES	FY13	FY14	FY15
Driver license fee renewal waiver	160	30	40
Veterans license plates	120	25	35
Counseling and Assistance			
Services-Connected Disability Claims	536	372	484
VA Health Care Benefits	68	30	66
VA Pensions Applications	40	22	28
GI Bill Education and Training	40	20	33
Home Loan Guaranty	16	8	8
Life Insurance	12	20	16
Burial and Memorial Benefits	80	40	18
Dependents and Survivors Benefits	48	70	46
Appeals of VA Claims Decision	8	3	2
Military Medals and Records	20	10	19
Referral Services			
Vocational Rehab and Employment	8	4	2
Transition Assistance	4	2	1
Assistance with Military Records			
Corrections			
Certification of VA Income	40	30	50

Our Office of Veterans Affairs, State Agency, is committed to serve all of our veterans and their dependents. In an effort to provide quality service, our office comprised of the following:

Administrative Section

Responsible for the daily administrative operation of the office to include personnel, budget and serve as the support staff for the office.

Benefits Section

Accredited to prepare, present, and prosecute claims before the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) or the Board of Veterans' Appeals. All claims processed have to be submitted to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Honolulu Hawaii for adjudication.

Cemetery and Burial Section

Responsible for coordinating with the respective branches of service for burial honors and interment for all deceased veterans and eligible department at the Guam Veterans Cemetery. This section is responsible for ordering head markers and update the directory of all burials.



What would you like to see reported on in this page? Please let us know by contacting Liah Concepcion at conceplj@gmail.com.



For FY 2015, our agency's total appropriation was \$957,487 and total expenditures were \$612,316. This means that 37% of their budget was not spent. Total appropriation for FY 2014 was \$681,538 and total expenditures were \$573,425. A 16% of the budget was not used. Therefore, in comparison to the prior fiscal year, our budgets for expenditures were more accurate in FY 2014.

An increase of 40% in appropriations in FY 2015 were due to passing of Bill No. 306-32 for the implementation of Guam Veterans Registry and became Public Law 32-210.

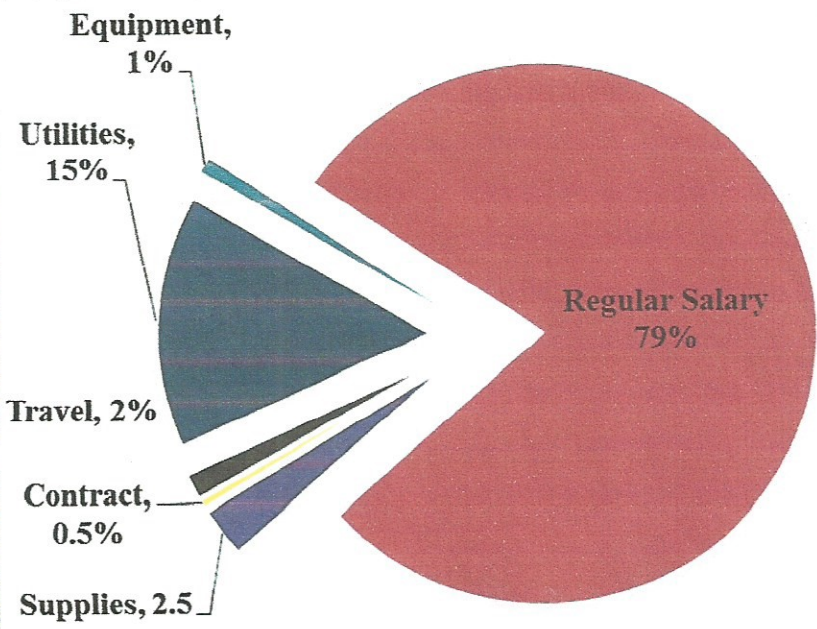
This additional funds was spent in hiring additional personnel, purchase of materials, supplies, equipment, and other expenditures related to sustaining Guam Veterans Registry.



FUNDING SOURCE	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	% CHANGE
<i>General Fund</i>				
Appropriation	\$ 392,903	\$ 681,537	\$ 957,487	40.49%

EXPENDITURES	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	% CHANGE
Regular Salary	\$341,829	\$469,170	\$484,128	3.19%
Supplies	15,386	20,187	17,504	-13.29%
Contract	1,678	10,800	2,568	-76.22%
Travel	-	2,964	8,785	196.35%
Utilities	26,698	70,263	94,031	33.83%
Equipment	-	-	5,299	0.00%
Miscellaneous	-	40	-	-100.00%
Total Expenditures	385,591	573,425	612,316	6.78%
Encumbrances	2,273	28,108	13,697	-51.27%
Total	\$387,864	\$601,533	\$626,013	4.07%

Guam Veterans Affairs Expenditures



Guam Veterans Affairs is included in the GovGuam-Wide Financial Statement. Audited financial statements may be viewed at www.opaguam.org.

Progress & Outlook

Moving Forward



Upcoming Events

Run as One

When: April 16, 2016 at 6 a.m.
Where: starts at the parking lot by
Guam USO/Royal Orchid
Hotel Tumon.

Memorial Day Commemoration Ceremony

When: May 30, 2016
Where: Veterans Cemetery in Piti

Veterans Day Ceremony

When: November 11, 2016
Where: Governor's Complex in
Adelup



Progress

Since the increase of the Guam Office of Veteran Affairs funds, we have been working on projects and improvements to better serve our veterans.

Some of the projects and improvements:

- Established a Directory and a website
- Installed new signs at the Naftan location
- Installed a handicap restroom on the 1st floor of the office building
- Allocated all service support staff to the 1st floor of the office building

Outlook

The Guam Office of Veterans Affairs will continue to improve on infrastructure and services to better serve our veterans.

- Improve the Guam Veterans Affairs website
- Improve and expand the Guam Veterans Cemetery infrastructure
- Expand the Guam Veterans Affairs office building
- Repair the sewer system in the Guam Veterans Affairs office building

