

# The Judiciary of Guam

Fiscal Year 2016  
A Citizen - Centric Report

Website: [www.guamcourts.org](http://www.guamcourts.org)



**T About Us**

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## About Us

As the third branch of the government of Guam, the Judiciary of Guam is charged with interpreting the laws of the Territory of Guam. The Judiciary consists of the Supreme Court and Superior Court that provide for the orderly settlement of disputes between parties, determines the guilt or innocence of those accused of crimes and other violations of the law and protects the rights of individuals.

The head of the Judiciary of Guam is the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Guam, currently Katherine A. Maraman. Associate Justices F. Philip Carbullido and Robert J. Torres comprise the rest of the Supreme Court. Seven Judges, two Magistrate Judges, an Administrative Hearing Officer and a Family Court Referee make up the Superior Court of Guam, which is led by Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III.



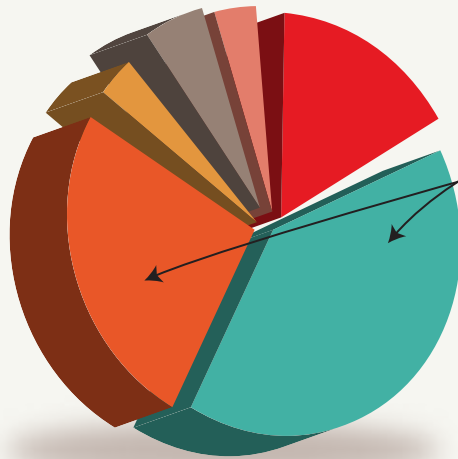
## Mission

The Judiciary administers justice by interpreting and upholding the laws, resolving disputes in a timely manner, and providing accessible, efficient, and effective court services.

## Vision

The Judiciary will provide the highest quality of judicial services, thus enhancing public trust and confidence in Guam's independent and co-equal branch of government and becoming the model of governmental excellence.

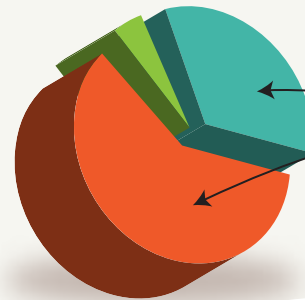
## Supreme Court



### Case Filings

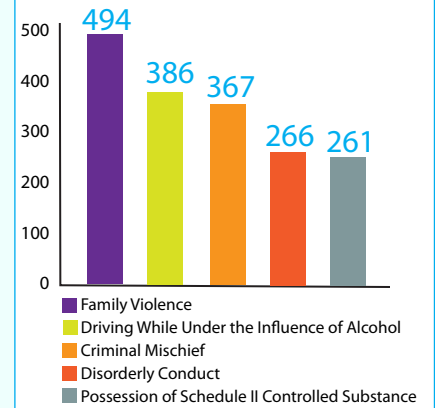
Case Type	2016
Appellate Procedure	
Attorney Discipline	9
Certified Question	
Civil Case	23
Criminal Case	15
Pro Hac Vice	
Promulgation Order	1
Writ of Habeas Corpus	
Writ of Mandamus	2
Writ of Prohibition	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>51</b>

## Opinions Issued



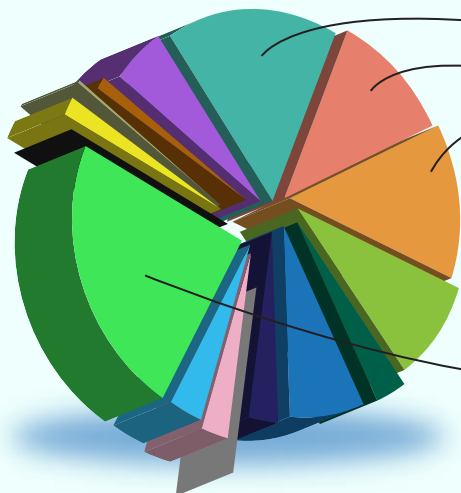
Case Type	2016
Civil	14
Criminal	26
Certified Question	1
Writ	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>41</b>

### TOP OFFENSES CHARGED OVERALL



## Superior Court

### Comparative Cases Filed



Case Type	2016
Adoption	39
Child Support	356
Civil	1,155
Criminal (Felony)	768
Criminal (Misdemeanor)	918
Domestic (Divorce)	647
Juvenile Delinquency	208
Juvenile Special Proceedings	504
Juvenile Drug Court	200
Land Registration	3
Probate	168
Special Proceedings	220
Small Claims	1,662
Foreign Orders	5
Protective Orders	122
Restitution & Fines	59

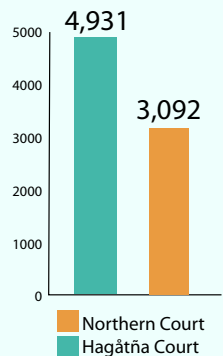
### TOP MISDEMEANORS CHARGED

2016	
Family Violence	366
Driving While Under the Influence of Alcohol	316
Disorderly Conduct	180
Public Drunkenness	180
Assault – Recklessly Cause/Attempt to Cause Bodily Injury	118

### TOP FELONIES CHARGED

2016	
Criminal Mischief	358
Possession of Schedule II Controlled Substance	261
Family Violence	128
Terrorizing	112
Criminal Trespass	99

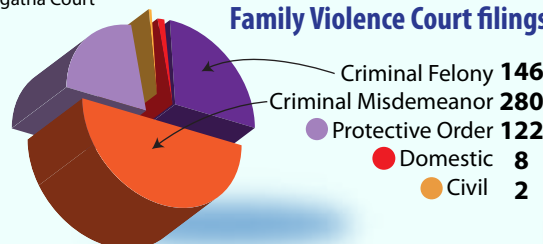
### Traffic Citations Filed



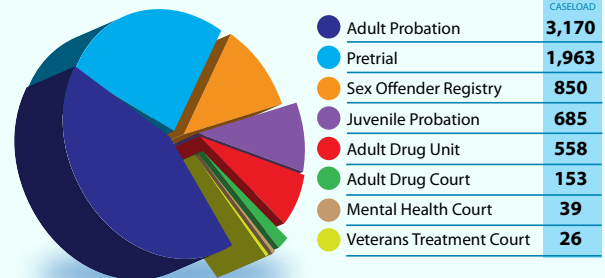
### Jury Management Statistics

Petit Jury Orientations	29
Petit Jury Trial Case Appearance (Days)	208
Grand Jury Selections	1
Grand Jury Appearance (Days)	192
Grand Jury Cases Heard	742
Jurors Present	15,200

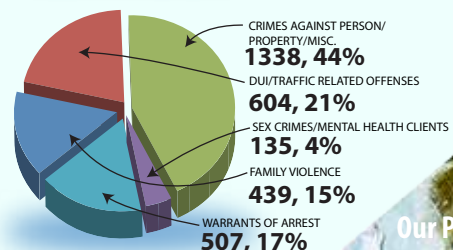
### Family Violence Court filings:



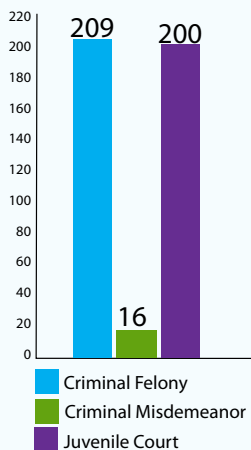
### Probation Services Division Caseload Distribution



### Pretrial Caseload Distribution



### Drug Court filings:



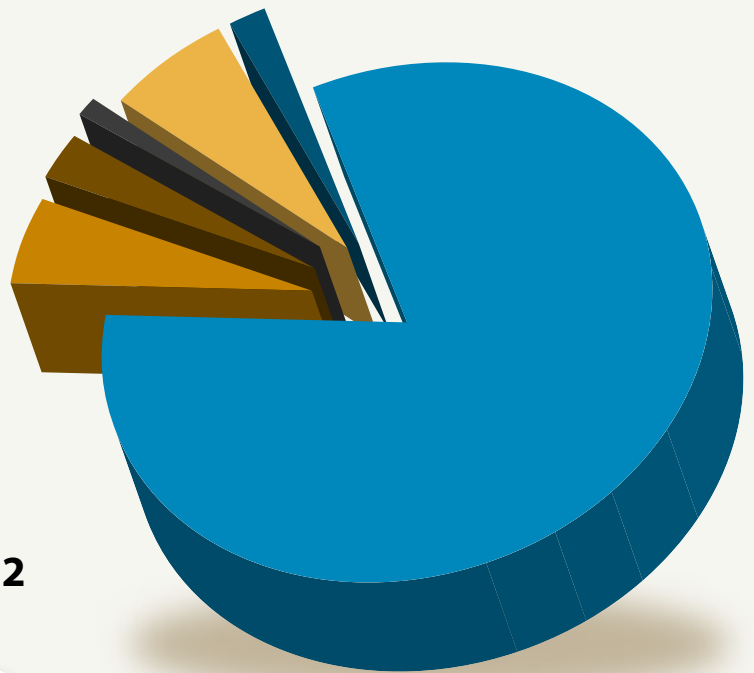
# Our Finances

## FUNDING SOURCES

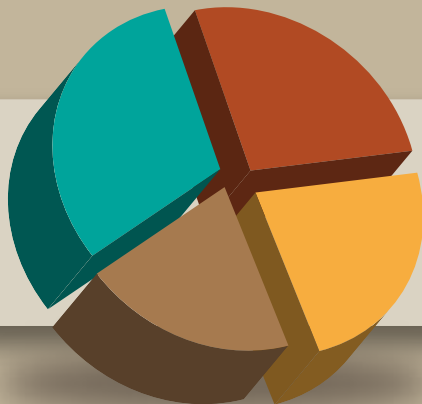
### FY2016

■ Appropriations	32,775,737
■ Fed Grants	2,165,381
■ Traffic Fines	954,277
■ Fines	460,775
■ Fees	2,773,542
■ Miscellaneous	598,609

**Total Funding Sources \$39,728,322**

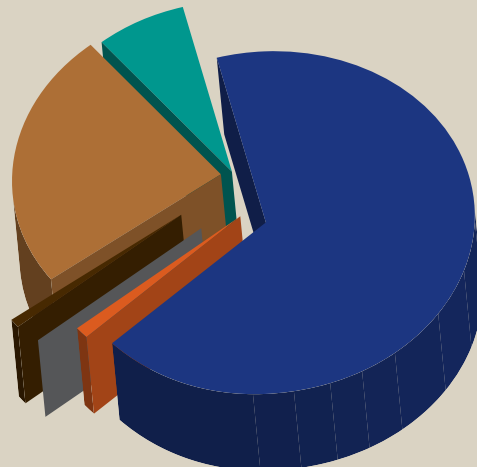


## MANDATORY EXPENSES FY2016



● Court and Ministerial	5,743,249
● Probation	5,036,711
● Marshals	4,347,979
● Other Personnel	6,677,074

■ Personnel	21,334,888
■ Overtime	349,952
■ Night Differential	12,852
■ Hazardous Pay	258,503
■ Employee Benefits	7,664,060
■ Indigent Client Services	
Professional / Consultant Service	111,499
Interpreters / Transcriber Fees	131,582
Alternate Public Defender	1,107,730
Private Attorney Panel	703,124
Erica's House	121,000
Investigator Claims	20,675



### Independent Audit

Independent Audit was performed by Deloitte & Touche LLP. The Government of Guam received an unqualified (clean) opinion. The Office of the Public Auditor released the Government of Guam wide financial audited report on June 08, 2017. For more information on the independent audit, you may visit this web site address <http://www.guamopa.com>

# Our Outlook

## P.O.S.T. Certification:

In December 2014, Public Law 32-232 adopted the rules and regulations established by the Guam Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Commission for uniform minimum standards for education, training and physical fitness. On August 19, 2016, sixty eight peace officers of the Judiciary and two investigators from the Office of the Attorney General were recognized in a special ceremony at the Guam Judicial Center for completing a six-month Criminal Justice Academy Certificate program to fulfill the educational requirements under the P.O.S.T. Commission standards. Graduates of the program studied a variety of subjects including criminal law and procedure, appropriate firearms use and officer survival, and interpersonal relations.

By December 2017, all Judiciary Marshals and Probation Officers will participate in Physical Fitness Qualification Testing to ensure compliance with the physical fitness standards. Upon successful completion of both the educational and physical fitness standards the peace officers will be awarded P.O.S.T. certification.

## Juvenile and Adult Reform Efforts:

Since 2014, the Probation Services Division has made significant strides in Juvenile Justice Reform, undergoing a systems approach to organizational change. Juvenile probation officers received extensive training on Evidence-Based Practices (EBP), the neuroscience of adolescent brain development, the use of the Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth, and trauma-informed care to better assist clients. Positive outcomes result in reduced detention at the Department of Youth Affairs and a decrease in reoffending, ultimately leading to a safer community.

In 2016, Probation began its pursuit of a system driven by research and the principles of EBP's to more effectively manage and provide supervision to the voluminous pretrial and adult criminal caseloads. Pretrial and Adult Probation Officers received much needed training in EBP, use of the Ohio Risk Assessment System (a suite of assessment tools to use at various decision points in the criminal justice system), Effective Practices in Community Supervision, Core Correctional Practices, and Achieving Performance Excellence.

## A New Home for the Probation Division:

The Judiciary of Guam entered a long-term lease of the Kamalin Karidat building on Route 4 to serve as a new home for the Probation Services Division. Work to renovate the facility will begin shortly with the demolition of interior flooring and walls to make way for much needed offices, counseling facilities, and client monitoring areas to properly accommodate pre-trial, probation, and therapeutic court services provided by the division.

Once the Route 4 facility renovation is completed, the Probation Services Division will move out of the Guam Historic Courthouse, which will then be remodeled to serve as the new Supreme Court of Guam. Every effort will be made to preserve the historic nature of this building including the unique architectural, mural and stone features of the interior. The courtrooms, administrative offices, Office of the Public Guardian and the Ethics Prosecutor will be modernized and will include new technologies to support the efficient delivery of appellate court services.

The Judiciary is proud to join the efforts of the Governor of Guam and the Guam Legislature in the redevelopment and revitalization of Hagåtña and the preservation of Guam Historic Buildings, such as the Guam Historical Courthouse, for future generations.



### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Do you like this report? Is there any other information you would like to see included? Please let us know by contacting Shawn Gumataotao, Director of Policy, Planning & Community Relations at Tel: 300-9282 or email: [sgumataotao@guamcourts.org](mailto:sgumataotao@guamcourts.org)