FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Couple Seeking Same Sex Marriage License
AG: Guam Will Abide by the Decision of the Supreme Court of the United States

April 09, 2015- Tamuning, Guam- Today, Attorney General Barrett-Anderson issued the following statement in response to the application of two women for a marriage license at the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS):

"Guam’s marriage statute, which was originally adopted in 1953, based on the 1939 version of California’s Civil Code, is predicated on consent to marry between a man and a woman.

Although the definition of marriage is ‘consent of parties’ which implies gender neutrality, Guam law conditions marriage upon the act of solemnization (i.e. “I do.”) that is only permitted between a ‘husband and wife.’

In 1994, the 22nd Guam Legislature further defined marriage in the public health statutes as a relationship between “persons of opposite sex.”

The DPHSS was acting in compliance with Guam law in the exercise of their duties.

Whether Guam’s statutes will stand or fail will soon to be definitively decided by the Supreme Court of the United States for our entire nation, and upon that decision, Guam will abide."

###

Contact:
Carlina Charrfauros
ccharfauros@guamag.org
475-3324 ext 5020
929-8989