



Office of the Attorney General of Guam



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AG Will Review District Court's Ruling for Potential Appeal

March 09, 2017- Tamuning, Guam- Attorney General Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson will carefully review the District Court of Guam's ruling in the Plebiscite Case to determine whether there is a basis for possible appeal.

"Our Office is not surprised by the outcome of the decision. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals -with strong indications that the statute would be struck down- remanded the case to Guam for trial. The right to vote in our nation is such a fundamentally protected right, just like freedom of speech, freedom of religion, or freedom of the press. We should not be disappointed that Guam's Federal Court continues to guard the constitutional rights of all Guam residents," said Attorney General Barrett-Anderson.

"We were hoping, however, that the court would recognize that a plebiscite vote does not fundamentally make change. It is a political statement, a hope, and a desire, which cannot effect actual change. Only Congress can make a change to Guam's political status," she continued.

We will review the decision very carefully to determine whether an appeal is warranted in light of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals previous opinion, and whether there is merit to ultimately take the plebiscite vote to the Supreme Court of the United States."

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