



Office of the Attorney General of Guam



590 S. Marine Corps Dr., Ste. 901, Tamuning, Guam 96913

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OAG Commemorates National Crime Victims' Rights Week, Expands Victim Services

Thursday, April 5, 2018 - Tamuning, Guam – The Office of the Attorney General, in commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) on April 8-14, 2018, is conducting outreach events to raise awareness about crime victims' issues and rights, and to introduce the community to the important resources and services available. Join them at Agana Shopping Center on April 8, 2018, 11am-2pm, and at the Guam Premier Outlet Food Court on April 9th, April 11th and April 13th from 11am-2pm.

Vital community and government partners – Guam Legal Services Corporation, Victim Advocates Reaching Out, Erica's House, Sanctuary Inc., Guam Police Department Domestic Abuse Response Team, Public Defender Service Corporation, Department of Corrections Parole Division, and Judiciary of Guam Client Services and Family Counseling Division will also be on-site.

This year's theme—*Expand the Circle: Reach All Victims*—highlights how the investment of communities in crime victims expands the opportunity for victims to disclose their victimization, connect with services, and receive the support they need. The theme also acknowledges the many barriers facing victims of crime especially those with disabilities, LGBTQ victims, older adults, speakers with limited English proficiency, and others from historically marginalized communities.

“The theme emphasizes the importance of inclusion in victim services and addresses two critical factors: how the crime victims field can better ensure that every crime victim has access to services and support, and how professionals, organizations, and communities can work in tandem to reach all victims,” said Attorney General Elizabeth Barrett Anderson.

As part of its commitment to ensure victims receive support, the OAG administers the Criminal Injuries Compensation Commission (CICC). During the tenure of Attorney General Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson, the CICC has stabilized its work on behalf of victims of crime and awarded over \$326,000. The Guam Memorial Hospital has received \$125,289.70 in payment for healthcare services dispensed to victims since the CICC began its work in 2016.

“We are honored to participate and celebrate locally and nationally Crime Victims Week. Providing victims an avenue to seek financial recovery is vital to the healing and recovery of every victim of crime,” said Pålé' Mike Crisostomo, Commission member.

The OAG is also expanding its work in regards to victim restitution by commencing collection efforts on criminal judgments referred to Restitution Court, and efforts are underway to collect on criminal judgments being enforced by the Parole Board.



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General Barrett-Anderson's new approach to servicing victims is evident through significant progress made with CICC awards, collections in Restitution Court, and efforts to assist the Parole Board in enforcing restitution collections due victims.

"Our office -alongside each of our stakeholders in government and non-government- work diligently to ensure victim's receive services, support and assistance they need to rebuild their lives. I thank each of our stakeholders for their continued excellence in service delivery and commend them for their dedication to crime victims in Guam, " said General Barrett-Anderson.

For additional ideas on how to support victims of crime, visit OVC's website at www.ovc.gov. or the Office of the Attorney General's website at www.guamag.org.

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