WHEREAS, the Guam Homelessness Coalition Point-in-Time Homeless Count of January 25, 2007 revealed an alarming number of individuals in our community who are homeless; and

WHEREAS, the factors that contribute to homelessness are complex and include the presence of domestic violence, alcoholism, substance abuse, mental illness and a shortage of affordable housing as well as a shortage of special needs housing with supportive services; and

WHEREAS, private businesses, non-profit community and civic organizations, faith-based organizations, government agencies and concerned individuals have invested money, volunteer support and other resources to assist homeless individuals; and

WHEREAS, homeless in a multifaceted problem requiring coordination of resource and efforts from our Island community if we are to eliminate or reduce homelessness; and

WHEREAS, on September 4, 2007, at a meeting with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness Region 9, the Camacho Cruz Administration establishes the State Interagency Council on Homelessness and develop a 10-Year-Plan to end chronic homelessness for Guam.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FELIX P. CAMACHO, I Mga’lahe n Guahan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, and the laws of Guam, do hereby order as follows:

Section I. Establishment. The Guam Interagency Council for Coordinating Homelessness Programs is hereby established.

Section II. Functions. The Council shall:
A. Replicate the functions of the U.S. Interagency Council in all areas that can be carried out at the government of Guam level;
B. Report to Governor on progress in creating and implementing strategy;
C. Serve as the single government of Guam homelessness planning and policy development resource;
D. Develop a Guam 10-year plan to end homelessness with emphasis on eliminating chronic homelessness;
E. Articulate an implementation strategy for a successful 10-year plan;
F. Recommend policy, regulatory, and resource changes needed to accomplish the objective; and
G. Ensure accountability and results in implementation strategies.
Section III. Activities of the Council

A. Guam Statewide Plan.

1. Develop short and long-term strategies and plans to end homelessness with an emphasis on eliminating chronic homelessness within the next 10 years;
2. Ensure the use of baselines and benchmarks in Guam’s plan, with an emphasis on performance and outcomes and a concrete strategy for oversight and monitoring of progress;
3. Partner with cities and counties which have developed 10-year plans to end homelessness in order to identify resources and common strategies;
4. Seek to coordinate the activities of statewide continuums of care;
5. Assemble accurate fiscal and demographic information, including cost benefit analysis and research/data to support policy development and track outcomes.

B. Establish priorities or action steps based on the plan, including:

1. Recommend interagency strategies (e.g., funding, homelessness prevention, discharge planning);
2. Review all Guam activities and programs assisting homeless persons;
3. Support and replicate collaborative Guam homelessness initiatives that demonstrate measurable outcomes;
4. Promote systems integration (health, services, housing) to reduce duplication among homeless assistance programs;
5. Identify funding opportunities, including mainstream resources, for homeless persons;
6. Involve non-traditional stakeholders, including representatives from corporations, business, philanthropy, law enforcement, behavioral health systems, hospitals, civic organizations, faith-based organizations, and other community institutions;
7. Recommend statutory and regulatory changes to enhance strategies;
8. Bring problems and concerns relating to homeless people to the attention of appropriate state agencies.

C. Promotion of the Plan and Evaluation of Progress.

1. Report to the Governor;
2. Provide an Annual Progress Report on the Plan;
3. Educate the Public;
4. Disseminate information (data and best practices) to educate state officials and the public regarding issues related to homelessness;
5. Host an Annual Homelessness Conference.

Section IV. Membership of the Council

A. Government Participants

1. Governor’s representative
2. Legislative representative
3. Mayor’s Council representative
4. Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority
5. Department of Public Health and Social Services  
6. Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
7. Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities  
8. Guam Police Department  
9. Department of Corrections  
10. Guam Memorial Hospital Authority  
11. Department of Labor  
12. Agency for Human Resources and Development  
13. Office of The Public Guardian  
14. Department of Parks and Recreation  
15. Veteran’s Affairs/Guam Veterans Center  

B. Non Government Organization Participants  
1. Salvation Army  
2. Catholic Social Services  
3. Kusinan Kamalen Karidat  
4. Guma Mami’  
5. Oasis Empowerment Center  
6. Sanctuary, Incorporated  

C. The Governor may appoint other interested parties to be members of the council.  

D. Chairs, Terms, Meetings  
1. A Chair and Vice Chair shall be appointed by the Governor.  
2. Members shall serve so long as they retain the positions they occupy or are members of the group they represented when they were appointed. The term of any non-elected member appointed by the Governor or serving as a designee shall expire with the term of the appointing authority.  
3. The Council shall meet quarterly in a location agreed upon by the members.  

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 12th day of December, 2007.

[Signature]
FELIX P. CAMACHO  
I Maga’ Låhen Guåhan  
Governor of Guam  

COUNTERSIGNED:  

[Signature]
MICHAEL W. CRUZ, M.D.  
I Segundu Maga’ Låhen Guåhan  
Lieutenant Governor of Guam