EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2008-14

RELATIVE TO THE CREATION OF THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

WHEREAS, the Guam Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (GJJAC), a gubernatorial appointed body established pursuant to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, has recommended that the Governor, the Judiciary of Guam and the Guam Legislature address a comprehensive revision of Guam’s juvenile code; and

WHEREAS, the Family Court Act [19 G.C.A., Chapter 51, which was first enacted in 1983, has not been thoroughly reviewed or updated since enactment more than twenty (20) years ago; and

WHEREAS, the Rules of Procedure for the Juvenile Court were adopted in 1969 and have not been revised or amended since the enactment of the Family Court Act in 1983; and

WHEREAS, the field of juvenile law has progressed throughout the past 20 years to include restorative justice, juvenile drug court, graduated sanctions and many other innovative programs intended to address juvenile delinquency issues nationally; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Executive Branch to take the lead in the revision and development of a comprehensive new Juvenile Code with the assistance of the Judiciary of Guam and the Guam Legislature;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FELIX P. CAMACHO, I Maga’Lahen Guahan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do order:

1. The creation and establishment of the Law Revision Commission on Juvenile Justice to be comprised of the following members:
   - Department of Youth Affairs, Director or designee
   - Superior Court of Guam, as designated by the Chief Justice of Guam
   - Guam Legislature, as designated by the Speaker of the Guam Legislature
   - Compiler of Laws
   - Guam Public School System, Superintendent or designee
   - Guam Police Department, Chief of Police or designee
   - Department of Public Health & Social Services, Director or designee
   - Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse, Director or designee

2. The functions of the Law Revision Commission on Juvenile Justice shall include but are not limited to:
   a. To review all statutes pertaining in anyway to juvenile delinquency, truancy, beyond control, or child abuse for update, consolidation, amendment and revision;
   b. To recommend to the Governor, the Chief Justice and the Guam Legislature
changes to statutory law which improve services to juveniles and families involved in juvenile delinquency, truancy, and drug abuse;

c. To work closely with the Compiler of Laws on these revisions;

d. To incorporate theories and best practices in the field of juvenile law which promote accountability to the community, and restorative justice practices;

e. To incorporate alternative diversionary and prevention programs which reduce the entry of juveniles into the criminal justice system;

f. To promote the use of strength based treatment, and faith based programs for juveniles within the criminal justice system;

g. To address juvenile detention issues for all juveniles whose liberty is curtailed, including disproportionate minority detention issues, and proper segregation of adjudicated and non-adjudicated clients;

h. To establish a prompt and adequate response to juvenile drug abuse and usage;

i. To promote full parental responsibility and accountability;

j. To promote cultural diversity and tolerance in the criminal justice system;

k. To address educational neglect under both local and federal statutes; and

l. To protect the confidentiality of juveniles.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 10 day of July, 2008.

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga' Låhen Gåhan
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:

MICHAEL W. CRUZ, M.D.
I Segunda Maga' Låhen Gåhan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam