RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A GOVERNMENT OF GUAM MEDIVAC CHARITY ACCOUNT FOR MILEAGE CREDITS FOR FREQUENT AIRLINE FLIGHTS, TO BE USED FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES.

WHEREAS, Fiscal Year 1995 started with a $185 million dollar deficit; and

WHEREAS, by January the deficit had grown to approximately $190 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, if the government of Guam did not pursue any deficit elimination plans, such deficit would have grown to an insurmountable $213 million dollars by the end of Fiscal Year 1995; and

WHEREAS, this Administration immediately instituted cost-cutting measures resulting in the savings of over $20 million dollars in personnel cost alone; and

WHEREAS, this Administration instituted other cost containment measures such as the savings of fuel charges of over $1 million dollars by requiring that government vehicles not be taken home; and

WHEREAS, the passage of Executive Order 95-11 ceased the incurring of overtime by executive, administrative and professional positions, thereby saving the government over $3 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, this Administration successfully acquired a $115 million dollar general obligation bond without compromising the government’s triple B rating; and

WHEREAS, the government desires to continue employing cost-cutting measures in order to get the government of Guam out of its deficit condition by 1998; and

WHEREAS, many other cost containment measures are needed to be pursued in order to free the government of Guam from this deficit situation; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Public Health and Social Services, through its medically indigent program and medicaid program, spends over $200 thousand dollars per year to provide transportation for patients and their escorts to medical facilities off-island; and

WHEREAS, such expenditures could be directed towards direct medical services thereby providing greater medical benefits to those that are in dire need of medical attention; and
WHEREAS, the government of Guam in Fiscal Year 1995 expended over $3 million dollars in air travel; and

WHEREAS, persons traveling on government funds acquire mileage credit sometimes known as "frequent flyer miles" to their personal credit; and

WHEREAS, if these "frequent flyer miles" were to be placed into a government of Guam "Medivac Charity Account", it would greatly alleviate the additional cost to transport patients with medical needs off-island; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ, by the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, do hereby order the following:

(1) All government of Guam employees traveling on local funds shall, as a condition of receiving local money under a travel authorization (TA), sign a waiver donating accrued mileage credits, such as "frequent flyer mileage," on whatever airline, into an account known as "Medivac Charity Account".

(2) The Director of Administration shall establish the Medivac Charity Account into which such mileage credits shall be accounted for.

(3) Only mileage credits garnered as a direct result of flight on behalf of the government shall be placed into the Medivac Charity Account. All other mileage acquired through credit cards, bonuses, or outside of the direct flight, shall not be affected by the Medivac Charity Account waiver.

(4) Eligibility to benefit from the Medivac Charity Account shall be consistent with the Department of Public Health and Social Services' medically indigent program criteria or as otherwise authorized and approved by the Governor.

(5) The Medivac Charity Account shall only be used for destinations to Hawaii or the Philippines.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Agaña, Guam this 18th day of October, 1995.

CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:

MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
Lieutenant Governor of Guam