EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 97-53

RELATIVE TO CLARIFYING "STATE OF EMERGENCY" AND "EMERGENCY SITUATION" IN THE WAKE OF SUPERTYPHOON PAKA FOR THE PURPOSES OF PAYMENT OF GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL.

WHEREAS, Supertyphoon Paka, a storm containing sustained winds of approximately 160 mph with gusts to 195 mph, with some gusts clocked at Andersen Air Force Base up to 220 mph, passed directly over Guam on the evening of December 16, 1997, moving at only 8 mph and devastating our island; and

WHEREAS, both the private and public sectors of the island sustained major destruction with the total damage in monetary figures expected to mount well over $300,000,000; and

WHEREAS, during the period of time while Guam was in Typhoon Condition I, and since the passing of Supertyphoon Paka, key government personnel have worked tirelessly and with dedication around the clock to ensure that the essential services provided by the government such as, but not limited to, electrical power, water, police, fire, public health, and hospital, continued to be provided to the public, or were repaired or restored as quickly as possible; and

WHEREAS, Guam was downgraded to Typhoon Condition IV on December 17, 1997, but a state of emergency was declared by the Governor to continue to exist with respect to the damage caused by Supertyphoon Paka, and a number of executive orders were issued to cover emergency procurement and expenditures of those agencies providing emergency and restorative services; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature passed Bill No. 467 which became Public Law No. 24-117 on December 18, 1997 to appropriate funds for Guam's emergency recovery needs, wherein the Legislature declared an island-wide state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the government needs clarification with respect to payment of personnel during this period of the island's complete recovery from Supertyphoon Paka;

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

1. State of Emergency. For purposes of payment of government personnel and with respect to the provision of government services, an emergency situation, or state of emergency, continues to exist as of the date of this Executive Order only as to those persons performing emergency or restorative services related to the passing of Supertyphoon Paka, as determined by the heads of the following:

a) Guam Waterworks Authority - Executive Order No. 97-37;
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b) Guam Telephone Authority - Executive Order No. 97-38;
c) Department of Agriculture - Executive Order No. 97-39;
d) Department of Public Works - Executive Order No. 97-40;
e) Department of Parks and Recreation - Executive Order No. 97-41;
f) Office of Civil Defense - Executive Order No. 97-42;
g) Guam Police Department - Executive Order No. 97-43;
h) Guam National Guard - Executive Order No. 97-44;
i) Department of Public Health and Social Services - Executive Order No. 97-45;
j) Mayors' Council and Mayor of each village - Executive Order No. 97-46;
k) Guam Fire Department - Executive Order No. 97-47;
l) Guam Power Authority - Executive Order No. 97-48;
m) Disaster Housing Office - Executive Order No. 97-51;
n) Government of Guam Recovery Coordination Office (Paka Office) - Executive Order No. 97-52;
o) Department of Administration;
p) heads of agencies who have personnel detailed to the above listed agencies and entities;
q) such personnel performing emergency or restorative functions not listed above as determined by the Governor.

2. Routine and Normal Conditions. All government activities and services which are not emergency or restorative services related to the passing of Supertyphoon Paka, as specified in Paragraph 1 above, are considered as of the date of this Executive Order to be routine and restored to normal conditions.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Agana, Guam this 31st day of December, 1997.

CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:

MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
Lieutenant Governor of Guam