

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Via Hand Delivery

And E-mail to: speakerblas@guamlegislature.org

January 27, 2025

THE HON. FRANK BLAS, JR.

Speaker, I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

38th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Re: EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2025-02

Håfa Adai Mr. Speaker,

Pursuant to Public Law 34-16, transmitted herewith is the following Executive Order:

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2025-02

**RELATIVE TO CONSOLIDATION OF GOVERNOR'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH-
FEDERAL PROGRAMS OFFICE INTO THE BUREAU OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS, AND
RESCISSION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 97-14.**

Senseramente,


JEFFREY A. MOOTS
Legal Counsel

Enclosure: Executive Order No. 2025-02

CC via email: The Hon. Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*, Governor of Guam
The Hon. Joshua F. Tenorio, *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*, Lt. Governor of Guam
The Hon. Robert J. Torres, Jr., Chief Justice of Guam
Compiler of Law
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HAGATNA, GUAM 96932
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EXECUTIVE ORDER 2025-02

**RELATIVE TO CONSOLIDATION OF GOVERNOR'S COMMUNITY
OUTREACH-FEDERAL PROGRAMS OFFICE INTO THE BUREAU OF
WOMEN'S AFFAIRS, AND RESCISSION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 97-14.**

WHEREAS, in 1992, Guam Public Law No. 21-23 established the Bureau of Women's Affairs (BWA) as an entity within the Executive Branch, headed by a director appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, until 1997, the BWA administered federal grants held variously under the names of the BWA and the Federal Programs Office, Office of the Governor, including formula and discretionary grants received from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, Governor Carl T.C. Gutierrez issued Executive Order No. 97-14 to separately establish a federal grants unit within the Office of the Governor known as the "Governor's Community Outreach-Federal Programs Office" (GCO-FPO) to apply for and administer U.S. Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women (VAW) grants; and

WHEREAS, the GCO-FPO consisted of an Administrator and such personnel within the Office of the Governor assigned to the unit; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to E.O. 97-14, the GCO-FPO was designated as the successor entity to any grant then held or administered under the names of the BWA or the Federal Programs Office, Office of the Governor, and became the designated government of Guam entity to apply for all future federal Office of Violence Against Women grants; and

WHEREAS, in January 2019, Governor Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero revived the BWA, which had been dormant for several years under the previous administration; and

WHEREAS, since June 2019, the Director of the BWA was also assigned to serve as the Administrator of the GCO-FPO, an assignment that continues as of this writing; and

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WHEREAS, the BWA and the GCO-FPO have overlapping missions to address issues germane to women and marginalized persons in our community, including crimes of domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, and other issues; and

WHEREAS, Guam has received the USDOJ Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) VAW formula grant annually since 1995, first under the BWA and then subsequent to Executive Order No. 97-14 under the GCO-FPO; and the OVW SASP (Sexual Assault Service Providers) formula grant annually since 2005, as well as various other grants; and

WHEREAS, given the shared administration, office space, resources, and missions between BWA and GCO-FPO, it is appropriate at this time to consolidate the offices and staff into legislatively-created BWA, eliminate the duplicative GCO-FPO, and restore administration of federal formula grants to the BWA.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act, do hereby order:

- 1. CONSOLIDATION OF THE GOVERNOR'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH-FEDERAL PROGRAMS OFFICE INTO THE BUREAU OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS.** The GCO-FPO shall be consolidated into the BWA, to ensure continuity of the missions of both entities to empower women and other marginalized members of our community, and address domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking crimes, and help victims/survivors to heal and reach their full potential as members of our community, to synergize the resources and operations of these two closely-related offices, to eliminate redundant responsibilities to enhance more efficient operations, and to clarify roles and responsibilities of affected officials. The consolidation shall be subject to the following requirements:
 - a. All program information, operations, and personnel under the GCO-FPO, including current formula and discretionary grants, and any future grants obtained by the GCO-FPO that were applied for before the promulgation of this Executive Order, shall be integrated into and transferred to the BWA; and



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- b. The BWA shall be the official entity named on any grant currently held or administered by the GCO-FPO, and shall assume GCO-FPO's responsibilities and comply with all terms and conditions under such grants; and
 - c. The Department of Administration and the Bureau of Budget Management and Research shall provide administrative support for this consolidation, including establishing, modifying, renaming, or transferring GCO-FPO accounts into BWA accounts to facilitate the processing of grant payments to sub-grantees and contracted entities; and
 - d. The BWA is further authorized to utilize the address of the Office of the Governor for its official business.
2. **RESCISSION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 97-14.** Executive Order No. 97-14 shall be rescinded, effective at such time GCO-FPOs operations, accounts, and personnel are fully integrated into the BWA, and Executive Order 97-14 rescinded, pursuant to this Order.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 27th day of January, 2025.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Attested by:

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam

