

# Ufisinan Hiniråt Abugao The Office of the Attorney General of Guam

A Report to the Citizens of Guam for Fiscal Year 2015

# **About Us**

# Contents

- 1..... About Us
- 2..... Our Performance
- 3..... Our Finances
- 4..... Challenges & Outlook

# **Our Mission**

The Office of the Attorney General serves, protects and represents the Government and the People by enforcing the laws of Guam and the United States.

# **Our Vision**

The Office of the Attorney General is a trusted and respected leader in Guam and the Western Pacific providing the highest quality of legal services and representation to the government and the people.

# **Our Core Values**

**P**rofessionalism

**R** espect

I ntegrity

**D**edication

**E**xcellence

### Contact Us

Office of the Attorney General of Guam 590 S. Marine Corps Drive, Ste. 706 Tamuning, GU 96913 Tel: (671) 475-3324 Fax: (671) 477-4703 http:/// www.guamag.org

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is the chief legal office of the Government of Guam. We are empowered to prosecute all crimes, enforce child support, protect our children and man'amko' from abuse, support victims through the justice process, and protect consumers of Guam from fraud and deceptive business practices. The Office of the Attorney General represents the government of Guam and all public officials, and has both statutory and common law power.

The Office employs 192 personnel including 56 attorneys who work in one of the seven divisions: Administration, Child Support Enforcement, Consumer Protection, Juvenile, Litigation, Prosecution, and Solicitors.

The Attorney General has been an elected office for the last 12 years since its authorization by U.S. Congress. There have been three previous elected Attorneys General. General Barrett-Anderson is the fourth elected Attorney General. This is her second tenure, having served as an appointed Attorney General from 1987 to 1994. She returns with background from all 3 branches of government and is here to serve the people of Guam.

Fiscal Year 2015 was significant for victims of crime with adoption of rules and regulations of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Commission. This effort was key in reestablishing a working compensation program whereby victims of crime can now apply for eligible payment for injuries. The Victim-Advocate Communication Priviledge law (P.L.33-51) was enacted to provide greater confidentiality and protection for privileged communications between advocates/counselors and victims of crime.

<u>Public Education and Outreach.</u> LaniKate Task Force: General Barrett-Anderson and Juvenile Deputy General Carol Hinkle-Sanchez trained over 500 Guam Department of Education teachers, administrators and staff in Child Sexual Abuse Prevention curricula, who will institute the curriculum in school year 2016.

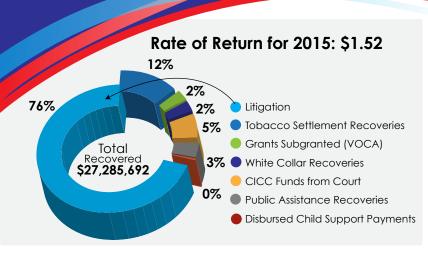
### It's the Law

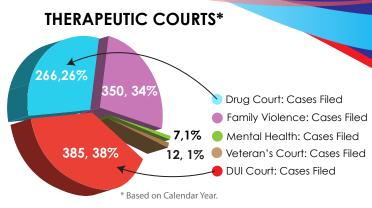
public education campaign was launched to ensure consumers are informed of relevant laws and their rights (e.g., Lemon Law, Sexting).



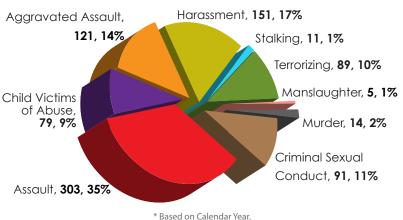
**CCR Award Recipient** - The OAG was awarded the Platinum Award in CCR Reporting by the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Guam Chapter for FY2014, as well as a national Certificate of Excellence in Citizen-Centric Reporting from the AGA.

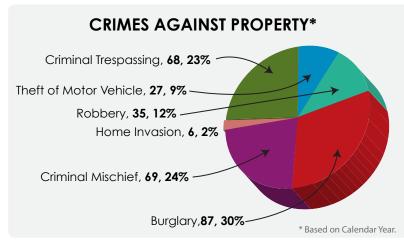
# Our Performance

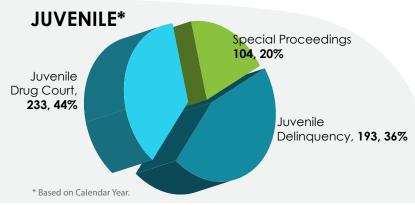


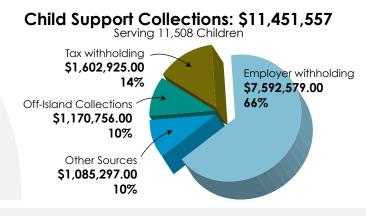












# Case Filings Case Type Administrative Proceedings, 24 Civil Service Commission Proceedings, 6 Office of Public Accountability Proceedings, 2 Administrative Rules & Regulations, 19 Attorney Assistance, 2 Contract Review, 518 Opinion & Legal Guidance Requests, 20

No. of Cases Ongoing 📕 No. of Cases Open 📕 No. of Cases C**l**osed

Government Claims Fund \$74,953.00

Samuel Submitted: \$160,777,652

\$170,970.70

\$118,247.84

Government Agencies \$96,017.00

\$160,488,434.00

Amount Disbursed from Dormant Accounts Amount Disbursed to Claimants Amount from Claims Denied

GOVERNMENT CLAIMS

Procurement, **45** 

**SOLICITORS** 

Special Assistant Attorney General Procurements, 39

# **Our Finances**

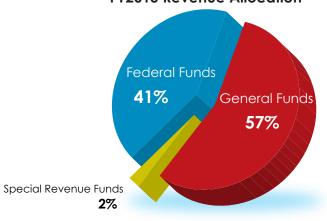
# Significant Changes to Revenues:

- FY2015, the OAG focused on building technological, financial, and personnel infrastructure. As such, appropriations increased over FY2014 in capital improvements and equipment.
- Federal funds increased by 18.95%, or \$1.9M, from FY2014.
- Special Revenue Funds collected from Notary Public applications, fines from criminal injuries, and AG Clearances.

# Revenue Resources

		% Change		
	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY'14-'15
General Funds	\$11.5M	\$13.1M	\$16.5M	25.30%
Federal Funds	11.6M	10.1M	12.0M	18.95%
Special Revenue Funds	97,3K	28.0K	680.2K	2,325.38%
Total Revenues	\$23.2M	\$23.2M	\$29.2M	25.31%

# FY2015 Revenue Allocation



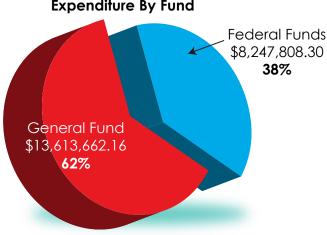
## Significant Changes to Expenditures:

- As a result of an increase in budget, the OAG accomplished procurement to meet the needs of the agency, such as vehicles, computers, servers, and cubicle workstations.
- There was an increase in federal spending of \$625K, or 8%, over FY2014.
- Special Revenue Fund expenditures have been minimal; however, in FY2016, the CICC started awarding compensation to victims; and the 2016 Notary Conference was held on September 7-8, 2016 at Pacific Star Hotel, Guam.

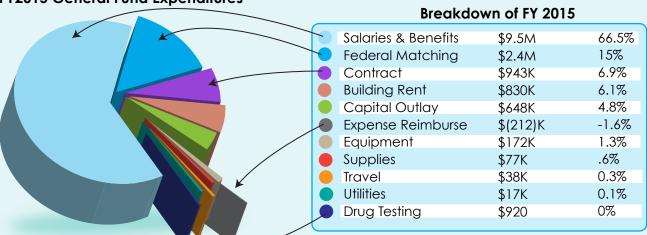
# **Expenditures**

	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	<b>FY2014</b> % Change	<b>FY2015</b> % Change
General Fund	\$10.7M	\$11.7M	\$13.6M	9%	17%
Federal Funds	7.3M	7.6M	8.2M	4%	8%
Special Revenue	6.0K	10.5K	392	75%	-96%

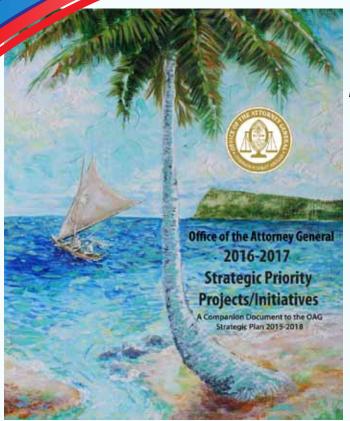
**Expenditure By Fund** 



## FY2015 General Fund Expenditures



An independent audit was conducted, resulting in a clean audit opinion. Complete financial information can be found at http://opaguam.org/reports-audits/financial-audits.



# Milestones and Achievements:

**Pathway to Justice**, the OAG's 2015-2018 Strategic Plan, established the framework for achieving success. Strategic Priority Projects & Initiatives are:

- 1. The OAG will have executive independence
- 2. Provide quality services
- 3. Enhance employee development and satisfaction
- 4. Build infrastructure-facilities, technology, administrative, and financial
- 5. Enhance public education and community outreach

# **Challenges:**

The recruitment and retention of staff, specifically attorneys, continues to be a challenge. Strategies are being refined for FY2016/FY2017 to accommodate recruitment efforts, retention of staff, and retirements.

Developing and or enhancing infrastructure in finance, technology, and procurement are a challenge; however, progress has been made with significant procurement actions undertaken since last FY2014.

The P.O.S.T. standards implemented pursuant to P.L. 32-232 mandate physical qualification standards for law enforcement officers. The OAG employs 20 law enforcement officers that could potentially be affected if standards are unmet. Proactive management began last year to ensure officers are better prepared to meet these mandates.

Continuing challenges include growing the agency; maintaining a cadre of local attorneys that will yield long-term legal institutional knowledge and experience for the Government of Guam; to foster closer working relationships with all government agencies as well as the Judicial and the Legislative branches of government; and to establish the OAG as the premiere law firm in the Western Pacific.



If there is information you would like to see in this report, please contact

Jeannette M. Gomez, at (671) 475-3324 extension 5015 or email imgomez@guamag.org