BEFORE THE 2010 JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GUAM
RESOLUTION NO. JC 10-009

RELATIVE TO COMMENDING DR. JAMES J. KIFFER FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE JUDICIARY OF GUAM

WHEREAS, Dr. James J. Kiffer, a licensed Clinical Psychologist on Guam since 1989 and a Diplomat of the American Board of Psychological Specialties in Forensic Clinical Psychology since 1997, began his career with the Judiciary on October 21, 1991 as a Clinical Psychologist conducting forensic and psychological evaluations. In addition, he has served as Mental Health Consultant to the Pacific Judicial Council since April 1992, consulting with the Chief Justices of Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap, Belau, and the Marshall Islands on mental health issues and forensic cases.

WHEREAS, Dr. Kiffer was a mentor to the therapists in his Division at Client Services and Family Counseling, as well as to many others within the Judiciary. He worked closely with the University of Guam and mainland universities in the professional development of students in pursuit of their professional degrees as therapists, psychologists, social workers. He is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Guam and provided direct clinical supervision for licensure to many of the therapists who are practicing today.

WHEREAS, among his many accomplishments, Dr. Kiffer played a major role in the development of the framework upon which the following therapeutic courts operate today: Juvenile Drug Court, Adult Drug Court, Family Violence Court and Mental Health Court. His involvement with these courts began in 1999, and he continued to support the needs of these courts until his departure from the Judiciary in March 2010. He was also instrumental in developing the framework for the DUI Court program, yet to be implemented.

WHEREAS, Dr. Kiffer's commitment to outreach and education spurred his creative pursuits that were of incalculable value to the Judiciary. As Videographer, Director, Editor, and Sound Technician, he captured and memorialized many events at the Judiciary, including the annual Silent Witness Ceremonies, Drug Court Commencement Ceremonies, and Mock Trial Competitions. He developed a series of videos on Criminal Rights and Responsibilities, Child Abuse and Neglect, Protection Orders, and Family Violence: Guam's Response. He edited Family Violence On Guam, a book still in use by the University of Guam. He was part of the team that edited the Domestic Violence Bench Book, the first bench book developed for Guam courts.

WHEREAS, Dr. Kiffer's desire to make an impact moved far beyond the individual patient and student. He saw a need to make changes on a larger scale. He served on the committee to rewrite Guam's mental health law for civil commitment. Since 1998 he has been Guam's Federal Advocacy Coordinator to advise Congress on national mental health and related policies for the American Psychological Association. He is past President and the current Treasurer of the Guam Psychological Association.

WHEREAS, Dr. Kiffer is a consummate professional, a true team player, and a dear friend to many.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Judicial Council recognizes that the efforts of Dr. James J. Kiffer have contributed greatly toward the improvement of the administration of justice in our jurisdiction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Judicial Council hereby thanks Dr. James J. Kiffer for his selfless service to the Judiciary and to the many hundreds of people of Guam whose lives he touched with his dedicated service.

DULY ADOPTED this 22nd day of April 2010 at a duly noticed meeting of the Judicial Council of Guam.

ROBERT J. TORRES
Chief Justice of Guam &
Chairperson, Judicial Council of Guam

F. PHILIP CARBULLIDO
Associate Justice, Supreme Court of Guam

KATHERINE A. MARAMAN
Associate Justice, Supreme Court of Guam

ALBERTO C. LAMORENA, III
Presiding Judge, Superior Court of Guam

ARTHUR R. BARCINAS
Judge, Superior Court of Guam

STEVEN S. UNPINGCO
Judge, Superior Court of Guam

MICHAEL J. BORDALLO
Judge, Superior Court of Guam

ELIZABETH BARRETT-ANDERSON
Judge, Superior Court of Guam

ANITA A. SUKOLA
Judge, Superior Court of Guam

VERNON P. PEREZ
Judge, Superior Court of Guam