



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96910
U.S.A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2004- 31

**RELATIVE TO DECLARING CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24, 2004, A
SPECIAL HOLIDAY FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM**

WHEREAS, Section 1000(c) of Title 1, Guam Code Annotated, grants *I Maga'låhen Guåhan* the authority to declare holidays for special occasions and events; and

WHEREAS, the people of Guam have always placed a high importance on the Holiday Season, when our people put a special emphasis on families coming together in celebration of our most important holidays; and

WHEREAS, Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve have traditionally been days dedicated to the gathering of families and a day in which families should spend time together, celebrating and reflecting on the special value that the season holds for them; and

WHEREAS, our island must never forget its heritage, which has always celebrated the holidays as a time to spend with family and has always centered its values around families; and

WHEREAS, our island must always promote family unity and the celebration of family values, which are central to our culture and are so crucial to preserving our heritage and our sense of community; and

WHEREAS, family values and family unity are the key to bringing the community together and should be at the center of any efforts to deter crime and other social issues in the community and any efforts to promote education and healthy recreation within the community; and

WHEREAS, when the customary holidays of Christmas Day and New Year's Day have fallen on a weekend, our government and the federal government have traditionally given its employees time to celebrate the holidays with their families; and

WHEREAS, this year, the holidays of Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on a Saturday, by making Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve holidays this year, the government of Guam would not increase the number of holidays beyond ten (10), hence the cost to the government of Guam for declaring these days a holiday would not increase; and

WHEREAS, in recognition and appreciation for our hardworking and well-deserving government of Guam employees. *I Maga'låhen Guåhan* would like to honor them with a special holiday to be with their loved ones and partake in the festivities.



NOW, THEREFORE, I, FELIX P. CAMACHO, *I Maga'låhen Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do order:

1. All departments and agencies of the Government of Guam shall be closed and their employees excused from duty on Friday, December 24, 2004, Christmas Eve, except as provided in paragraph 2 below.
2. The heads of each department and agency may determine that certain offices and installations of their organizations, or parts thereof, must remain open and therefore certain employees must report for duty on December 24, 2004, for reasons of public safety or other public necessity.
3. Friday, December 24, 2004, shall be considered as falling within the scope of the Department of Administration's Personnel Rules and Regulations as promulgated by Executive Order 96-24 of October 1, 1996, as they relate to the pay and leave of employees of the government of Guam.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 20th day of December, 2004.

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga'låhen Guåhan
Governor of Guam