



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

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2005 - 17**

**RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE "GUAM MUSEUM FACILITIES  
CONSTRUCTION AND CULTURAL HERITAGE TASK FORCE."**

**WHEREAS**, Chamorro artifacts, documents and remnants of our rich cultural heritage and history, including those of the U.S. Military, have been displaced in Rome, Acapulco, Mexico City, Washington, D.C., Honolulu, Annapolis, Manila, Cebu and cities throughout Germany, England and Spain, as well as other areas in the Orient; and

**WHEREAS**, Guam and the Marianas were one of the first Pacific island's to be inhabited with a history that extends back some 4,000 years, including five hundred years of post European contact, over a century of Americanization and democracy, with roles in world conflicts, the economic reshaping of a new millennium, while serving as a gateway to both Asia and America and the societies they represent; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1932, the Naval Government of Guam renovated a building within the Plaza de España and opened a museum for the people, however, not since the Liberation of Guam in July of 1945, before the massive bombardment destroyed the Capital City of Hagåtña, has there been a permanent museum facility; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to recover, categorize, promote, and display what delicate pieces of Chamorro heritage the people of Guam have and wish to obtain we must have a modern, permanent facility(s) to safeguard, house, and exhibit any and all artifacts; and

**WHEREAS**, the repatriation of artifacts, documents and remnants of Chamorro history is vital to the preservation of the Chamorro culture and the renaissance of our island's heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, the preservation of the Chamorro culture and heritage is a critical component of Guam's society, economy, our appeal to visitors and expansion of Guam's traditional markets through the promotion of our island's hospitality, language, music, performing arts, crafts, artwork, and beauty, reflective of our people and the paradise we live in; and

**WHEREAS**, the government of Guam is committed to providing a permanent home for the storage, care, conservation, preservation, exhibition and study of Guam's cultural, historic, literary, fine art and humanitarian heritage in tribute to thousands of years of history, for the continuation of our unique way of life through generations for which we are providing this service and for the proliferation of our heritage to those who come to our shores to share in our traditions and mores; and



**WHEREAS**, the construction of an official Guam state museum is necessary for the preservation of the Chamorro culture, heritage of Guam and the repatriation of historic artifacts, documents and remnants; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction of an official Guam state museum also would enhance Guam's viability as a tourism destination, by highlighting its rich culture and history; and

**WHEREAS**, the Administration received the support of our visitor industry through the Guam Visitors Bureau ("GVB") and the GVB has since appropriated funds to the Department of Public Works in order to provide the needed financial support to immediately begin the preliminary work necessary to apply for and secure loans, loan guarantees and grants for the construction of this museum facility; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction of a Guam state museum requires the input of the community to determine the appropriate location and, such determination to include consideration for the rebuilding of the Guam Museum in the original site of the Palacio del Gobernador as part of the original Plaza de España complex in Hagåtña; and

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

1. The immediate establishment of the Guam Museum Facilities Construction and Cultural Heritage Task Force, hereinafter "Task Force," shall be comprised of members appointed by the Governor of Guam to represent a broad cross section of our island community.
2. The chair and the vice chair for the Task Force shall be appointed by the Governor of Guam.
3. The Taskforce shall be comprised of the following four committees: the Finance Committee, the Site Selection Committee, the Facilities Committee and the Educational Quality Committee.
4. Each committee of the Taskforce shall be chaired by an appointed member of the Taskforce, as designated by the Governor of Guam.
5. The Task Force shall timely meet as determined by its members until such time the Guam Museum of Culture, Art and History is constructed and opened to the general public.
6. The Task Force is authorized to and shall engage in the following activities:
  - a. Identify current level of funds for the construction of the Guam Museum of Culture, Art and History;
  - b. Identify possible funding sources for the construction and maintenance of the Guam Museum of Culture, Art and History, to include, but not be limited to, the request of grants and other sources as guarantees against possible loans and/or municipal lease opportunities through which the Museum may be constructed and maintained;
  - c. Approve the scope and architectural design of the Guam Museum of Culture, Art and History and take all necessary steps to construct the facility;



- d. Prepare for and execute the opening and turnover of the Guam Museum of Culture, Art and History to the Department of Chamorro Affairs, Division of the Guam Museum, once the Task Force has deemed that the facility is open to the general public;
  - e. Prepare plans for the construction and opening of other facilities, to include a Guam Museum of Spanish History and satellite display areas;
  - f. Coordinate with all government departments, agencies, instrumentalities and other public entities for the implementation of the museum facilities construction plan;
  - g. Engage in any additional activities deemed necessary to accomplish the specified objective. All affected agencies and other public entities shall cooperate fully with the Task Force's research, analysis and production of the construction plan. The plan and its reports shall be made available electronically;
  - h. Submit a written progress report to the Governor every month until the Guam Museum of Culture, Art and History is open to the general public.
7. The Guam Visitors Bureau shall be the lead agency and shall provide the staff support and other resources necessary to execute this Executive Order.
  8. The Department of Chamorro Affairs shall provide guidance with respect to the Chamorro culture and Guam's heritage.

**SIGNED AND PROMULGATED** at the Capital City of Hagåtña, Guam this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the Year of Our Lord, *Anno Domini*, Two Thousand Five.

**FELIX P. CAMACHO**  
*I Maga' lahen Guahan*  
Governor of Guam

**COUNTERSIGNED:**

**KALEO S. MOYLAN**  
*I Segundú Maga'lahen Guahan*  
Lieutenant Governor of Guam

