



**Supreme Court
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**

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PRESS RELEASE

Judiciary Hosts the Seventh Biennial Law and the Freshman Legislator

The CNMI Judiciary conducted its seventh Law and the Freshman Legislator seminar last Friday, hosting the six newly elected legislators, all of whom will serve in the House of Representatives. The freshman legislators in attendance included Francisco C. Aguon, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, and Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr.

The legislators heard presentations on the interaction of the Covenant and U.S. and CNMI Constitutions, Statutory Interpretation, the Role of the Courts, and the Basics of Legal Research. The seminar concluded with a roundtable discussion with the judges and justices answering questions submitted by the newly elected lawmakers.

Presenters included Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro, Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, Associate Judges Kenneth L. Govendo, Joseph N. Camacho, and Teresa Kim-Tenorio, and Executive Director of the Law Revision Commission Sheila N. Trianni. Associate Justice John A. Manglona moderated the seminar, while Associate Justice Perry B. Inos and Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja facilitated the roundtable discussions.

The legislators also had the opportunity to meet with Judiciary staff, including representatives from the Office of Probation, the Superior and Supreme Court Clerks' offices, Accounting department, and the newly established drug court.

Since its inception in 2004, the Judiciary's biennial program saw the participation of 66 freshman legislators -- nine senators and 57 representatives.



The six newly elected representatives pose with the Judges and Justices of the CNMI Judiciary. Front row (from left): Rep. Donald C. Barcinas; Rep. Ivan A. Blanco; Rep. Alice S. Igitol; Rep. Jose I. Itibus; Rep. Francisco C. Aguon; and Rep. Gregorio M. Sablan, Jr. Back row (from left): Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona; Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo; Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja; Associate Justice John A. Manglona; Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro; Associate Justice Perry B. Inos; Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho; and Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

For further information, contact the Supreme Court at 236-9715.