

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Attorney General

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For Immediate Release

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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONSUMER PROTECTION OUTREACH IN TINIAN AND ROTA

Office of the Attorney General, Saipan – The Consumer Protection Division of the CNMI Office of the Attorney General recently conducted outreach initiatives on the islands of Tinian and Rota to strengthen consumer awareness and engagement.

The consumer protection team met on February 24, 2025, with Tinian Mayor Edwin Aldan and his staff and on March 5, 2025, with Rota Mayor Aubry Hocog and her staff. These meetings provided an overview of the Consumer Protection Division's role, a summary of laws and regulations under the Consumer Protection Act, and guidance on conducting business inspections and sharing consumer-related information. Additionally, discussions covered how the public can report concerns related to consumer protection and the respective Mayors' concerns regarding the issue in their respective communities.

The Mayors were provided copies of the Consumer Complaint forms, were informed about the Office of the Attorney General's website where complaints can be filed, and were provided with key provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, including those addressing unlawful acts, practices, and penalties. The mayors shared concerns about common consumer complaints, such as prices not being displayed, and recently the mounting prices of goods, such as eggs.

Attorney General Edward Manibusan encourages the public to utilize the Office of the Consumer Counsel (OCC) for consumer-related concerns. "The Office of the Attorney General remains committed to thoroughly investigating consumer complaints and enforcing the Consumer Protection Act to safeguard the interests of CNMI residents," said Attorney General Manibusan.

The Office of the Consumer Counsel promotes and protects consumer rights while fostering a fair and transparent marketplace. Consumer Complaint forms are available online at <u>www.cnmioag.org</u> under the Consumer Protection section, in person at the Civil Division on Capitol Hill, or via email requesting a form at <u>consumer counsel@cnmioag.org</u>. Completed forms can be submitted in person at the Civil Division or emailed. Consumers may contact the Civil Division at (670) 237-7500 or the Attorney General's Investigative Division Hotline at (670) 237-7630 for assistance.

For more information, visit www.cnmioag.org.

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Civil Division Telephone: (670) 237-7500 Facsimile: (670) 664-2349 **Criminal Division** Telephone: (670) 237-7600 Facsimile: (670) 234-7016 **Attorney General Investigation Division** Telephone: (670) 237-7628 Facsimile: (670) 234-7016 **Victim Witness Advocacy Unit** Telephone: (670) 237-7602 Facsimile: (670) 234-7016