

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Eloy S. Inos Governor Jude U. Hofschneider Lieutenant Governor

May 31, 2013

Honorable Victor B. Hocog Acting Senate President, The Senate Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature Saipan, MP 96950

Honorable Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero Speaker, House of Representatives Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Acting President and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law Senate Bill No. 18-23, entitled, "To amend 6 CMC Section 2208; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 18-09**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

JUDIE UNTALAM HOFSCHNEIDER

Acting Governor

cc: Governor

Attorney General

Public Auditor

Governor's Press Secretary

Department of Public Safety

Public Defender

Commonwealth's Law Revision Commission

Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review

Caller Box 10007 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: (670) 664-2200/2300 Facsimile: (670) 664-2211/2311



THE SENATE

EIGHTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE BILL NO. 18-23

AN ACT

TO AMEND 6 CMC § 2208; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

SENATE ACTION

Offered by Senator(s): Francisco Q. Cruz, Francisco M. Borja

Date: April 16, 2013

Referred to: None

Standing Committee Report No.: None

Final Reading: April 19, 2013

HOUSE ACTION

Referred to: None

Standing Committee Report No.: None First and Final Reading: May 21, 2013

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Senate Clerk

EIGHTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION, 2013

S. B. NO. 18-23

AN ACT

TO AMEND 6 CMC § 2208; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE EIGHTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 1. Findings and Purpose.

The Legislature finds that although the Office of the Attorney General ("OAG") Investigators are deputized as special law enforcement officers by the Commissioner of Public Safety, their status as law enforcement officers is not clear under existing statutory authority. As law enforcement personnel, the OAG Investigators must be vested with all the powers, authority and benefits other law enforcement officers are accorded by law.

Section 2. <u>Amendment.</u> 6 CMC § 2208 is amended to add new subsections (g) and (h) as follows:

- "(g) For the purpose of this chapter, the Office of the Attorney General Investigation Division, headed by the chief investigator, is considered to be a law enforcement division. The chief investigator and all investigators employed by the Office of the Attorney General Investigation Division are deemed law enforcement officers with full authority to enforce commonwealth laws and shall have all the powers, authority, and benefits other law enforcement officers are accorded by law.
- (h) For the purpose of this chapter, the Office of the Public Auditor Investigation
 Division is considered to be a law enforcement division. The investigators employed by the
 Office of the Public Auditor are deemed law enforcement officers with full authority to

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SENATE BILL NO. 18-23

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enforce commonwealth laws and shall have all the powers, authority, and benefits other law enforcement officers are accorded by law."

Section 3. Severability. If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Savings Clause. This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or becoming law without such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:

OR B. HOCOG ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE ATTESTED BY:

SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands