

Resolution No. 371-37 (COR)

Introduced by

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Relative to recognizing Rick Loney for his bravery, leadership, and outstanding commitment to public safety; and commending G4S, An Allied Universal® Company, and all members of the Visitor Safety Officer (VSO) Program and their partners for their dedication to ensuring the safety and well-being of Guam's residents and visitors.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES I MINA TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, it is the sense of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to recognize the life and accomplishments of those distinguished citizens of this great island, and it is the custom of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to commend those public servants who have devoted themselves to faithfully serving in the best interests of our island community and the needs of its residents; and

WHEREAS, one of these public servants is Rick Loney who on January 18, 2024, while on duty as a G4S Beach Safety Officer (BSO), demonstrated outstanding courage and professionalism in the heroic act of rescuing two (2) Korean tourists from the life-threatening waters of *Tumon Bay*; and

WHEREAS, BSO Rick Loney, stationed at Dusit Thani beachside, noticed a tourist couple struggling on separate tube floaters amidst heavy winds and strong currents. Loney promptly alerted the G4S twenty-four (24)-hour Risk and Security Operations Center (RSOC) and rushed to their aid, advising them to remain calm as he guided them back to shore, pulling their floaters with care. Exhausted but safe, the couple reached the shoreline, thanks to the BSO's quick thinking and decisive action; and

WHEREAS, Rick's dedication to professional excellence in fulfilling his duty as a Beach Safety Officer displayed his exemplary courage as he upheld his commitment to safeguarding the public, and he was instrumental in preventing a tragic incident and displayed the highest standards of public service; and

WHEREAS, the actions of Rick have brought great credit not only to himself but also to his family and to the organization he is employed with, G4S, through his exceptional demonstration of courage and selfless commitment to duty. BSO Rick's actions are a testament to the effectiveness and success of the Guam Visitors Bureau (GVB) Visitor Safety Officer (VSO) Program, administered by G4S Secure Solutions (Guam), Inc.; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, GVB established the VSO Program to provide safety and security assistance to tourists visiting Guam, employing a team of concierges, tour guides, and security officers; and

WHEREAS, G4S partnered with GVB in the VSO Program to provide specially trained Visitor Safety Officers (VSOs) and Beach Safety Officers (BSOs), and trained and certified lifeguards, who carry out a range of concierge and safety services for both residents and visitors in *Tumon*; and it has since served the people of Guam and its visitors by enhancing beach safety and supporting local law enforcement efforts; and

WHEREAS, despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the VSO program adapted to serve the community by protecting parks and beaches in *Tumon* and enforcing COVID protocols, responding to over twelve thousand (12,000) requests for assistance that year alone; and

WHEREAS, BSOs like Rick have demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication, directly contributing to numerous life-saving rescues along *Tumon Bay* through their training, immediate response, and effective communication with the RSOC; and

WHEREAS, Rick's heroic actions on January 18, 2024, underscore the importance of the VSO Program and its partnership with GVB and G4S in ensuring the safety of Guam's residents and visitors, exemplifying the highest standards of public service beyond this incident; and

WHEREAS, while on duty, Rick had also assisted a woman during childbirth, prior to saving the Korean tourists from drowning. The BSO's ability to calm down the distressed passerby and get her the medical assistance she needed as she labored on the beach, further reflects his caring nature and commitment to the well-being of the community; and

WHEREAS, Rick later played a critical role in the arrest of a man who was wanted by the Guam Police Department for assault complaints, as Loney, along with a G4S Security Officer for Dusit Thani Guam Resort, spotted the wanted man walking on the beach in *Tumon* and promptly alerted the police, leading to his arrest; and

WHEREAS, Rick's exemplary conduct serves as an inspiration to all members of our community, encouraging them to strive for excellence in their respective roles; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, recognize Rick Loney for his bravery, leadership, and outstanding commitment to public safety; and commend G4S, An Allied Universal® Company, and all members of the Visitor Safety Officer (VSO) Program and their partners for their dedication to ensuring the safety and well-being of Guam's residents and visitors; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Rick Loney, G4S Beach Safety Officer; Sanjay Verma, APAC Regional CEO of G4S; to Jeffrey Campbell, APAC Regional General Counsel of G4S; to Teresa Kasperbauer Sakazaki, General Manager of G4S (Guam & CNMI); to Carl T.C. Gutierrez, President and CEO of the Guam Visitors Bureau; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 12TH DAY OF APRIL 2024.


THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker


CHRIS BARNETT
Chairperson, Committee on Rules


AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary

