

Wile
Northern
Mariana
Islands

December 20, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR HOWARD P. WILLENS AND DEANNE C. SIEMER

Subject: United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands

I spoke with Bill Foley today about the Administrative Office and Judicial Conference's plans for funding and staffing the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands. Mr. Foley reports that as of yet there has been no appropriation for the court. Nor has the Judicial Conference recommended such an appropriation. The Committee on Pacific Territories of the Judicial Conference is presently studying the matter. The Committee has already visited Guam and will probably return to the area in January, 1977, stopping in Guam and perhaps the Northern Mariana Islands and Western Samoa. Mr. Foley expects that the Judicial Conference, which next meets in March, 1977, will defer recommending funding for the federal district court until the Committee submits its report.

The Administrative Office has no information as to whether the federal judge for Guam will sit on the district bench in the Northern Marianas. Mr. Foley assured me that he will advise us as developments occur.

As you know, Judge Cristobal Camacho Duenas of the District Court for Guam is concerned that he will be assigned the additional duty of presiding over the District Court for the Northern Marianas. I have communicated what we have learned on this topic to Judge Duenas' law clerk. A copy of my letter is attached.

Paul S. Koffsky

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December 20, 1976

Roger Crouthamel, Esq.
Law Clerk to Judge Cristobal Camacho Duenas
District Court of Guam
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Dear Roger:

I have spoken with William E. Foley, the deputy director of the Administrative Office, U.S. Courts, concerning whether the federal district judge for Guam will be assigned the additional duty of sitting on the federal district bench in the Northern Mariana Islands. Mr. Foley has advised me that the Judicial Conference has made no recommendation with respect to this matter.

Mr. Foley will advise me when the Administrative Office has further information regarding the staffing of the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands. I would be pleased to pass that information on to you should you so desire.

I enjoyed meeting you and Pat and spending the evening with you both. I look forward to reciprocating soon in Washington.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Paul S. Koffsky

bcc: Deanne Siemer
Howard Willens