## COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO : Governor

DATE: 6/11/85

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FROM:

Attorney General

SUBJECT:

Constitutional Convention

Delegates to the Constitutional Convention require legal assistance and have requested it from my office, your office and the House. I can provide at least one attorney if the Constitutional Convention picks up his wages during that time ( $\underline{i}.\underline{e}$ . new attorney will start work earlier than planned). Beyond that, any person taken from our staff will cause a loss of service. All criminal and civil attorneys are committed to court appearances throughout the Convention. No one attorney could be cut loose full-time. Don will be in the States on two cases doing depositions that were scheduled by the Court. That leaves only me to:

- 1. run the office and INO,
- write AG Opinions,
- 3. handle legislation, and
- advise all our clients.

I am willing, if necessary, to "shut down" these functions for the duration of the Constitutional Convention. But, that's a pretty drastic measure.

If my office has to resort to such drastic scaling down of services, I would expect that the attorneys in the Governor's Office and the Legislature be committed to the Constitutional Convention as well. I believe their regular services are less essential, their expertise equal with ours, and that it will take five attorneys to be on-call for the Convention. Please advise me of your feelings before Wednesday's meeting.

Kenford C. Kosack
REXFORD C. KOSACK