



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Office of the Attorney General

Edward Manibusan, Attorney General
2nd Floor Hon. Juan A. Sablan Memorial Bldg.
Caller Box 10007, Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

For Immediate Release

Contact: Andrea Manese
237-7500
andrea_manese@cnmioag.org

THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WELCOMES JAMES KINGMAN

Office of the Attorney General, Saipan – Attorney General Edward Manibusan is pleased to announce the pending addition of Special Prosecutor James Robert Kingman as an assistant attorney general/special prosecutor to head up the task force established by the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Public Auditor, and the Department of Public Safety.

In a joint press release issued on May 17, 2023, Attorney General Manibusan, the temporary Public Auditor, and Commissioner Bermudes announced the formation of the task force with a joint statement that “the collaboration and partnership among the law enforcement agencies are vital to holding those accountable for waste and abuse of public funds and other criminal conduct.”

The task force was created to investigate and prosecute white-collar crime, government corruption and financial crimes. As the managing prosecutor for the task force, Mr. Kingman will supervise the task force members in the investigation and prosecution of public corruption cases. He will also be reviewing allegations of abuse relating to ARPA funds and will continue to represent the Commonwealth in the prosecution of former Governor Ralph Torres.

Mr. Kingman holds a law degree from Harvard Law School and a bachelor’s degree from Rhodes College. He has served as an assistant district attorney in Texas handling felony cases including white collar crime, fraud, money laundering, and child sexual abuse cases.

“Mr. Kingman’s hiring is in the interest of the Commonwealth and fulfills the goal under the constitution for a clean and transparent government,” said Attorney General Manibusan. “As Attorney General, I am empowered under the constitution to hire employees and to prosecute cases. AAG positions, including Mr. Kingman’s position as assistant attorney general/special prosecutor, is exempt from the civil service system. His hiring follows the process for the employment of exempt employees.”

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