

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

---

**IN RE THE  
COMMONWEALTH RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE**

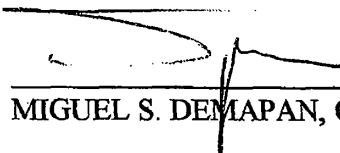
---

**JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2004-300**

¶1 On June 30, 2004, the attached amendment to the *Commonwealth Rules of Appellate Procedure* were submitted to the Fourteenth Northern Mariana Islands Legislature for approval. Sixty (60) days have elapsed since submission and neither house of the Legislature has disapproved of the Amendments. The Amendment pertain to Rule 51 - Prohibiting Citation of Unpublished Opinions, Decisions, and Orders.

¶2 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Amendment is permanent and made a part of the *Commonwealth Rules of Appellate Procedure* pursuant to Article IV, § 9 of the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Amendment is effective as of August 30, 2004.

Dated this 3 day of September, 2004.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MIGUEL S. DEMAPAN, Chief Justice



---

ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO, Associate Justice



---

JOHN A. MANGLONA, Associate Justice

**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE  
COMMONWEALTH RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE**

**Rule 51 Prohibiting Citation of Unpublished Opinions, Decisions, and Orders**

- A) Any opinion or order of this Court that is not designated for publication shall not be regarded as precedent and shall not be cited to this Court either in briefs, oral argument, opinions, memoranda, or orders, except when relevant under the doctrines of law of the case, res judicata, or collateral estoppel.
- B) Any decision or order of the Superior Court that is not designated for publication shall not be cited to this Court either in briefs, oral argument, opinions, memoranda, or orders, except when relevant for purposes of a direct appeal of such decision or order or under the doctrines of law of the case, res judicata, or collateral estoppel.
- C) Any decision or orders of a court in any other jurisdiction that is not designated for publication shall not be cited to this Court in briefs, oral argument, opinions, memoranda, or orders except when relevant under the doctrines of law of the case, res judicata, or collateral estoppel.
- D) Decisions or orders of administrative agencies or administrative proceedings may be cited whether or not they are designated for publication.