



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

**IN RE COMMONWEALTH RULE OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE
(ESTABLISHING THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS JUDICIAL COUNCIL)**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2009-ADM-0006-RUL

**ORDER
APPOINTMENT OF JUDICIAL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

On November 30, 2009, Rule 52 of the Commonwealth Rules of Appellate Procedure – creating the NMI Judicial Council – became effective. Under section (b)(1)(A) of the Rule, the Judicial Council shall be comprised of the three Justices of the Supreme Court, the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, and an Associate Superior Court Judge of the Superior Court who is elected by a simple majority by the remaining Superior Court judges. These members of the Council shall have full voting rights and other privileges and responsibilities conferred by the Rule. Accordingly, the following individuals are hereby appointed to the Judicial Council:

- Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan
- Associate Justice Alexandro C. Castro
- Associate Justice John A. Manglona
- Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja
- Elected Associate Judge of the Superior Court

Additionally, section (b)(1)(B) of the Commonwealth Rule of Appellate Procedure 52 requires at least three non-voting members. By rule, those members are the Clerk of the Supreme Court, the Clerk of the Superior Court, and the president of the NMI Bar association or his or her designee. Accordingly, the following individuals are hereby appointed the Judicial Council as ex officio members:

- Daniel C. Stafford, Clerk of the Supreme Court
- Bernadita A. Sablan, Clerk of the Superior Court
- Maya B. Kara, President of the CNMI Bar Association

According to Section (b)(2) of the Rule, each member shall serve on the Council for the duration of his or her time in the office upon which his or her membership is based, except that the elected judge shall serve a two-year term.

SO ORDERED this 1st day of December 2009.

/s/ _____
MIGUEL S. DEMAPAN
Chief Justice