

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION  
RELATIVE TO THE RECRUITMENT ABOVE-STEP FOR  
ATTORNEY CRAIG S. ESQUENAZI**

**RESOLUTION NO. PDSC 07-18**

- WHEREAS,** Title 4 Guam Code Annotated (**GCA**), Chapter 6 §6205 provides for the Recruitment Above-Step for government of Guam departments/agencies; and
- WHEREAS,** the Public Defender Service Corporation (**PDSC**) has experienced challenges in recruiting and retaining seasoned attorneys with the experience and skill-set to immediately enter the courtroom for either trial and/or appeals; and
- WHEREAS,** over the past couple of years, the **PDSC** has lost four (5) Attorney Level 4 at Step 7 or higher and three (3) Attorney Level 3 at Step 2, to either government transfers, retirement, resignations and promotions; and
- WHEREAS,** the **PDSC** is in direr need to hire experienced attorneys to fill the void that exists as a result of the changes that has occurred over the past years; and
- WHEREAS,** **PDSC** has received limited applications for its continuous job announcement for attorneys who qualify for the Attorney Level 4 vacancy, **PDSC** needs experienced attorneys to handle complex litigation including any crime that involves a sentence for life imprisonment without parole; and
- WHEREAS,** based on the legal requirements and ramifications **PDSC** clients face, there is an immediate need to fulfill **PDSC**'s mission of providing effective, efficient and adequate representation of indigent clients of **PDSC**; and
- WHEREAS,** **PDSC** needs to have the ability to attract talented and experienced attorneys above the Attorney Levels 3 and 4, Step 1; and
- WHEREAS,** at the August 14, 2018 Board of Trustees meeting, the board approved the Above Step Recruitment for Craig C. Esquenazi, Esq., to fill the vacancy of Attorney Level 4 under Job Announcement JA-05-18 , which opened June 25, 2018 as continuous ; and
- WHEREAS,** Attorney Esquenazi has over 19 years and 3 months of attorney experience in both criminal defense and prosecution, civil litigation, domestic, juvenile and appeals; and

**WHEREAS,** Attorney Esquenazi's experience spans from General Counsel with a medical group (over 2-years); private practice – criminal defense (over 11-years); and as an Assistant State Attorney (over 6-years); and

**WHEREAS,** Attorney Esquenazi, while in private practice, he primary handled felonies and misdemeanors with extensive experience at jury trials and appeals defending homicide, robbery, criminal sexual conduct and aggravated assault cases; and

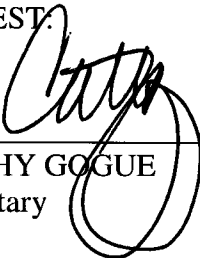
**WHEREAS,** the **PDSC** Board of Trustees approved the Recruitment Above-Step to hire Attorney Esquenazi at Attorney Level 4, Step 6 at an annual salary of \$94,194; and

**RESOLVED,** the **PDSC** received approval from the Board of Trustees giving management the authority of the Recruitment Above-Step as outlined in Title 4 GCA, Chapter 6 §6205, Recruitment Above-Step; now therefore be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Public Defender Service Corporation, in its duly-noticed meeting of August 14, 2018, hereby approves the Corporation's Request for Recruitment Above-Step, pursuant to Title 4 GCA, Chapter 6 §6205, for Craig S. Esquenazi, Esq., to Attorney Level 4, Step 6 at \$94,194 per annum after the completion of the required posting and press release to the media.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED** this 14th day of August, 2018.

  
Chief Justice KATHERINE A. MARAMAN  
Chairwoman

ATTEST:

  
CATHY GOGUE  
Secretary