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Blue House Press Statement

September 20, 2013-Tamuning, Guam- Last night, former officers David Manila and Anthony Quenga were found guilty of most of the charges brought forth against them in their connection with the Blue House Lounge, a front that involved human trafficking; prostitution; kidnapping; and criminal sexual conduct or rape, which was in operation for about several years.

A jury panel of twelve impartial, thoughtful and patient community members who served their civic duty sat through nearly 4 weeks of trial by listening to testimony and reviewing all of the evidence. The jury ultimately ensured that justice was served. I applaud these jury members and thank them. They effectively communicated that absolutely no one is above the law, including those who are in law enforcement. The jury has effectively weeded out two bad apples who should not be seen as spoiling the whole bunch because we all know the overwhelmingly vast majority of Guam Police Officers are dedicated and committed law enforcement professionals who protect and serve to keep all citizens and residents of Guam safe.

The successful prosecution of the Blue House case in the Superior Court of Guam by the Office of the Attorney General could not have happened without the close collaboration, cooperation and assistance of the Guam Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the U.S. Attorney Office for the District of Guam and CNMI. The individuals and law enforcement officers who directly contributed to this successful prosecution and whom I offer a Dankulo Na Si Yuus Maase to are:

FBI Special Agent Jason Dodd
GPD Officer Tracy Volta
GPD Officer Bia Nanoto
AGO Chief Investigator Tony Blas
AGO Criminal Investigator Juan Salas

The team had an extremely difficult task of piecing the case together 4 years after its discovery in 2008 and 2 years after the 2011 federal human trafficking trial against Cha, but they did an outstanding job.

And of course, the prosecutor of the case, First Assistant Attorney General Jonathan Quan who had to leave the next day after presenting his evidence off-island for military duty serving our country.

I want to thank U.S. Attorney Alicia Limtiaco and the Office of the U.S. Attorney together with the FBI for their assistance with investigating the case, and equally important with providing their assistance by turning over evidence to local authorities in a timely manner and assisting in the cost of bringing

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witnesses back. FBI Victim Specialist Monica Rowsey deserves special mention as she was indispensable to this case because of her efforts in coordinating the travel arrangements for the off-island victims/witnesses in this case.

I want to thank GPD Chief Fred Bordallo who is out with the flu and could not be here for supporting our investigation and prosecution of this case.

To the brave and valiant victims of this case, no amount of justice served will ever erase the horrific experience you've suffered, but I can only hope that these convictions will begin your healing.

I wish I could say that this is the last chapter of the Blue House case, but I am informed that there may be some other allegations involving other police officers that we have to determine whether we can prosecute beyond a reasonable doubt, and the criminal investigation evidence also gets folded into the administrative investigation of the matter as requested by the Governor and Lt Governor that has yet to be completed.

The take away from the Blue House is no one is above the law including a few bad apples in law enforcement.

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