



# Office of the Attorney General of Guam

590 S. Marine Corps Dr., Ste. 706, Tamuning, Guam 96913



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **It's The Law: Gift Cards and Gift Certificates**

*August 08, 2015- Tamuning, Guam-* Late yesterday afternoon, Attorney General Barrett-Anderson met with the president and board members of the Guam Chamber of Commerce to inform them of a recently launched public service announcement campaign titled "It's the Law," which covers some topics that have a direct impact on their business members.

General Barrett-Anderson spoke specifically to the Chamber about gift cards and paper gift certificates.

"In the next couple weeks, the topic of gift cards and gift certificates will be airing as part of the 'It's the Law' Campaign, and I wanted to meet today to have the opportunity to use your network to inform businesses that they can expect more customers coming in requesting to use their gift cards and certificates beyond the expiration date listed. They are going to request it, because they heard my education campaign on the radio," said General Barret-Anderson.

Guam adopted the gift card law as laid out by the federal trade commission. The law, in general terms, states that gift cards are as good as money and have no expiration date. There are, however, exceptions. For example, after 3 years, a business can charge a monthly fee to the issued gift card if there is still a balance on it.

Under Guam's local law, paper gift certificates are good for up to 5 years from the date of issuance. These include gift certificates to nail salons, massage establishments, and other local businesses that still issue paper gift certificates.

"It's important to educate consumers and our community about the law, because most people don't walk around with the law in their pocket," said General Barrett-Anderson.

"It's equally important to educate retailers and businesses so that they can comply with the law," she continued.

###