

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on ninetieth day following Oct. 5, 1984, see section 1005 of Pub. L. 98-454, set out as an Effective Date of 1984 Amendment note under section 1424 of this title.

§ 1424-3. Appellate jurisdiction of District Court; procedure; review by United States Court of Appeals for Ninth Circuit; rules; appeals to appellate court

(a) Appellate jurisdiction of District Court

Prior to the establishment of the appellate court authorized by section 1424-1(a) of this title, which is known as the Supreme Court of Guam, the District Court of Guam shall have such appellate jurisdiction over the local courts of Guam as the legislature may determine: *Provided*, That the legislature may not preclude the review of any judgment or order which involves the Constitution, treaties, or laws of the United States, including this chapter, or any authority exercised thereunder by an officer or agency of the Government of the United States, or the conformity of any law enacted by the legislature of Guam or of any orders or regulations issued or actions taken by the executive branch of the government of Guam with the Constitution, treaties, or laws of the United States, including this chapter, or any authority exercised thereunder by an officer or agency of the United States.

(b) Appellate division of District Court; quorum; presiding judge; designation of judges; decisions

Appeals to the District Court of Guam shall be heard and determined by an appellate division of the court consisting of three judges, of whom two shall constitute a quorum. The district judge shall be the presiding judge of the appellate division and shall preside therein unless disqualified or otherwise unable to act. The other judges who are to sit in the appellate division of any session shall be designated by the presiding judge from among the judges who are serving on, or are assigned to, the district court from time to time pursuant to section 1424b of this title: *Provided*, That no more than one of them may be a judge of a court of record of Guam. The concurrence of two judges shall be necessary to any decision of the appellate division of the district court on the merits of an appeal, but the presiding judge alone may make any appropriate orders with respect to an appeal prior to the hearing and determination thereof on the merits and may dismiss an appeal for want of jurisdiction or failure to take or prosecute it in accordance with the applicable law or rules of procedure.

(c) United States Court of Appeals for Ninth Circuit; jurisdiction; appeals; rules

The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit shall have jurisdiction of appeals from all final decisions of the appellate division of the district court. The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit shall have jurisdiction to promulgate rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this subsection.

(d) Appeals to appellate court; effect on District Court

Upon the establishment of the appellate court provided for in section 1424-1(a) of this title, which is known as the Supreme Court of Guam, all appeals from the decisions of the local courts not previously taken must be taken to such appellate court. The establishment of that appellate court shall not result in the loss of jurisdiction of the appellate division of the district court over any appeal then pending in it. The rulings of the appellate division of the district court on such appeals may be reviewed in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and in the Supreme Court notwithstanding the establishment of the appellate court.

(Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §22C, as added Pub. L. 98-454, title VIII, §801, Oct. 5, 1984, 98 Stat. 1742; amended Pub. L. 108-378, §1(c), Oct. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2207.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-378, §1(c)(1), inserted “which is known as the Supreme Court of Guam,” after “appellate court authorized by section 1424-1(a) of this title.”

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 108-378, §1(c)(2), inserted “, which is known as the Supreme Court of Guam,” after “appellate court provided for in section 1424-1(a) of this title” and substituted “taken to such appellate court” for “taken to the appellate court”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on ninetieth day following Oct. 5, 1984, see section 1005 of Pub. L. 98-454, set out as an Effective Date of 1984 Amendment note under section 1424 of this title.

§ 1424-4. Criminal offenses; procedure; definitions

Where appropriate, the provisions of part II of title 18 and of title 28, United States Code, and notwithstanding the provision in rule 54(a) Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure relating to the prosecution of criminal offenses on Guam by information, the rules of practice and procedure heretofore or hereafter promulgated and made effective by the Congress or the Supreme Court of the United States pursuant to titles 11, 18, and 28, United States Code, shall apply to the District Court of Guam and appeals therefrom; except that the terms, “Attorney for the government” and “United States attorney”, as used in the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, shall, when applicable to cases arising under the laws of Guam, including the Guam Territorial income tax, mean the Attorney General of Guam or such other person or persons as may be authorized by the laws of Guam to act therein.

(Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §22D, as added Pub. L. 98-454, title VIII, §801, Oct. 5, 1984, 98 Stat. 1743.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, referred to in text, are set out in the Appendix to Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on ninetieth day following Oct. 5, 1984, see section 1005 of Pub. L. 98-454, set out as an Effective Date of 1984 Amendment note under section 1424 of this title.

§ 1424a. Repealed. Oct. 31, 1951, ch. 655, § 56(e), 65 Stat. 729

Section, act Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §23, 64 Stat. 390, related to appeals from the District Court of Guam to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and to the United States Supreme Court. See sections 41, 1252, 1291, 1292, and 1294 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SAVINGS PROVISION

Act Oct. 31, 1951, ch. 655, §56(l), 65 Stat. 730, provided that the repeal by section 56 of act Oct. 31, 1951, shall not affect any rights or liabilities existing hereunder on the effective date of that repeal (Oct. 31, 1951).

§ 1424b. Judge of District Court; appointment, tenure, removal, and compensation; appointment of United States attorney and marshal

(a) The President shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a judge for the District Court of Guam who shall hold office for the term of ten years and until his successor is chosen and qualified unless sooner removed by the President for cause. The judge shall receive a salary payable by the United States which shall be at the rate prescribed for judges of the United States district courts.

The Chief Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit of the United States may assign a judge of a local court of record or a judge of the High Court of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands or a circuit or district judge of the ninth circuit or a recalled senior judge of the District Court of Guam or of the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, or the Chief Justice of the United States may assign any other United States circuit or district judge with the consent of the judge so assigned and of the chief judge of his circuit, to serve temporarily as a judge in the District Court of Guam whenever it is made to appear that such an assignment is necessary for the proper dispatch of the business of the court.

(b) The President shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a United States attorney and United States marshal for Guam to whose offices the provisions of chapters 35 and 37 of title 28, respectively, shall apply.

(Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §24, 64 Stat. 390; Oct. 31, 1951, ch. 655, §55(a), 65 Stat. 728; Pub. L. 85-444, §3, June 4, 1958, 72 Stat. 179; Pub. L. 98-454, title VIII, §802, Oct. 5, 1984, 98 Stat. 1743.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1984—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 98-454, §802(a)-(c), substituted “for the term of ten years” for “for a term of eight years” in first par., and, in second par., substituted “a local court of record” for “the Island Court of Guam” and inserted “or a recalled senior judge of the District Court of Guam or of the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands” after “ninth circuit”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 98-454, §802(d), substituted “35” and “37” for “31” and “33” respectively.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 98-454, §802(e), struck out subsec. (c) which provided that chapters 43 and 49 of title 28 shall apply to the District Court of Guam.

1958—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 85-444 increased the term of office from four to eight years, substituted provisions requiring the salary of the judge to be at the rate prescribed for judges of the United States district courts for provisions which required the salary of the judge to be the same as salary of the Governor of Guam, and inserted provisions permitting the Chief Judge of the Ninth Circuit to make temporary assignments.

1951—Subsec. (a). Act Oct. 31, 1951, in second sentence, struck out “”, and shall be entitled to the benefits of retirement provided in section 373 of title 28”.

Subsec. (c). Act Oct. 31, 1951, struck out references to chapters 21, 41, and 57 of title 28.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendments by Pub. L. 98-454 effective on ninetieth day following Oct. 5, 1984, see section 1005 of Pub. L. 98-454, set out as a note under section 1424 of this title.

EXTENSION OF TERM OF DISTRICT JUDGES;
APPLICABILITY; EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 98-454, title X, §1004, Oct. 5, 1984, 98 Stat. 1746, provided that: “The provisions of sections 706(a), 802(a), and 901(a) of this Act [amending sections 1614, 1424b, and 1821, respectively, of this title] extending the terms of district court judges of the Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands, respectively, from eight to ten years shall be applicable to the judges of those courts holding office on the effective date of this Act [Oct. 5, 1984].”

Executive DocumentsTERMINATION OF TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC
ISLANDS

For termination of Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, see note set out preceding section 1681 of this title.

§ 1424c. Review of claims respecting land on Guam**(a) Jurisdiction**

Notwithstanding any law or court decision to the contrary, the District Court of Guam is hereby granted authority and jurisdiction to review claims of persons, their heirs or legatees, from whom interests in land on Guam were acquired other than through judicial condemnation proceedings, in which the issue of compensation was adjudicated in a contested trial in the District Court of Guam, by the United States between July 21, 1944, and August 23, 1963, and to award fair compensation in those cases where it is determined that less than fair market value was paid as a result of (1) duress, unfair influence, or other unconscionable actions, or (2) unfair, unjust, and inequitable actions of the United States.

(b) Acquisitions effected through condemnation proceedings

Land acquisitions effected through judicial condemnation proceedings in which the issue of compensation was adjudicated in a contested trial in the District Court of Guam, shall remain res judicata and shall not be subject to review hereunder.

(c) Fair compensation

Fair compensation for purposes of this Act is defined as such additional amounts as are nec-