

GUAM ANCESTRAL LANDS COMMISSION

Form #1

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Executive Director

INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION SHEET

The Guam Ancestral Lands Commission was set up by Guam Public Law 25-45 to pass title of federal excess lands, once returned to Government of Guam, back to original landowners or their heirs. Guam Public Law 25-178 sets the missions, mandates, powers and jurisdiction of the Commission in processing claimant applications for Deed of Title.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

Basically, you need to:

1. File a **Claim of Interest (COI)** at the Guam Department of Land Management (see Form #2 included in this application package). *Please complete but make sure you sign it before a notary.* The COI does two (2) things:
 - (a) the person named on the COI is making a meritorious claim on the subject property;
 - (b) the person named on the COI is making a public declaration on their claim on the property.

Claims of Interest must be recorded for *each lot* being claimed, and pay a *\$10.00 recording fee per lot* to the Guam Department of Land Management (1 original and 3 copies needed for recordation). A copy of your recorded COI is required for our files.

For Off-Island Claimants: GALC is unable to process this recordation and payment for off-island claimants. Please have a relative or representative on-island do this for you.

2. File an **Ancestral Title and Compensation Application** with our Commission along with the following (included in this application package):
 - (a) "**Ancestral Title and Compensation Application**" (see Form #3) - fill in all information you can, sign and date where required.
 - (b) "**Affidavit of Applicant**" (see Form #4) - *please complete but make sure you sign it before a notary.*
 - (c) "**Request for Abstract of Title and Surveyor's Certification**" (see Form #5).

In returning the above documents **please also provide:** a **copy of applicant's birth certificate** and a **family tree** to your level in the heirs which would show any other possible interests to the property, including those relatives' names and addresses. This would help us cross-reference any other applications that may be submitted to our office claiming interest on the property.

Additionally, if possible, inform all your relatives a claim has been made in behalf of your common ancestor(s). While each claimant is entitled to make a claim individually, it would be best to collectively appoint one spokesperson, administrator or administratrix to handle this process in consideration of separate recordation fees, legal fees, and other fees. A family group appointment may be requested to confer with the Executive Director on lot and landowner information, or to clarify any concerns.

For further information, please contact us at (671) 473-5263. Our office hours are: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. IMPORTANT: Please call ahead for notary service to make sure the Notary is on duty.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation. We look forward to serving you.

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