

David M. Apatang
Governor



Dennis James C. Mendiola
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2026-011

SUBJECT: Transfer of duties from Office of Special Assistant for Youth Affairs to Division of Youth Services.

AUTHORITY: NMI Const. art. III, § 1 provides that “[t]he executive power of the Commonwealth shall be vested in a governor who shall be responsible for the faithful execution of the laws;” and NMI Const. art. III, § 15 permits the governor to “make changes in the allocation of offices, agencies and instrumentalities and in their functions and duties that are necessary for efficient administration.”

WHEREAS; Governor Froilan C. Tenorio in Section 203 of Executive Order 94-3 created an Office of Youth Affairs to be headed by a Special Assistant for Youth, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor; and

WHEREAS; Public Law 12-67 repealed Section 203 of Executive Order 94-3 and established by statute an Office of Special Assistant for Youth Affairs and an eight-member Commonwealth Council of Youth Affairs, both within the Office of the Governor; and

WHEREAS; trying economic times necessitate consolidation of duplicative government instrumentalities to ensure that the Commonwealth’s limited fiscal resources are allocated to provision of essential public services;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, David M. Apatang, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth, and in order to achieve effective and efficient government administration so as to better serve the interests of the Commonwealth and its people, hereby order as follows:

Section 1. Enactment.

- (a) The duties and responsibilities of the Office of Special Assistant for Youth Affairs pursuant to 1 CMC § 20101 et seq. are hereby transferred to the Division of Youth Services within the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs established under 1 CMC § 2371 et seq.
- (b) All staff of the Office of Special Assistant for Youth Affairs, including the Special Assistant, shall be terminated from their positions in the Office of the Governor and may be rehired with equivalent salary and benefits as civil service employees consistent with 1 CMC § 2375 under the supervision of the Administrator of the Division of Youth Services or designee.

Section 2. General Provisions.

- (a) This executive order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law.
- (b) Except as specifically provided in Section 1 of this executive order, the statutory provisions of Title 1, Division 2, Chapter 1, Article 6 of the Commonwealth Code shall remain in force in full, except that references to the Office of the Governor shall instead mean the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, and references to the Special Assistant for Youth Affairs shall instead mean the Administrator of the Division of Youth Services or designee.
- (c) This executive order is not intended to and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the Commonwealth, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.
- (d) In accordance with NMI Const. art. III, § 15, this executive order shall be submitted to the legislature and shall become effective sixty days after submission, unless specifically modified or disapproved by a majority of the members of each house of the legislature.
- (e) If any provision of this executive order or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this executive order or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

It is so Ordered,

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED on this 26th day of June 2026.



DAVID M. APATANG
Governor