

Professional Summary

Experienced and dedicated public servant with a diverse background in policymaking, health and environmental advocacy, community outreach, and communications.

Strengths

Passionate commitment to community health and civic engagement | Resourceful and diligent researcher
Attentive and competent facilitator | Excellent oral and written communication skills | Strong interpersonal skills
Adept at building effective partnerships

Education

2016 University of Hawaii at Manoa | Honolulu, HI
Master's Degree, Urban and Regional Planning
Graduate Certificate, Conflict Resolution

2003 College of Santa Fe | Santa Fe, NM
Bachelor of Science, Conservation Science
Summa cum Laude

Work Experience

Elected Representative, 21st & 22nd Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. Saipan.

January 2019 – Present

- Serve as Chair of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, and Member of the Committees on Ways and Means, Federal and Foreign Affairs, Judiciary and Governmental Operations, and Gaming.
- Key goals include increasing investments in the commonwealth's public health and healthcare infrastructure; expanding healthcare coverage for island residents; restoring the Earned Income Tax Credit for working families; and enhancing accountability requirements for public officials.

Outreach Coordinator and Deputy Communications Director, U.S. House of Representatives. Washington, DC & Saipan.

July 2015 – June 2019

- Oversaw public outreach programs for the Northern Marianas Delegate to U.S. Congress and supported the Chief of Staff/Communications Director in strategic planning, media relations, speechwriting, and constituent correspondence.
- Served as liaison for the congressional office with federal agencies, the Northern Marianas government, and disaster survivors following two major typhoons in 2015 and 2018.

Research Assistant, University of Hawaii and Accord 3.0 Network. Honolulu, HI.

February 2014 – May 2015

- Assisted UH faculty in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning in editing and proofreading several academic publications covering urban development patterns, wastewater infrastructure, and nearshore ecology, as well as juvenile justice reform.
- Researched and compiled inventory of environmental health studies for Kauai Pesticides Joint Fact-Finding Initiative sponsored by the County of Kauai and facilitated by Accord 3.0 Network.

Anchor/Reporter, KSPN2 News. Saipan.

June 2011 – Aug 2013

- Prepared and delivered news stories for nightly television broadcast, covering the environment, public health, economic development, crime, courts, and politics.

Program Manager, Commonwealth Cancer Association. Saipan.

March 2010 – March 2012

- Managed health awareness, advocacy, and support programs for cancer survivors, reviewed and submitted comments on health-related legislation, prepared reports and publications, recruited volunteers, and fundraised in coordination with the board and volunteers.

Elected Representative, 16th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. Saipan.

January 2008 – January 2010

- Chaired the Saipan Delegation's Committee on Public Utilities and Infrastructure, and served as member of House Standing Committees on Commerce and Tourism and Federal and Foreign Relations.
- Introduced/co-sponsored legislation for healthcare system reform, environmental protection, and enhanced transparency and accountability requirements for the legislature.

Environmental Specialist and Waste Reduction Coordinator, CNMI Division of Environmental Quality. Saipan.

July 2004 – August 2007

- Developed and implemented outreach programs in coordination with partner agencies, business representatives, and other community stakeholders to promote watershed and coral reef protection, pollution prevention, energy efficiency, and recycling.

Other Leadership and Service Experience

- Participated in the East-West Center's Changing Faces: Women's Leadership Seminar, Hawaii, July 2019.
- Served as panelist and working group facilitator at the Women's Summit on Saipan, March 2019.
- Appointed by the Bishop of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa to the Diocesan Commission on Social Justice and Outreach, March 2018 – Present.
- Volunteered for the American Red Cross and United 4 Saipan following typhoon disasters in the Marianas in 2018 and 2015.
- Participated in the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies National Leadership Academy in Washington, DC, May 2016.
- Coordinated the East-West Center's Wednesday Evening Seminar on regional literacy in the Asia-Pacific, Honolulu, HI, May 2014 – May 2015.
- Presented on a panel exploring evaluation in environmental dispute resolution at the Association for Conflict Resolution's 14th Annual Conference, Cincinnati, OH, October 2014.
- Chaired the University Students in Urban and Regional Planning Council, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, UH Manoa, March 2014 – May 2015.
- Founding member of the Friends of Marpi, a community-based group dedicated to the protection of Saipan's historic and environmentally-sensitive Marpi Point, 2011.
- Founding member of the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, assisting in strategic planning and membership recruitment, Saipan, 2005.

Honors and Awards

- Graduate Degree Fellow, East-West Center, Honolulu, HI, 2014-2015
- College of Arts and Sciences Research Award, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI, 2014
- Student Affiliate, East-West Center, Honolulu, HI, 2013-2014
- Distinguished Graduate of the Year, Mt. Carmel School, Saipan, 2013
- Saipan Tribune's Person of the Year, 2008
- Presidential Academic Achievement Award, College of Santa Fe, New Mexico, 2004