

# COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION FY'24 CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT

## COMMISSION BOARD

- Mrs. Susan R. Babauta - Chairwoman
- Mr. Jose P. Kiyoshi - Vice Chairman
- Mr. Antonio Cabrera - Member, Saipan & NI
- Mrs. Remedio R. Sablan - Member, Saipan & NI
- Ms. Esther A. Yatar - Member, Rota
- Mr. John D. Attao - Member, Tinian & Aguiguan
- Mr. Kurt O. Maratita - Member, Rota
- Ms. Florence Sablan - Member, Saipan & NI
- Vacant - Saipan

## COMMISSION STAFF

- Ms. Kayla S. Igitol - Executive Director
- Mr. Ambrosio AJ Lisua - Admin. Officer
- Ms. Christina K. Norita - Election Reg. Clerk
- Ms. Ashley B. Bornilla - Election Reg. Clerk
- Mr. Benwachi N. Taisakan - Outreach Coordinator
- Mr. Joseph O. Iginioef - Election Clerk Asst.
- Ms. Annabel T. Magofna - Election Clerk Asst.



### Who are we?

The Commonwealth Election Commission was created under Public Law 12-18, as amended which was codified in Title 1 Division 6 of the Commonwealth Code. It was created to establish procedures and requirements of voters and the conduct of elections within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Commission shall have nine (9) members appointed by the Governor subject to the advice and consent of the Senate. Five members shall be residents of Saipan and the islands north of Saipan, two members shall be residents of Rota, and two members shall be residents of the islands of Tinian and Aguiguan. No person may be appointed a commission member who is not a registered voter of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth Election Commission's Executive Director is Kayla S. Igitol, who serves at the pleasure of the Commission. Including the Executive Director, CEC's full-time staff consist of six employees. Eight months prior to election the commission hires ten (10) temporary employees to assist in preparation and closing of election.



### What is our mission?

To ensure a fair, honest and impartial election process.

## CONTACT US



(670)235-8683(VOTE)



[www.voteCNMI.gov.mp](http://www.voteCNMI.gov.mp)



P.O. Box 500470  
Saipan, MP 96950



2744 Susupe, Tekken St.

## Who qualifies to Register?

A person is eligible to vote who meets the following qualifications as provided in Title 1 Division 6 § 6201.

- A citizen of the United States of America
- Who, on the date of election, is 18 years of age or older
- Domiciled in the Commonwealth for 120 days prior to the election
- Has not been declared by a court to be of unsound mind
- Not serving a sentence for a felony

## How to register

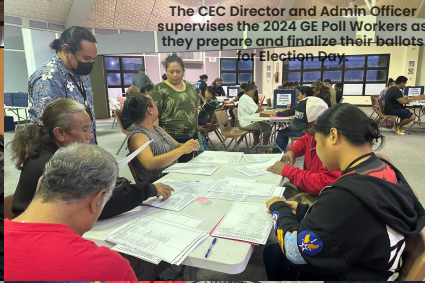
- Visit our office in Susupe, Tekken St. from 8am-4pm (Closed on weekends and Holidays)
- Visit our website and download the voter registration package (for off island voters only)
- For First-time voters, provide a copy of your valid U.S. passport, Birth Certificate or CNMI Mayors ID.



**PERFORMANCE**



**YOUR  
VOTE  
IS YOUR  
VOICE**



The CEC Director and Admin Officer supervises the 2024 GE Poll Workers as they prepare and finalize their ballots for Election Day.



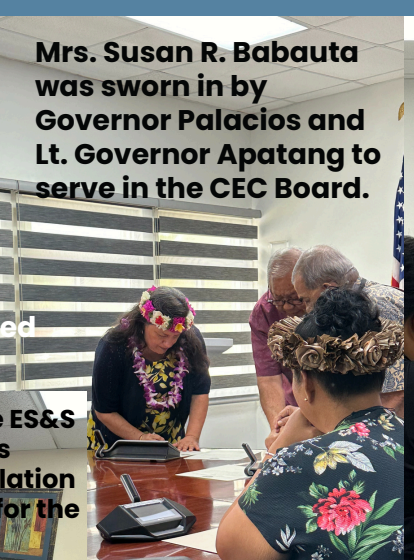
CEC and GEC members, along with the Directors and EAC Commissioner, paid a courtesy visit to the Mayor's office of the Northern Island.



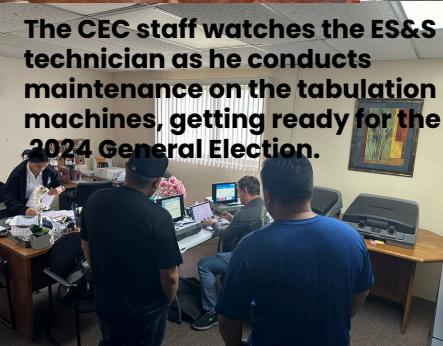
Election officials from the CNMI, Guam, and the U.S. convened with Ms. Aubry Hocog, the Mayor of the beautiful Island of Rota.



Mrs. Susan R. Babauta was sworn in by Governor Palacios and Lt. Governor Apatang to serve in the CEC Board.



Mr. John Attao of the 2nd Senatorial District Renominated to serve in the CEC Board.



Mr. Kurt Maratita sworn in to the CEC Board



The CEC staff watches the ES&S technician as he conducts maintenance on the tabulation machines, getting ready for the 2024 General Election.

Jose P. Kiyoshi was sworn in by Governor Palacios and Lt. Governor Apatang to serve in the CEC Board.



The U.S. Assistance Commissioner, GEC Director, and CEC Director convene with the Governor of Guam to address election-related issues.



**Total Registered Voters  
Figures as of October 18, 2024**

- Precinct 1 - 897
- Precinct 2 - 1,543
- Precinct 3 - 3,933
- Precinct 4 - 1,818
- Precinct 5 - 2,808
- Precinct 6 - 1,560
- Precinct 7 - 1,748
- CNMI WIDE: 18,388**

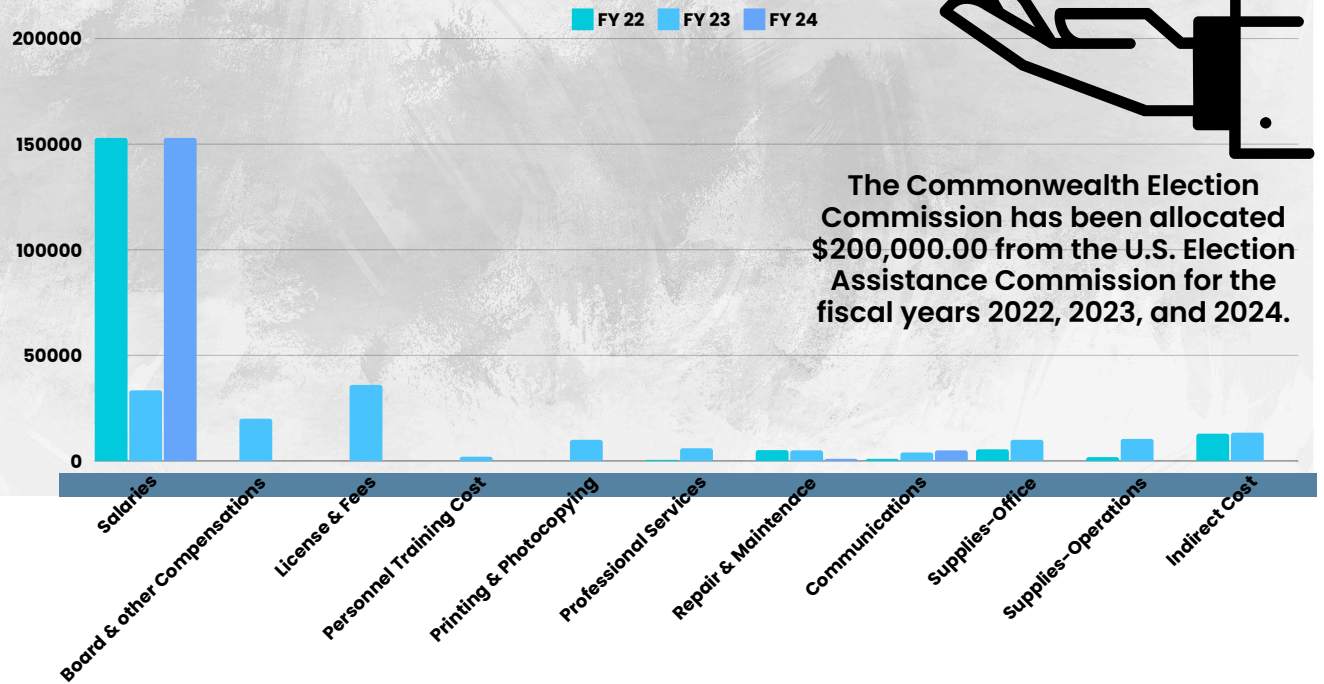
**Total Registered NMI Descents  
Figures as of July 12, 2024**

- Females - 5,049
- Males - 4,602
- OVERALL: 9,651**



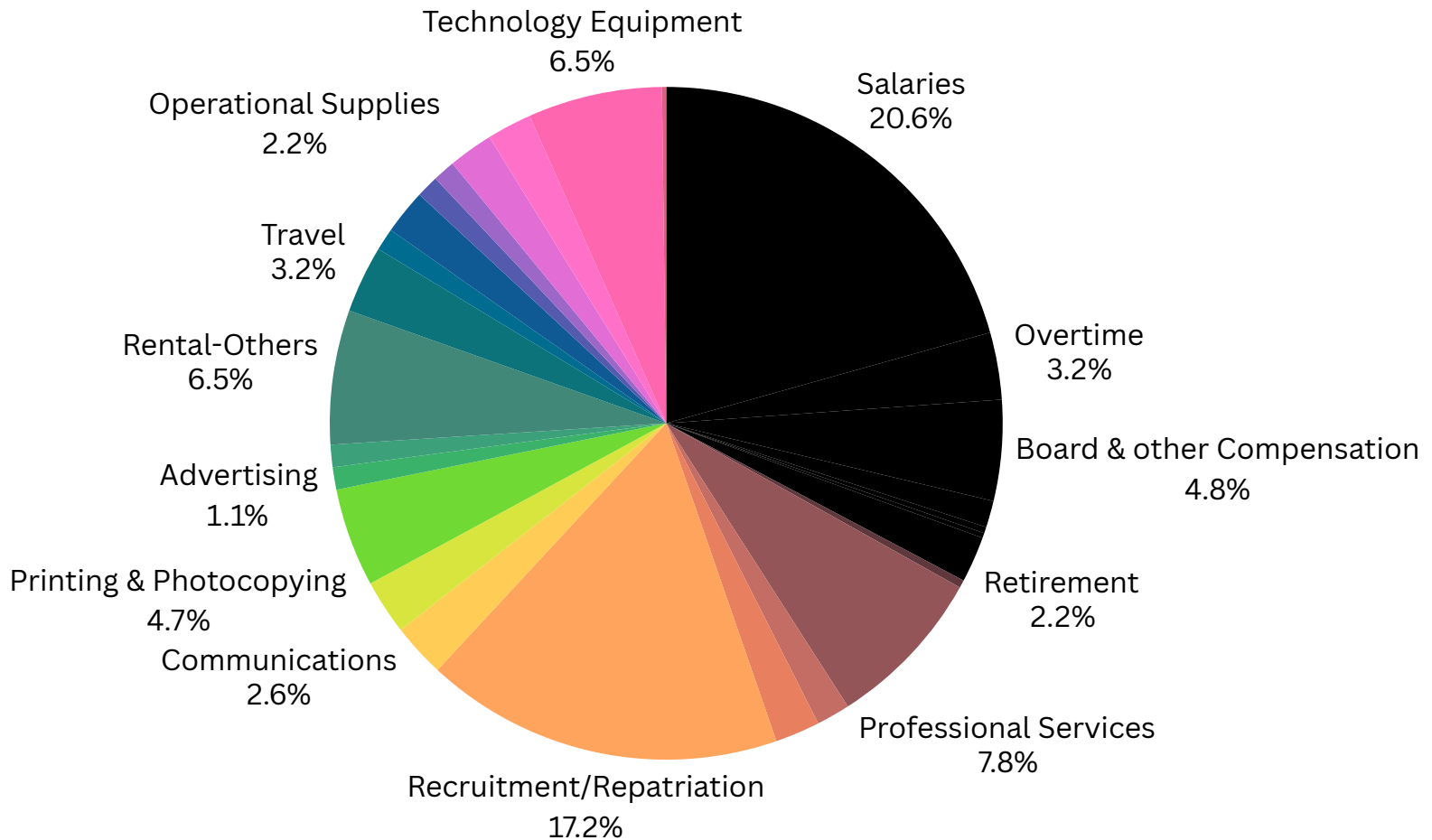
What is an Election Assistance Grant?

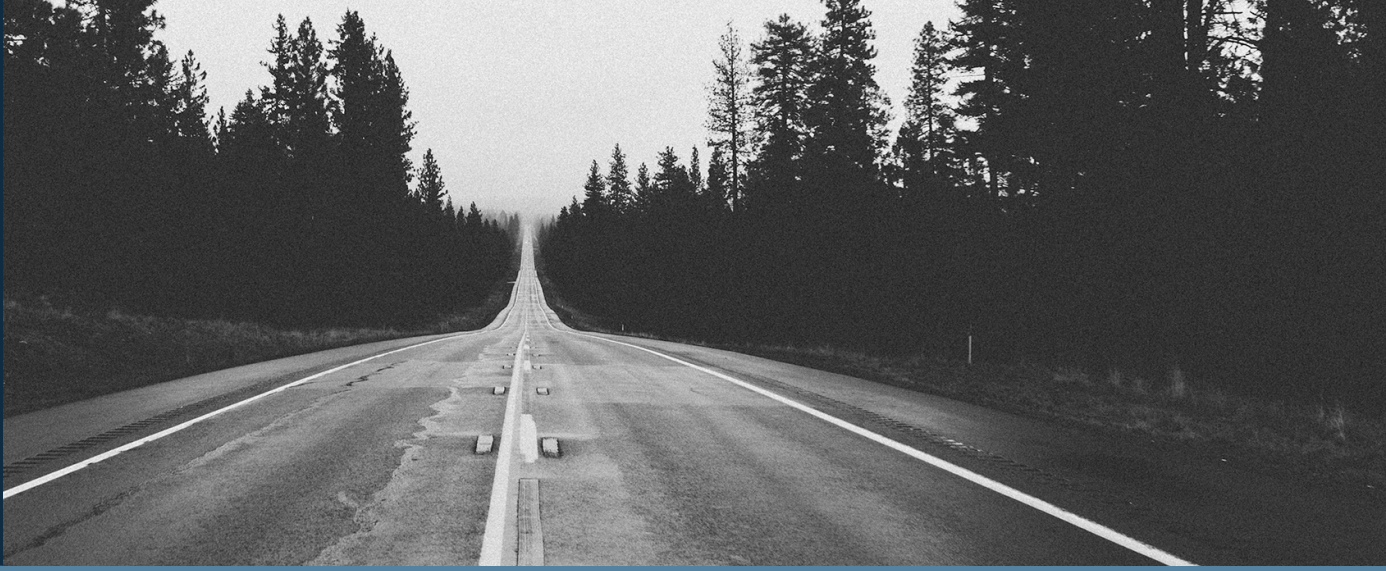
Election assistance grants are funds provided by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to support states and territories in improving their election administration and security. These grants are established under the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), which was enacted to enhance the voting process in federal elections across the United States.



The Commonwealth Election Commission has been allocated \$200,000.00 from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission for the fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024.

FY 24 LOCAL BUDGET SUBMISSION





## Looking Forward

- Addressing issues with election laws and regulations that need to be amended to ensure a smooth process.
- Continuing efforts to register voters and Northern Marianas Descent
- Finalizing an SOP



## Challenges

- Validating Voter Registry
- Processing of absentee ballots
- Conducting preliminary counts on Rota and Tinian
- Servicing Northern Island Voters
- Expense in chartering a vessel
- Staying in compliance with 1 CMC § 6102 Election Commission Composition
- Receiving local funds to cover expenses that are not permitted under federal grants
- Renovation of CEC office

