



## PRESS RELEASE

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**Bank of Guam** was established over 50 years ago, and as The People's Bank, is Guam's first locally owned and chartered bank. Built on the vision of founder Jesus S. Leon Guerrero to be the driving force for prosperity in the communities it serves, the Bank's work continues through its network of over 500 employees spanning 6,000 miles and 16 branches across Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and San Francisco, California.

January 26, 2024

### **BANK OF GUAM WINS MONEY SMARTS BANKY™ AWARD, NAMED AMONG THE TOP EXTRAORDINARY BANKS IN THE NATION**

Hagåtña, Guam – Bank of Guam was named among the top extraordinary banks in the United States by The Institute for Extraordinary Banking™.

Bank of Guam was recognized with the Institute's Money Smarts Banky™ Award for its Financial Empowerment Program as well as its commitment to strong community banking. This recognition is given to top community banks across the country to help people find the best banks in their communities.

*Financial Empowerment is an important part of our CSR Strategy. As an organization and members of our community, we have a responsibility to do what we can to strengthen the financial stability of our youth and families. Our efforts over the years have allowed us to build strong partnerships with various organizations that represent our underbanked population. Through those relationships, we are now able to better understand their diverse needs and challenges. We remain committed to building on this foundation and setting new benchmarks in financial empowerment for all.*

*Winning this award is not just a recognition of our program's success—it's a reflection of the continuing work we do to bring to life our founder's dream of creating a more financially inclusive and empowered society for generations to come.*

**-Joaquin P. L.G. Cook, President and Chief Executive Officer**

*Community banks recognize aspirations, dreams, and silent hopes of small businesses and individuals within their communities. The heart and soul of an extraordinary community bank is the visionary blueprint for the community's success and ability to enact that plan. Those banks were chosen to receive this year's Banky awards.*

**-Roxanne Emmerich, Chair and Founder, The Institute for Extraordinary Banking™**

The Extraordinary Banking™ Awards emphasize the indispensable contribution community banks have on their communities—how deeply woven into the fabric of the community they are. Their role in elevating the national economy is profound yet often misunderstood.

Community banks are the beacon that illuminates their local communities and the pillar of small business success.

For the full list of 2023 Banky™ Award Recipients, visit <https://www.extraordinarybanking.com/2023-banky-awards-winners/>.