



**U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**  
DISTRICTS OF GUAM AND THE NMI  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2004**

**PRESS RELEASE:**

**FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN THE DISTRICT OF GUAM INDICTS FORMER**  
**GUBERNATORIAL CHIEF OF STAFF FOR BANK FRAUD, BRIBERY,**  
**AND MONEY LAUNDERING**

A federal grand jury sitting in the District of Guam returned a seventeen count indictment against **Gil A. Shinohara**, age 43, and **Takahisa Goto**, age 52, residents of Guam. **Shinohara** formerly served as Chief of Staff for the Governor of Guam and as the Acting Director of the Guam Department of Public Works. **Goto** operated several companies that did business with the government of Guam, including Port Enterprises and Daikin.

**Shinohara** was charged with three counts of accepting bribes, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 666(a)(B)(1), eight counts of money laundering and one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956, two counts of engaging in financial transactions with the proceeds of illegal activity, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957, conspiracy to defraud the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371, bank fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1344, and conspiracy to commit bank fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371.

**Goto** was charged with bank fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1344, conspiracy to commit bank fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371, three counts of money laundering and one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956, and two counts of engaging in financial transactions with the proceeds of illegal activity, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957.

The bribery and engaging in a financial transaction with the proceeds of illegal activity charges carry a maximum term of imprisonment of ten years and a fine of up to \$250,000, each. The conspiracy to commit bank fraud, and conspiracy to defraud FEMA charges carry a maximum term of imprisonment of up to five years and a fine of up to \$250,000, each. The money laundering and conspiracy to launder money charges carry a term of imprisonment of up to 20 years and a fine of up to \$500,000, each. The bank fraud charges carry a term of imprisonment of up to 30 years and a fine of up to one million dollars.

The charges are related to several Government of Guam contracts including contracts awarded in the aftermath of typhoon Paka, and the financing of Pedro's Plaza, an office building located in Hagatna, the capital of Guam.

The indictment is the result of an investigation conducted by the federal Public Corruption Task Force consisting of Assistant United States Attorneys from the District of Guam, Special Agents of the FBI, IRS Criminal Investigation, and the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General. Assistant United States Attorney Joseph Wilson, Criminal Chief, Guam, will serve as the lead prosecutor. The case is being supervised by the Public Integrity Section, Criminal Division, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

Members of the public are reminded that an Indictment is only an accusation. The defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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