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IN THE  
SUPREME COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU  
TRIAL DIVISION

SUPREME COURT  
OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF PALAU

REPUBLIC OF PALAU,

Plaintiff,

v.

CLIFTON SOALABLAI and MARGIE  
NGIRMIDOL,

Defendants.

CRIMINAL CASE NO. 19-

066

**INFORMATION**

The Republic of Palau, by and through the Office of the Special Prosecutor, charges that on or about the dates set forth below, in the Republic of Palau, the above-named Defendants, CLIFTON SOALABLAI and MARGIE NGIRMIDOL, committed the following crimes:

**COUNT ONE**

On or between the dates of January 17, 2019, and February 27, 2019, in the State of Koror, Republic of Palau, defendants, CLIFTON SOALABLAI and MARGIE NGIRMIDOL, committed the offense of **Theft of Government Property in the First Degree**, by intentionally or knowingly embezzling, stealing, purloining, converting, conveying, or disposing of money, funds, or thing of value to the national government of the Republic, or when CLIFTON SOALABLAI and MARGIE NGIRMIDOL received, concealed, or retained the same with intent to convert it to his or her use or gain, knowing it to have been embezzled, stolen, purloined or converted, by intentionally changing the deposit of a government check drawn on the National Treasury of Palau, made payable to CLIFTON SOALABLAI, from \$524.71 to \$52,471.00, and

thereafter receiving, concealing or retaining the same in the Bank of Guam savings account of CLIFTON SOALABLAI with intent to convert said funds for his or her use or gain, in violation of 17 PNC §2615(a). This offense is a Class A felony, and upon conviction, an offender may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of up to twenty-five (25) years without the possibility of suspension of sentence, or by a fine of not more than \$50,000, or both.

### COUNT TWO

Defendants, CLIFTON SOALABLAI and MARGIE NGIRMIDOL, in the State of Koror, Republic of Palau, committed the offense of **Money Laundering** (17 PNC §3302), knowing, suspecting, or having reasonable grounds to suspect that money or funds belonging to the Republic of Palau were the proceeds of crime after said money or funds were stolen and deposited into CLIFTON SOALABLAI's Bank of Guam Savings Account by way of an altered bank deposit in the amount of \$52,471.00 on or about January 17, 2019, in one or more of the following ways:

1. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about January 23, 2019, through an ATM withdrawal in the amount of \$140.00.
2. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about January 25, 2019, through an ATM withdrawal in the amount of \$160.00.
3. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 2, 2019, through two ATM withdrawals in the amount of \$300.00 each.

4. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 5, 2019, through an ATM withdrawal in the amount of \$600.00.

5. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 6, 2019, through two ATM withdrawals in the amount of \$500.00 each.

6. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 12, 2019, through an ATM withdrawal in the amount of \$500.00.

7. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 13, 2019, through an ATM withdrawal in the amount of \$300.00.

8. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 14, 2019, through an ATM withdrawal in the amount of \$300.00.

9. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 15, 2019, through two ATM withdrawals in the amount of \$300.00 each.

10. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February

15, 2019, through a point of sales purchase at Surangel's in the amount of \$732.81.

11. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 18, 2019, through an ATM withdrawal in the amount of \$600.00.

12. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 19, 2019, through two ATM withdrawals in the amount of \$300.00 each.

13. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 20, 2019, through an ATM withdrawal in the amount of \$600.00.

14. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 19, 2019, through two ATM withdrawals in the amount of \$300.00 each.

15. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 21, 2019, through an ATM withdrawal in the amount of \$200.00.

16. By acquiring, possessing or using such property, or converting, transferring, or engaging in a transaction of such property, on or about February 22, 2019, through an ATM withdrawal in the amount of \$300.00.

This offense is a Class A felony, and upon conviction, an offender may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of up to twenty-five (25) years without the possibility of suspension of sentence, or by a fine of not more than \$500,000, or both.


### COUNT THREE

On or about the date of January 17, 2019, in the State of Koror, Republic of Palau, defendant, CLIFTON SOALABLAI, committed the offense of **Misconduct in Public Office** in that Defendant, being a public official, committed an illegal act under the color of office, or willfully neglected to perform the duties of his office as provided by law, when CLIFFORD SOALABLAI, an police officer and employee of the national government, intentionally altered the deposit of a government check drawn on the National Treasury of Palau and made payable to CLIFTON SOALABLAI, and changed the check deposit from \$524.71 to \$52,471.00, before receiving said stolen funds into his Bank of Guam account, in violation of 17 PNC §2615(a), and therefore is a violation of 17 PNC §3918. This offense is classified as a Class B felony and upon conviction thereof an offender may be punished by being imprisoned for up to ten (10) years or by a fine of not more than \$25,000, or both).

The Special Prosecutor asks that a warrant for arrest be issued for CLIFTON SOALABLAI and MARGIE NGIRMIDOL.

Respectfully submitted on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

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Special Prosecutor  
Republic of Palau

  
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