

FILED *MAN*

2018 DEC 20 PM 3: 59

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU
TRIAL DIVISION

SUPREME COURT
OF THE
REPUBLIC OF PALAU

REPUBLIC OF PALAU,

Plaintiff,

v.

MARIA GATES-MELTEL,

Defendant.

CRIMINAL CASE NO. 18- 249

INFORMATION

The Office of the Special Prosecutor charges that on or about September 25-October 23, 2013, subject to the jurisdiction of the Republic of Palau, the above-named Defendant did commit the following crimes:

COUNT ONE

CHEATING in that Defendant, **MARIA GATES-MELTEL**, unlawfully obtained the property or money, namely \$304.80 in United States currency, of another, namely Angaur State Government, by false pretenses, knowing the pretenses to be false, and with the intent thereby to permanently defraud the owner thereof, and the value of the property thus obtained was fifty dollars (\$50) or more, in violation of 17 PNC § 1903 (2013). (Upon conviction of this offense, an offender may be punished by being imprisoned for up to five (5) years).

COUNT TWO

CRIMINAL VIOLATION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS, in that Defendant, **MARIA GATES-MELTEL**, being a public official, namely the Governor of Angaur State, knowingly or

willfully violated a provision of the Code of Ethics, namely 33 PNC § 603, by using Angaur state assets or property for private activities that serve no governmental or public purpose, in violation of 33 PNC § 611(a). (This offense is classified as a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof an offender may be punished by being imprisoned for up to one (1) year or by a fine of up to \$10,000, or both).

COUNT THREE

CRIMINAL VIOLATION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS, in that Defendant, **MARIA GATES-MELTEL**, being a public official, namely the Governor of Angaur State, knowingly or willfully violated a provision of the Code of Ethics, namely 33 PNC § 604(d), by soliciting, receiving or accepting compensation or other consideration for the performance of the employee's official duties or responsibilities except as provided by law, in violation of 33 PNC § 611(a). (This offense is classified as a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof an offender may be punished by being imprisoned for up to one (1) year or by a fine of up to \$10,000, or both).

COUNT FOUR

MISCONDUCT IN PUBLIC OFFICE in that Defendant, **MARIA GATES-MELTEL**, being a public official, namely the Governor of Angaur State, committed illegal acts under the color of office, or willfully neglected to perform the duties of his or her office as provided by law, namely, Cheating under 17 PNC § 1903 (2013), in violation of 17 PNC § 2301 (2013). (Upon conviction of this offense, an offender may be punished by being imprisoned for up to ten (10) years or by a fine of up to \$10,000, or both).

COUNT FIVE

MISCONDUCT IN PUBLIC OFFICE in that Defendant, **MARIA GATES-MELTEL**, being a public official, namely the Governor of Angaur State, committed illegal acts under the color of office, or willfully neglected to perform the duties of his or her office as provided by law, namely, Criminal Violation of the Code of Ethics under 33 PNC §§ 603 and 611(a), in violation of 17 PNC § 2301 (2013). (Upon conviction of this offense, an offender may be punished by being imprisoned for up to ten (10) years or by a fine of up to \$10,000, or both).

COUNT SIX

MISCONDUCT IN PUBLIC OFFICE in that Defendant, **MARIA GATES-MELTEL**, being a public official, namely the Governor of Angaur State, committed illegal acts under the color of office, or willfully neglected to perform the duties of his or her office as provided by law, namely, Criminal Violation of the Code of Ethics under 33 PNC §§ 604(d) and 611(a), in violation of 17 PNC § 2301 (2013). (Upon conviction of this offense, an offender may be punished by being imprisoned for up to ten (10) years or by a fine of up to \$10,000, or both).

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of December, 2018.

APRIL DAWN CRIPPS
Special Prosecutor
Republic of Palau

By: April Dawn Cripps

April Dawn Cripps
Special Prosecutor
Office of the Special Prosecutor
P.O. Box 1702
Koror, Republic of Palau 96940
Tel: +680 488-3291/93
Fax: +680 488-3290