

Judges' Biography

Associate Judge Wesley M. Bogdan

Judge Wesley M. Bogdan ascended to the bench in November 2017 following his nomination and upon receiving the consent of the Commonwealth Senate. Immediately prior to his nomination, he worked as legal counsel and senior policy advisor in both the Office of the Lt. Governor and Office of the Governor during Governor Eloy Inos and Governor Ralph Torres' Administrations.

Judge Bogdan grew up in New Mexico and received his B.A. degree from the University of Texas (Austin). He then attended law school and obtained a Juris Doctorate from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 1992.

Judge Bogdan first came to the Northern Mariana Islands in 1994. He initially worked as an Assistant Attorney General for the CNMI Department of Commerce and Labor where he also served as a judicial hearing officer. He later worked with the Office of the Public Defender and thereafter joined a small private firm before opening his own law office as a solo practitioner.

Judge Bogdan then re-located to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and worked as the Deputy Director of the Legal Department of the Asian Football Confederation and as Legal Counsel to AFC's then-President Zhang Jilong. Football (or soccer) has been a lifelong passion for Judge Bogdan who is also one of the founders and is still an active executive committee member of the Northern Mariana Island Football Association.

Judge Bogdan lists serving as legal counsel and policy advisor on behalf of the Commonwealth during the 2016-2017 Covenant Section 902 Consultations with the Government of the United States as one of his most challenging (and rewarding) legal experiences. He has also been active with the CNMI Bar Association and served as the Head of the Continuing Legal Education Committee and as a member of the Disciplinary Committee. Additionally, he has also taught at the Northern Mariana College and remains active as a part of Judiciary's Mock Trial Competitions.

Judge Bogdan met his wife Tomoko on Saipan and they both truly appreciate being a part of this community for almost twenty-five years.