NMI's lone female lawyer visits Saipan

Virginia Ann Skilang Sablan, daughter of John and Agnes Sablan of Saipan, recently spent a week in Saipan following her wedding in Honolulu on August 12 to John Gotanda of Manoa, Oahu. Both are graduates of University of Hawaii's William Richardson School of Law and currently are residing in Reston, Virginia, and working in Washington, D.C.

During their visit they were guests at a luncheon hosted by CNMI Supreme Court Justices Jose Dela Cruz and Ramon Villagomez, and Superior Court Judge Alex Castro.

Virginia Ann holds the distinction of being the first CNMI female attorney. She earned her dual undergraduate degrees in English and Political Science from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and her Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the William Richardson School of Law in the spring 1987.

She is currently working for the American Bar Association in Washington, D.C., and husband John for the U.S. District Court, also in Washington, D.C. The couple expressed great optimism about the future of the Commonwealth and look forward to returning to Saipan in the near future.

L to R: Virginia Ann Sablan, Faustina Ada (Virginia's godmother and wife of the late Saipan Mayor, Gilbert Ada), and Virginia's husband, John Gotanda of Honolulu.