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**Hafa Adai,
It's Thursday**



MAKING PALAU TARO PATTIES

SEE STORY, PAGE 19



ATHLETE SET TO JOIN KNIGHTS

SEE STORY, PAGE 32



FestPac Countdown

2

Days left to enjoy the
Festival of Pacific Arts



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Vote and comment on today's poll.

TODAY'S QUESTION:

Whom do you think Gov. Calvo supports in the Port's \$14M lease dispute?

Results from yesterday's PDN poll are on **PAGE 2**.

DEACON REBUKES APURON



Apuron

Says church sex abuse policy 'weak,' 'flawed'

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The former coordinator of a group in the local Catholic Church charged with reviewing sexual abuse alle-

gations said Wednesday that the church's sexual abuse policy is "weak," "flawed" and a "failed" one that needs to be changed.

The former coordinator, Deacon Steve Martinez,

said at a press conference Wednesday even if Archbishop Anthony Apuron is the one accused of sexual abuse, the archbishop has the "sole authority" to determine which sexual abuse al-

legation gets investigated and has the final word on any probe findings.

Martinez said the archbishop, as the accused, can-

See DEACON, Page 4



FestPac enters
final days

FRANK SAN NICOLAS/PDN

Members of the Papua New Guinea dance group perform at Sagan Bisita in Agat on Tuesday. Only a couple of days remain to enjoy the Festival of Pacific Arts before the festival's closing ceremony Saturday.

» See story, Page 3.

Calvo: \$14M dispute is Port's issue



Calvo

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Gov. Eddie Calvo will leave it up to the Port Authority of Guam management and board to decide what to do with a \$14 million

liability that the Port could end up paying to a business owned by some of his cousins.

He also said, in a statement from his communications office, that questions about his relatives' ties to the deal involving Guam

YTK Corp. "bends toward speculation and gossip column write-ups."

"The Port Authority is an autonomous agency with a board," according to the governor's statement, emailed Tuesday night. "The governor respects

their autonomy."

The statement was first emailed two weeks ago, according to the governor's office, but the Pacific Daily News didn't receive it earlier.

See DISPUTE, Page 4



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“But the archbishop has not stepped down. Instead of protecting the innocent, he has attacked them, he has called them liars, he has called them malicious in their acts.”

— Deacon Steve Martinez

Deacon: 2 allegations, no investigation

Continued from Page 1

not be the judge himself.

Apuron has twice been accused publicly of sexual abuse in recent weeks — once by a former altar boy in Agat, Roy Quintanilla, and again, by the mother of a former altar boy also in Agat where Apuron was the parish priest in the 1970s.

Doris Y. Concepcion, now living in Prescott, Arizona, recently told Pacific Daily News her son, Joseph “Sonny” A. Quinata, revealed his secret shortly before he died 11 years ago.

Apuron has denied the allegations and has not been charged with any crimes.

Martinez, who was replaced as the local church’s sexual abuse response coordinator in 2014, called on the archbishop to give way to an investigation and step aside while that investigation is ongoing.

The Archdiocese has announced plans to file lawsuits against those whom it said have been perpetrating “malicious lies” about Apuron and the Catholic Church. It also plans to bring the case through the church’s own court system.

Letters to amend policy

Martinez called the press



conference Wednesday to release letters he had written to the archbishop as early as July

2014, urging him to follow the Church’s sexual abuse policy and amend it to make it stronger

RICK CRUZ/PDN
Deacon Steve Martinez expresses his opinion regarding the accusations of sexual abuse against Archbishop Anthony Apuron during a press conference Wednesday in Hagåtña. » See video at www.GuamPDN.com

so that it can better protect not only the Archdiocese but also children and parishioners.

“We see two allegations with no investigation going on,” he said. “The policies are meant to provide healing and care for the innocent victims that come forward — that’s not happening. The policies are designed to protect the victims to come forward without fear of retribution. Instead, the archbishop and his inner circle have used the policy to protect themselves rather than the children. Today, the Review Board has been decimated because of the conflict that exists within the Church.”

The board is in charge of reviewing sexual misconduct complaints.

Only one of the five Review Board members remains. Three resigned and one recused herself because of conflict of interest.

The sexual abuse response coordinator’s past letters were

prompted by a different issue — not because there was a person who came forward alleging sexual abuse by a member of the clergy.

“I’m sad to say today my worst dreams have come true as we speak in the current issues that are going on in the Church. Today we witness the result of these failed policies,” Martinez said.

The Archdiocese of Agaña was sought for comment but none was received as of Wednesday night.

Martinez said, “The archbishop has purposely kept his sex abuse policies weak in order to protect himself and those around him.”

He cited the Church’s own policy wherein if the accused is felt to be a potential danger to the community, he should step down from their position until the investigation is resolved, until the Review Board has made its recommendation and until the archbishop has decided how to proceed with the accused.

“But the archbishop has not stepped down. Instead of protecting the innocent, he has attacked them, he has called them liars, he has called them malicious in their acts,” Martinez said.

Dispute: Sen. Blas calls on AG to intervene

Continued from Page 1

The governor appoints the Port’s board members, and documents obtained by the Pacific Daily News through a Freedom of Information Act request show representatives of Calvo family-owned businesses were communicating with the Port board and management, starting in 2011, to get some form of settlement out of the Port on behalf of Guam YTK.

The governor’s statement says he’s confident the board and management will do what is right for the Port and ratepayers.

The Pacific Daily News asked what the governor thinks of his relatives’ involvement in Guam YTK — the company that stands to benefit from the \$14 million arbitration award against the Port.

‘Speculation’

The governor responded, through Director of Communications Oyaol Ngirairikl:

“This question bends toward speculation and gossip column write-ups. The governor has a large family and many of his family members are entrepreneurs with their own businesses.”

Members of the governor’s family bought Guam YTK, a

failed tuna transshipment that had a lease on Hotel Wharf in 2011, the first year of the Calvo administration, Department of Revenue and Taxation records show.

However, Guam YTK co-owner and legal counsel Eduardo “Champ” Calvo, the governor’s cousin, said Guam YTK was purchased by his family before 2010.

Champ Calvo has said his family ties to the governor have made it more difficult, not easier to do business with Gov-Guam.

The lease was signed in 2001 during Gov. Carl Gutierrez’s administration, and was supposed to last 45 years, but the lease didn’t get the required legislative approval for the term beyond five years, so Superior Court Judge Anita Sukola deemed it invalid in 2013.

The Port in 2008, under Gov. Felix Camacho’s administration, also had terminated the lease because Guam YTK didn’t pay rent for years, and the reason for the lease, which was to develop a \$13 million tuna transshipment and auction facility, didn’t get built.

However, an arbitration panel made up of three private practicing attorneys, issued a judgment on April 4 that the Port ought to pay Guam YTK \$12.7 million and its attorneys

\$1.3 million, plus interest penalty that accrues at an estimated \$112,000 each month that money is owed. The panel decided Guam YTK should be paid the “market value” of the entire 45-year lease.

On Friday last week, after weeks of silence since the arbitrators’ decision, the Port, through legal counsel Mike Phillips said the agency would challenge the arbitration award in court.

The Port has until June 16 to file paperwork to make its challenge official.

Arbitration hearings

The three attorneys held arbitration hearings after Supreme Court Justice Philip Carbullido, Justice Katherine Maraman and interim Justice Perry Inos ruled the Guam YTK lease agreement gives the arbitration panel authority to decide, not Judge Sukola.

The arbitrators are: Cesar Cabot, Guam YTK’s designee to the panel whose law firm partner has represented the governor’s office and represented a business that took the Port to court; Cynthia Ecube, a Calvo administration appointee to the Board of Equalization and a former senior law firm partner of Carbullido before Carbullido became a judge and ultimately justice; and Mitchell Thomp-

son, a private-practice attorney who is the Port’s designee to the panel and a brother of a former Port legal counsel in a prior administration.

Sen. Frank Blas Jr. wrote Guam’s elected attorney general on Wednesday stating she should immediately intervene and protect the interest of Guam residents in connection with the \$14 million arbitration award against the Port Authority.

“As you know, the Port cannot afford this massive (arbitration award) and ultimately will have to raise rates in order to come into compliance,” Blas wrote.

“That means the cost of living for every single man, woman and child on this island will increase and I find that absolutely and unequivocally unacceptable,” Blas added.

The AG’s office has previously stated it isn’t involved in the Guam YTK issue.

Phillips, the Port’s legal counsel, is a private attorney.

“As the Attorney General of Guam, you are indeed the chief legal officer of our government and it is incumbent upon you to be actively engaged in any litigation or arbitration that could cost our taxpayers millions and millions of dollars,” Blas wrote.

“Certainly this YTK case has the potential to have a negative

effect on our government and our entire community.”

A response from the AG’s office wasn’t immediately available on Wednesday.

The arbitration award is nearly three times the Port’s \$4.6 million audited net income in fiscal 2015, without counting tens of millions in federal cash assistance for port facility and equipment upgrades.

So if the Port were to raise tariffs to pay the arbitration award, consumers and businesses would be adversely affected, Sen. Tom Ada, whose legislative committee has oversight over the Port, has said.

If the Port were to pay the \$14 million outright, it could mean a hefty increase in the tariffs, or Port fees, associated with moving cargo through the island’s government-run seaport.

Last October, the Public Utilities Commission approved a 7 percent increase in the Port’s terminal tariffs. The 7 percent increase would only generate an additional \$2.3 million in operating revenue between 2015 and 2016, according to Port consultant Slater, Nakamura & Co.

To come up with \$14 million, the Port could end up having to increase tariffs six times more than the 7 percent that PUC approved last year, or a potential 42 percent tariff increase.