

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 09-07

*Declaring this September 2009 which marks the 20th Anniversary of the
National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month
as Recovery Month:*

*“Join the Voices for Recovery: Together We Learn,
Together We Heal”*

WHEREAS, over the last twenty years, **National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month** has inspired millions of people to raise awareness about addiction and recovery; and

WHEREAS, the 2009 theme emphasizes the need to use available resources in our community and on the internet, to educate people about the disease and to help those with substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorders not only take toll on people suffering from them, but also their loved ones and the entire community; and

WHEREAS, opening dialogue about the harmful effects of alcohol and drug addiction on families, friends, and the community, we can provide hope, healing and better support those struggling with substance use disorders on their journey to sustained recovery; and

WHEREAS, studies have consistently found that individualized treatment is essential for people to be successful in their path of recovery; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial that we educate our individuals, families and our community members that substance use disorders are treatable, yet serious health care problem; and

WHEREAS, by treating them like other chronic diseases, we can improve the quality of life for individuals, families and the entire community; and

WHEREAS, to achieve this goal, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Ministry of Health, Behavioral Health Division in the Republic of Palau invite all residents of Palau to participate in

the **National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, September 2009** and to celebrate its 20th Anniversary in educating communities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Johnson Toribiong, President of the Republic of Palau, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, do hereby acknowledge the 20th year anniversary of the National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month and proclaim the month of September 2009 as “**National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month**” in the Republic of Palau and call upon the people of the Republic of Palau to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies supporting this year’s theme, “**Join the Voices for Recovery: Together We Learn, Together We Heal**”.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 3rd day of September, in the Year of our Lord Two Thousand Nine in the Republic of Palau.

/s/

Johnson Toribiong
President
Republic of Palau