

## **Board Executes "Special Task Force on Appeals", Pohnpei State**

On August 23, 2012 the FSM SS Board of Trustees took an approach to settle some appeals with a legal counsel from the Micronesian Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) with the company of the appellants.

Facilitating this task force was vice chairman of the board Innocente Oneisom, along with the host of Gillian Doone from the national government, and Program Administrator Alexander Narruhn as ex-officio member. Also present was Program Deputy Administrator Dernista Capelle and Francky Ilai from the claims department.

The demarche was commenced by entertaining seven appeals for adoption, one for remarriage and one for disability dependent. Four requests for appeal were withdrawn with the concession of their legal counsel from MLSC pending documents of evidence providing that the appellants' benefits were put on hold and not denied.

As a conclusion, the FSMSS Board and her agents seconded an open dialogue with the MLSC legal counsel for an observance on the FSM Social Security Act in relation to the Program regulations. To clarify how the Administration and Board draw conclusion on claim Administrator Narruhn expressed the necessity of filing a claim with enough required evidence in such cases as adoption, legal guardianship and remarriage.

The meeting took two days inside the FSMSSA HQ conference room during working hours, and the appellants took turns accompanied by their legal counsel to settle their issues with the board and the administration.

Consequently, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 P.M. on August 24, 2012.

*Posted October 23, 2012*