

# Whitt pleads guilty

By BART STINSON  
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John J. Whitt, former chief of staff to Gov. Ricardo J. Bordallo, pleaded guilty yesterday to "offensive touching" of a Navy man.

Superior Court Judge Janet H. Weeks fined him \$150 and sentenced him to two years on probation.

One of the terms of his probation is that he stay away from all military bases and off-base facilities for the use of military members, including USO.

That restriction was added at the request of Navy officials, said prosecuting attorney Terry Timblin.

Whitt, 30, was arrested for criminal sexual conduct Feb. 1 after the victim told police Whitt fondled his genitals while he was unconscious in Whitt's Plumeria Hotel room.

Timblin later dismissed the criminal sexual conduct charge. Under a plea agreement, Whitt plead guilty to harassment, a misdemeanor.

The maximum sentence for harassment is 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine. The original charge carries a maximum sentence of three years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

Whitt said he thought the victim was willing,

but found out differently after he initiated contact.

"I either misread the situation or the feelings I read were withdrawn," Whitt told Weeks.

Timblin said Whitt's victim was not physically hurt, but "there was a certain amount of physical retaliation" against Whitt after his victim regained consciousness and discovered Whitt molesting him.

The victim beat Whitt and inflicted two black eyes and a severe laceration to his head.

"To the extent that punishment was deserved, it was meted out," said defense attorney John Moore. "On the spot."

Moore told the judge that Whitt plans to leave the island soon to seek employment in commercial aviation on the mainland.

He said Whitt, a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, is an Air Force veteran and a rated B-52 pilot.

Although Whitt is subject to a 30-day jail term if he violates the conditions of his probation, his compliance will not be monitored after he leaves Guam.

Timblin told Weeks he did not want to transfer Whitt's probation to a stateside probation department for supervision there.