member of his community. Upon his retirement from the Supreme Court of Guam, a well known and respected for his commitment to the law and his community.

Chief Justice Benjamin J.F. Cruz, upon his retirement in August 21, 2001, was chose to head the newly created Guam Supreme Court—the first nine months of his term as Chief Justice on April 21, 1999. As a judge, B.J. was known for his fair and impartial decisions. His reputation is for fairness, firmness and compassion. For over thirteen years, he served as trial court judge with Superior Court of Guam—the first nine years of which he spent with the Family Juvenile Court. First appointed to the Guam Supreme Court in 1975, he served in this capacity until January 1979, when he went into private practice. Within this period, he also served as minority legal counsel to the Democratic Senators of the 15th and 16th Guam Legislatures. B.J. remained active in the promotion of cultural and political rights working as an incorporator and legal counsel for a number of indigenous rights organizations and the Nuclear Free Micronesia organization. During Governor Bordallo's second term, B.J. was chosen to head the newly established Governor's Washington Liaison Office in Washington, D.C.—a post he held until his appointment as a Superior Court Judge in 1984.

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