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**Dominic G. Muna**  
*Deputy General Manager,  
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**Luis R. Baza**  
*Deputy General Manager,  
Administration & Finance*



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### Port Vaccine Dashboard

- \* as of June 30, 2021:
- \* 266 Port employees fully vaccinated or 77%
- \* 19 employees or 7% have received their first dose
- \* 59 employees or 17% have not been vaccinated
- \* Visit [ghs.guam.gov](https://ghs.guam.gov) for the latest vaccine schedule
- \* Mandatory use of facial mask, mandatory social distancing, frequent cleaning of surfaces

### Securing our Borders

The Port Authority of Guam has been hard at work to ensure that our borders are protected at all of the ports of entry that fall within the jurisdiction of the island's only commercial sea port.

The work has been non-stop in all areas to include new security systems, enhanced regulations for those wanting to conduct commercial cargo operations at the marinas, meeting with port users and bringing together local and federal law enforcement to address the issues surrounding the safety of our borders.



"Our efforts are to secure our borders from any potential drug and human trafficking and to provide for the safety of everyone who uses the Port's Marinas," said Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio.

#### Acquisition and Installation of Surveillance Cameras at the Gregorio D. Perez Marina

Three (3) long-range pan, tilt, zoom (PTZ) cameras have recently been installed at the Hagåtña Marina. The cameras have been mounted on a 15-ft. pole, which was fabricated and erected by the PAG EQMR and Facilities personnel. These cameras, which have a 360 ° rotation, provide coverage of the marina and surrounding areas.

With the installation of these cameras, the PAG has expanded its monitoring and surveillance capability beyond the Port facility. Port Police officers are now able to monitor activity at the marina from the Port Command Center, located here at Cabras Island. In addition, the system is capable of recording, retaining and if need be, extracting footage.

This project further enhances the Division's real time ability to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from incidents that may adversely impact this off-site asset. The contractor is G4S, funded by the 2016 Port Security Grant Program.

#### Public Notice on Commercial Cargo at Marinas

The Port issued a public notice May 25, 2021, reminding all vessel operators that commercial cargo activity at the Hagåtña and Agat marinas is strictly prohibited and that the Port will continue to enforce this prohibition. On May 28, 2021, Port management met with those vessel operators who are engaging in this type of commercial cargo activity from the Hagåtña marina to Rota. During this meeting, discussion included the treacherous waters boaters would encounter if they are traversing their vessels from Hagatna marina to Apra Harbor and then to Rota. Also, discussion centered on the Port's new implemented processes to allow commercial activity on a temporary basis to occur at the Hagåtña marina.

#### Port Meets with Local and Federal Law Enforcement

Following this meeting, Port officials held another meeting with Port Police, Customs & Quarantine Agency, Guam Police Department Marine Division and U.S. Coast Guard, as well as the Port's Harbor Master and Commercial Division. Everyone agreed that commercial cargo activity will be allowed, at least for the time being, provided certain processes are followed by these vessel operators. The Port is currently reviewing a draft policy.

#### Marina Commercial Cargo Procedures

The Port subsequently issued the procedures to those who have inquired about legally engaging in commercial cargo activity. They must first fill out a Notice of Arrival Form. They were also given procedures on how to process with a shipping agent or without a shipping agent. Boaters were educated on the TWIC card requirement for berthing at F-3 and the need for pre-operations meetings for their cargo operations.

## PAG Meets with Rota Senator

Port Authority of Guam management met on June 24, 2021 with Rota Senator Paul Atalig Manglona to discuss the ongoing matter involving commercial cargo being shipped to Rota that is taking place at the Hagåtña Marina.

The Port has been implementing strict procedures for commercial cargo at the marinas to ensure the safety of the facility and the marina users as well as the security of our borders. Manglona requested the meeting to ensure that those shipping goods to Rota can safely bring their shipments in and out of the Hagåtña Marina.

Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio explained to Sen. Manglona (IND-Rota) the Port's steps to ensure the boaters are following all safety plans and properly registering as cargo vessels. Respicio informed Sen. Manglona that the Port has been meeting with local and federal law enforcement entities, seeking their assistance with this matter to ensure full participation of all agencies when these boats carrying commercial cargo arrive and depart the Hagåtña Marina.

Respicio was joined by Deputy General Managers Dominic Muna and Luis Baza and Corporate Services Manager Vivian C. Leon. The Port is working with the Coast Guard and all other law enforcement entities to secure all points of entry into Guam.

"I truly believe that all parties are working together to ensure the goods that the people of Rota need are still delivered, but done following all rules, regulations, and statute," Manglona said.

"We thanked Sen. Manglona for the meeting and assured the senator and many others that Governor Leon Guerrero, Lt. Governor Tenorio, and our Board recognize that this activity is a vital lifeline for the people in the Marianas. In the spirit of One-Marianas, we are working with all affected vessel operators so that our procedures enhance all federal and local law enforcement efforts to securing and protecting our borders," said Respicio.

The Port is in the final draft phase of publishing and adopting a policy on Loading and Unloading commercial cargo at the marinas.



## CSC Clears All Port Hires



The Guam Civil Service Commission unanimously ruled on June 15, 2021 that the Port Authority of Guam was in compliance with all rules and laws when they hired employees who had criminal convictions.

The ruling came this morning after the CSC Board of Commissioners voted 5 to 0 to adopt the Post Audit Staff Investigation Report affirming the following:

\* That the Port Authority of Guam (PAG) followed their Personnel Rules and Regulations in their hiring practices and procedures pursuant to Prohibition: Convicted Felons and Prohibition for Sex Offenders;

\* That the PAG's hiring practices for employees who disclosed a criminal conviction on their Suitability Determination (SD) form that were hired in Fiscal Years 2017 through February 2021 is pursuant to applicable rules, regulations, and law; and

\* Considering that the information obtained for this Post-Audit was extracted from PAG's employee personnel files, which is confidential, no names shall be disclosed, considering there were no actual violations of 4GCA §4203.1 & 4GCA §4203.3.

## An Open Letter to All Employees

June 17, 2021

An Open Letter to Port Employees

Subject: A Tale of Two Senators

Dear Port Strong Family,

Buenas yan Hafa Adai! We received public comments from two senators, namely Sen. Telena Nelson, our legislative oversight chair, and Sen. Joanne Brown, regarding the Civil Service Commission's unanimous ruling that the Port Authority complied with all rules and laws when they hired employees who had criminal convictions.

I am writing to express my appreciation to Sen. Nelson for her response to this Post-Audit. Sen. Nelson writes, "I respect the decision of the Civil Service Commission, and I thank them for their due diligence, on this matter. Our Port employees have worked tirelessly throughout the years and during the Pandemic. I am confident that they will continue their commitment and service by upholding the highest standard for the people of Guam."

Meanwhile, Sen. Brown says, "the ruling is to be expected considering the threshold of hiring Port employees has been "lowered." She said this can be likened to the gates at the Port Authority of Guam being left "unmanned and unlocked."

Sen. Brown further states in her press release that "Based on the CSC findings, Brown said the audit of employee records focused mainly on the Employee's Suitability Determination (SD) form from

The CSC Post Audit was the result of a complaint filed by Senator Telena C. Nelson on January 28, 2021, requesting the CSC's Board of Directors "to conduct a Post Audit into the hiring practices utilized by the PAG and to confirm whether these practices are in accordance with the laws of Guam and the rules and regulations of the Government of Guam. Specifically, to conduct a Post-Audit of employees with any criminal conviction hired by the PAG in Fiscal Years (FY) 2017 through February 16, 2021, and any document or recorded information from the Port Authority relative to the justification of hiring employees with any criminal history."

PAG General Manager Rory J. Respicio maintained that these allegations are baseless, and cooperated fully with the CSC. At the recommendation of former General Manager and current Senator Joanne Brown that this Post Audit go all that way back to 2010 also to cover the hiring practices of former General Manager and current Senator Mary Torres, Respicio willingly submitted to the CSC and the legislature every single employee who was hired from FY2010 to present and welcomed the additional scrutiny.

"We would like to thank the Civil Service Commission for their Post Audit findings which revealed that the Port Authority of Guam did not violate any rule or statute relative to a complaint filed by Sen. Telena Nelson. The Port is moving in a better and clearer direction under the Governor, Lt. Governor, and Board's leadership. All the time and resources at the behest of our legislative oversight chair and others have been an unfortunate experience for us at the Port.

We hope that this ruling provides Sen. Nelson with a renewed commitment to support our Port employees, especially during this pandemic where we have witnessed their value in keeping the supply chain flowing into our island and our region," said Respicio.



the Port Authority of Guam (PAG) and the employee's disclosure of any convictions for violations of the law."

She writes, "the audit also reviewed police and court clearances and found offenses listed on Police and/or Court Clearances that were incompatible or the information conflicted between the two records."

Unfortunately, Sen. Brown omitted the very next paragraphs in that finding, whereby that discrepancy was later cleared by the CSC staff.

I am providing the following FINDINGS, in its entirety, for your convenience:

*Story continues page 4*

On March 4th and 5th, 2021, staff and PMA visited PAG to review all PAG employee files who were hired in FY2017 through February FY2021. Staff found several discrepancies, where employees who disclosed a crime on their SD form, or who had offenses listed on their Police and/or Court Clearances that were incompatible or the information conflicted between the two records.

On April 28, 2021, staff revisited PAG to verify if the employee files which had discrepancies from the March 4 & 5th visits, have been rectified. PAG Personnel Specialist IV, (PS-IV) Carmelita Nededog, assisted staff with the employee files, which were identified and discussed for verification.

Findings from the three visits at PAG, were that the List of recruitments hired at PAG, on FY 2017, showed fifty-eight (58) employees, which includes nineteen (19) casual employees. Despite CSC holding no jurisdiction on the casuals, all fifty-eight (58) employee personnel files were reviewed and verified. Staff found no convictions for violations of law were disclosed, by any employees hired in FY 2017.

Recruited hires on FY 2018 showed, forty-two (42) employees, which included twenty-six (26) casual employees. Staff found through the SD form, one (1) classified employee who answered 'yes', to having a conviction of violation of law, which did not violate any current applicable rule or law to prevent them from being recruited.

The recruitments on FY 2019, shows thirty-one (31) employees were hired by PAG. Fifteen (15) of the hired recruits are casuals. Staff found one (1) classified employee, who disclosed a conviction for violation of law and which did not violate any current applicable rule or law to prevent them from being recruited.

PAG's recruitment lists for hires in FY 2020, displayed a total oftweny-three (23) employees, which includes ten (10) casuals. None of the employee's hired in FY 2020 disclosed a conviction for violation of law on their SD forms nor had any offenses listed on their records that conflicted with their SD forms.

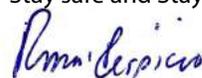
The list of employees hired from October 01, 2020 to February 16, 2021 (FY 2021) show thirteen (13) employees hired, none of which were unclassified. A total of two (2) classified employees disclosed having a conviction for violation of law and which did not violate any current applicable rule or law to prevent them from being recruited.

On February 2018 the Fair Chances Hiring Process Act went into effect and staff determined that PAG was in compliance of this law.

Therefore, Sen. Brown's comment, "This audit relied heavily on the disclosure of information by the employee and the assumption that PAG had responsibly executed its due diligence of criminal background checks, both locally and federally, of every employee," is unsupported by the facts provided by the CSC.

I leave this for you to make your own conclusion, but simply ask that you NOT get discouraged or distracted by Sen. Brown. Looking on the bright side of what has come from this Post-Audit experience is that our legislative oversight chair Sen. Nelson fully respects the CSC's ruling and recognizes all of us for our hard work and dedication to our new standard of excellence.

Stay safe and Stay Port Strong! Si Yu'os Ma'ase!

  
Rory J. Respicio  
General Manager

### Port Hosts Successful Vaccination Clinics

More than 150 Port employees, family members and Port users were vaccinated during the first-ever Port Vaccination Clinics held on June 2 and June 30, 2021.

The Port hosted the clinics in conjunction with the Guam National Guard and the Department of Public Health and Social Services and the goal was to target Port employees, their family members and Port tenants.

The first Port Vaccination Clinic was held from 6:30am to 9:30am at the former Board Room. Employees either walked in to the Port Vaccination Clinic or were able to drive-thru to receive their vaccine. A total of 78 vaccinations were administered.

"I want to thank Governor Lou Leon Guerrero, Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio, Guam Army National Guard State Surgeon Dr. Mike Cruz and Public Health for agreeing to our request for this clinic and for putting in the hard work to make this a reality," said Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio. "This Port Vaccination Clinic is just another part of our efforts to help keep our employees safe and to ensure we continue to stay 100 percent operational through this pandemic."

Guam Army National Guard State Surgeon Dr. Mike Cruz said he was extremely pleased with the outcome of the clinic.

"I'll tell you that the Port has set the standard. It has set the standard for cooperation of government agencies and any agency for that matter on what you have done to allow us to come in and basically just give the vaccine," Cruz said.



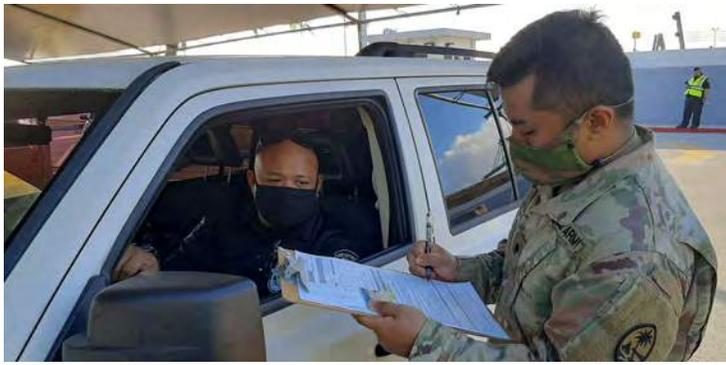
"It just shows how much your administration and how much your Port Authority manager really cares."

Major Luis Cruz of the Guam National Guard, who is also a physician, said the Port Authority set a good example for others to follow.

"The port made our job easier by having everything ready when we came," Dr. Luis Cruz said. "I think they set the bar high for any government agency or any business on how they can run a successful vaccination clinic for their job site."

Port Maintenance Manager Ernie Candoleta said when he heard the Port was hosting a vaccination clinic he spread the word throughout his family about the opportunity. Candoleta came to the clinic this morning to get vaccinated and brought his mother and children to get vaccinated as well.

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"I said let's go, let's get this done and over with," Candoleta said. "Save ourselves, help save COVID from spreading... and to save the port family as well."

Port Police Officer W.K. Drilon said he took advantage of the convenience of the Port's drive-thru clinic since his work schedule makes it hard for him to go to the other clinics offered across the island. "It's pretty good to have the vaccine," Drilon said. "I think we are good to go now."

Cabras Marine Electrical Leader Melbourne Talledo said he was grateful to the Port Authority of Guam for hosting the Port Vaccination Clinic and inviting the Port tenants and their

employees to take part as well. Talledo said he hopes all of his coworkers eventually get vaccinated.

"I encourage them to take the vaccine so they may not spread the virus to everybody," Talledo said.

The second vaccine clinic was held on June 30, from 6:30 am through 9:30 am for Port employees, tenants, industry partners, their families and the general public.

A total of 80 vaccines were administered bringing the total for both clinics to 158 vaccines.



### Kota Ratu Dockside Vaccination

It was not your typical operations for Mel Lines Kota Ratu when she docked at F6 on Father's Day weekend. After completing operations, 19 of the vessel's crew members receive the first dose of vaccination before setting sail for their next destination.

Through the coordination of General Manager Rory J. Respicio, the vaccine clinic was set up and within one hour, 19 of the 22 crew members receive their first dose of the inoculation. Three employees had already been vaccinated. Vaccines were provided by Department of Public Health and Social Services and administered by FHP Health Center. Because recipients of the vaccine were foreign crew members, US Immigration and Guam Customs and Quarantine were present to ensure that everyone stayed within the designated areas and complied with all immigration regulations.

"This is something we've been working on for crew members who have difficulty getting vaccinated because of their job and being mostly out at sea," Respicio said. "Securing the safety of our Port includes securing the safety of its users and stakeholders."

"I want to thank the Port Authority management and staff and everyone who was a part of coordinating this vaccination clinic; the FHP doctor and nurses who administered the injections, Public Health for providing the vaccines, and US Immigration and Guam



Customs and Quarantine for their support in this endeavor," said Mel Lines Country Manager Edward Cruz.

A second clinic is schedule for July 4, 2021 for the second dose of the vaccine.

### Port Employee Tests Positive for COVID-19

On June 2, 2021, a Port employee tested positive for COVID-19. The Port's Contract Tracing Team immediately identified forty-three (43) potentially close contacts and worked with Public Health to schedule testing.

Ms. Frances A. Cepeda, Acting Personnel Services Administrator for the Port Authority of Guam, notified the Department of Public Health and Social Services to schedule COVID testing for all potential exposures.

Management is happy to report that the additional forty-three (43) Port employees tested negative.

This Port employee who contracted the coronavirus is cleared by Public Health and has since returned to work.



## EDA Awards Port Authority \$2.4 Million Grant

The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) is awarding a \$2.4 million grant to the Port Authority of Guam (PAG) to make disaster-resilient infrastructure improvements needed to ensure continuity of operations.

The U.S. Department of Commerce EDA grant will be matched with \$603,272 in Port investment and is expected to create or retain nearly 50 jobs.

This project is funded through the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act of 2019 which provided EDA with \$600 million in additional Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) Program. The Program funds disaster relief and recovery for areas affected by Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Lane, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, wildfires, volcanic eruptions, and continuity of business operations for the volatile fuel industry on Guam. The Project involves the installation of a robust fuel pipeline system that will allow connectivity between the Port's only two (2) fuel wharves, F1 and Golf Piers respectively.

Considered a mitigation and resiliency initiative, the project will ensure that bulk fuel, jet fuel, and diesel fuel distribution and delivery remains uninterrupted for the island of Guam in the event that either pier is impacted by natural or man-made incidents. Port Authority of Guam General Manager Rory J. Respicio said this initiative was a priority for Governor Lou Leon Guerrero and Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio as they wanted to safeguard these assets to ensure uninterrupted distribution of fuel products for all the people of Guam.

"From an economic standpoint, this project is a feasible concept as it ensures that there is continuity of commerce on Guam and the surrounding region should either pier become inoperable. We are collaborating with Tristar Terminals Guam and other major natural

disasters occurring in calendar year 2018, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019, under the Robert T. Stafford Act.

The total investment of \$3,016,363.00 will fund the "Installation of a Fuel Pipeline System for F1 Pier and Gold Pier Connectivity Project". PAG utilized in-house personnel and resources in providing the minimum EDA required technical information to support the design and construction of this project.

The PAG's grant application to the 2019 EDA Disaster Supplemental Grant Program is a critical economic recovery and disaster mitigation initiative that will not only enhance the Port's resiliency but will also address preparedness, sustainability and Inc. and Mobil Oil Guam facility managers for the execution and completion of this critical and important project." said General Manager Rory J. Respicio.

"I also want to recognize our Planning Division for all the work they've been doing to secure these much needed funding for our commercial sea port."

All petroleum products are periodically shipped to Guam via fuel tankers and unloaded at both F1 and Golf Piers. This mitigation project will ensure redundancy and continuity in fuel distribution and achieve port resiliency in times of emergencies impacting either wharf. F1 Pier and Golf Pier are assets that are very valuable to the PAG and Guam as a whole. All efforts are constantly implemented to ensure that these wharves are operational. The risk of either pier impacted by a natural or man-made incident will have a rippled economic effect to the entire island community. This project will ensure continuity of business and operations and thus will be a benefit not only to the terminal operators but also to everyone that calls Guam their home.



The Port Authority of Guam has published the annual Citizen Centric Report for FY2020.

Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio said the report gives the public an overall performance review on how the agency is doing and a look into the finances including revenues and expenses. He added that the annual report also gives an overall general outlook of the future to include challenges facing the agency.

The Citizen Centric Report initiative, adopted through Guam Public Law 30-127, assists in advancing accountability and transparency in our government. This report provides information about the agency's goals, performance measures, audited financial statements, challenges and outlook of operations, and most importantly, how taxpayer or ratepayer dollars are spent in a manner that is easily understandable and accessible to our citizens.

The FY2020 Port Citizen Centric Report shows that despite the impact from the pandemic, containers handled during FY20 resulted in an increase of 0.2% as compared to FY19 and the Port saw a decrease in the total operating revenues of 1.1% which is within the fluctuation of revenues in a normal condition as well as a significant revenue loss. And even with the global crisis and an increase in cargo, the agency was able to move those containers faster than the previous fiscal year.

"Improvement in performance can be attributed to operations' efficiency and employees' morale," the report stated.

Respicio said the FY2020 Port Citizen Centric Report also includes information on the organizational climate survey that invited employees to anonymously speak their truths about working at the agency. He said 317 out of 356 personnel submitted a response which is an 89 percent response rate.



"The results showed overwhelming positive results in the areas of job satisfaction and revealed that employees believe that morale is at an all-time high," Respicio said. "That is clear from the successes we are seeing at our agency which are highlighted in the FY2020 Port Citizen Centric Report."

The Port last year won both local and national transparency awards for the FY2019 Port Citizen Centric Report that was published by the Agency.

"This annual report we publish and the fact that our report has won local and national awards are a testament to our efforts to remain transparent with the people of Guam and sets new standards of transparency and accountability for the Port Authority of Guam," Respicio said. "We are guided by the vision of Governor Lou Leon Guerrero and Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio who are firm believers in openness and transparency in government and we thank them for their support in these critical initiatives."

The FY2020 Port Citizen Centric Report can be downloaded from the agency's website at [www.portofguam.com/about-us/financial-information-and-statistics/compliance-reports](http://www.portofguam.com/about-us/financial-information-and-statistics/compliance-reports).

## Application of U.S. Department of Labor Rules in Defining Exempt and Non-Exempt Positions

On August 23, 2004, Governor's Executive Order 2005-28 took effect and listed all bona fide exempt positions in the executive, administrative, professional, and other categories with the Executive Branch. All supervisors with the Port were identified in the executive order as exempt. Through the guidance of the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage & Hour, tests were conducted to determine if first-line supervisors were exempt. Their review found that certain supervisory, administrative and professional positions were found to be non-exempt.

On March 14, 2012, the Assistant District Director of U.S. Department of Labor & Wage Division conducted an orientation with Port supervisors and managers regarding the revised regulations of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Based on the orientation, Port was advised to conduct the tests to determine if the non-exempt positions previously identified continue to be non-exempt status.

However, before the Port's Human Resources (HR) staff could finalize their review, the former General Accounting Supervisor for Expense in 2012 or early 2013 converted those non-exempt positions back to exempt positions. Since then, employees occupying these positions have been paid straight time status for actual hours worked over 40 hours of straight time. In 2013, HR staff completed its review and presented their findings to the former General Manager, and unfortunately no action was taken to provide for fairness, parity and the proper implementation of the Governor's Executive Order 2005-28.

On June 2, 2021, HR staff presented their findings to me and provided an updated listing of exempt and non-exempt positions for approval. We immediately approved the listing and informed ALL division heads of this change, noting that this change will be implemented prospectively. "Improvement in performance can be attributed to operations' efficiency and employees' morale," the report stated. Respicio said the FY2020 Port Citizen Centric Report also includes information on the organizational climate survey that invited employees to anonymously speak their truths about working at the agency. He said 317 out of 356 personnel submitted a response which is an 89 percent response rate.

"The results showed overwhelming positive results in the areas of job satisfaction and revealed that employees believe that morale is at an all-time high," Respicio said. "That is clear from the successes we are seeing at our agency which are highlighted in the FY2020 Port Citizen Centric Report." The Port last year won both local and national transparency awards for the FY2019 Port Citizen Centric Report.

"This annual report we publish and the fact that our report has won local and national awards are a testament to our efforts to remain transparent with the people of Guam and sets new standards of transparency and accountability for the Port," Respicio said. "We are guided by the vision of Governor Lou Leon Guerrero and Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio who are firm believers in openness and transparency in government and we thank them for their support in these critical initiatives."

## Farewell Capt. Chase Welcome Capt. Simmons

The Port Authority of Guam bids farewell to Capt. Christopher Chase who assumed command of Coast Guard Sector Guam in 2017 and led forces throughout Micronesia in carrying out the brigade's mission in the region. Coast Guard Sector Guam's area of responsibility includes Guam, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana's Islands, The Republic of Palau, The Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia (Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk, and Yap).

During his time as the Sector Guam Commander, Capt. Chase worked closely with the Port Authority and stakeholders in addressing illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing vessel intrusions and unlawful foreign research vessel activity that advanced key national security interests and strengthened global maritime security. He directed forces throughout Micronesia in response to 26 typhoons and the global pandemic. He directed the Coast Guard's largest organizational transformation in the region since World War II, overseeing the addition of 17,000 square feet of infrastructure and the arrival of three fast response cutters, two response boats, and 120 personnel that significantly increased capacity and capability across the region.

Capt. Chase has served as the search and rescue mission coordinator, federal on-scene coordinator, federal maritime security coordinator, captain of the port and officer in charge of marine inspections. He is departing to continue his Coast Guard career as the attaché to the U.S. Embassy in Beijing.

Replacing Capt. Chase, the Port Authority welcomes Capt.

Nicholas Simmons, who is reporting from the Office of Budget and Programs at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington where he served two years as the Coast Guard's procurement, construction and improvements budget coordinator.

During his Coast Guard career Simmons has served more than 10-years of sea time on five cutters.

His roles included deck watch officer and assistant navigator aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Diligence (WMEC 616), operations officer on Coast Guard Cutter Forward (WMEC 911), commanding officer on the Coast Guard Cutter Washington (WBP 1331), executive officer on the Coast Guard Cutter Legare (WMEC 912), and commanding officer on the Coast Guard Cutter Tampa (WMEC 902).

Capt. Simmons has also served in intelligence and special assignments positions including as a strategic intelligence analyst at the Coast Guard Intelligence Coordination Center, and as a counterintelligence agent at Coast Guard Atlantic Area.

He also spent two years as the deputy military aide to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano.

Primary missions of the Coast Guard include Search and Rescue, Law Enforcement, Ports Waterways and Coastal Security (PWCS), Marine Inspection, Mariner's Licensing and Documentation, Port Safety and Marine Environmental Protection.

We would like to send our best wishes to Captain Chase on his new duty station and welcome to Guam and the Port Authority Captain Simmons.

## PAG Welcomes Summer Interns

As COVID restrictions are slowly lifted and some normalcy is restored in the community, the Port Authority of Guam is one of the government agencies participating in the Guam Department of Education GDOE Youth Employment Internship Program 2021. Coordinated in conjunction with the Governor's Office, GDOE and the Department of Youth Affairs, the program is funded by the US Department of Education, American Rescue Plan to the Outlying Areas, State Educational Agency (ARP-OA SEA). The six-week summer employment program, which runs from June 21 to July 30, 2021, intends to help address learning loss due to impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

General Manager Rory J. Respicio and Deputy General Managers Dominic G. Muna and Luis R. Baza welcomed sixteen summer interns on their first day of work and participated in a zoom orientation briefing along with Governor Lou Leon Guerrero, Lt. Governor Joshua Tenorio, DOE officials and DYA officials. More than 500 youths are assigned to more than 45 participating Government of Guam agencies and private sector host employers.

"The Port Authority is proud to be a partner in this program which provides our youth with career and technical experience and vocational opportunities that encourages them to plan their educational and career path to become responsible, productive, contributing members of society," said Respicio. "I hope their experience is one that will help them decide on a career here at the Port Authority of Guam so that we can nurture the next generation of Port Strong."



## Summer Internship Program

*Editor's Note: This article was written by Intern Louise Genova assigned to the Port Marketing Division*

Fresh faces join the Port family as 16 high school students begin a six-week internship program. The Port Authority is one of the many host organizations hiring students for the 2021 Youth Employment Internship Program, a joint collaboration between the Guam Department of Education and the Department of Youth Affairs. The program aims to expose students to different career pathways, teach various practical skills, and encourage financial literacy and management.

The students were placed in different departments according to their career interests, which ranged from finance to law enforcement. Louise Genova, a recent graduate of Southern High School, hopes that her assignment in the Marketing division will prepare her for her career as an editor in a publishing company.

"I think that this internship is a great way for me to gain real-world experience without the added stress of school or extracurriculars," said Genova. "I'm definitely looking forward to the rest of this internship."



## GCC Summer Program Tour

Students from the Guam Community College Summer Transportation Institute paid a visit to the Port Authority of Guam on June 8, 2021. Twenty middle-school students and two instructors participated on the tour that was led by Assistant Operations Manager Patrick Alvarez.

Students got the dock-side view of the gantry cranes and wharves where operations take place.

They were also able to see the different sections within the terminal facilities such as Maintenance Division, Gate House, CSF building, refer section and even walked along F5. After the terminal yard tour, the group had lunch at Family Beach.

The NSTI program is a federally funded program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. The purpose of the program is to expose participants to the different sectors of transportation (civilian and military) that include air, land, sea and safety components of the industry in hopes of generating interest and developing a career path for these individuals in this field. After a short hiatus due to funding issues and the pandemic, the program is back for the 7th year. "This will be the 7th year of this worthwhile program that is back, and would not be possible without the support of partners such as the Port Authority of Guam," Program Director Fred Tupaz, NSTI Guam Community College.

## Photo Contest

For the first time ever, the Marketing Division held a photo contest open to all employees which ran from March 1, 2021 to April 30, 2021. Employees were invited to enter photos taken within any Port area for a chance to win a cash grand prize and to have their photos utilized for various Port publications.

Eleven employees entered the contest and more than 30 photos were submitted for judging. This contest brought out hidden talents and skills possessed by our employees. The team of judges tasked to make the difficult selection of the winning photos included General Manager Rory J. Respicio, Deputy General Managers Dominic G. Muna and Luis R. Baza, and Corporate Services Manager Vivian C. Leon.

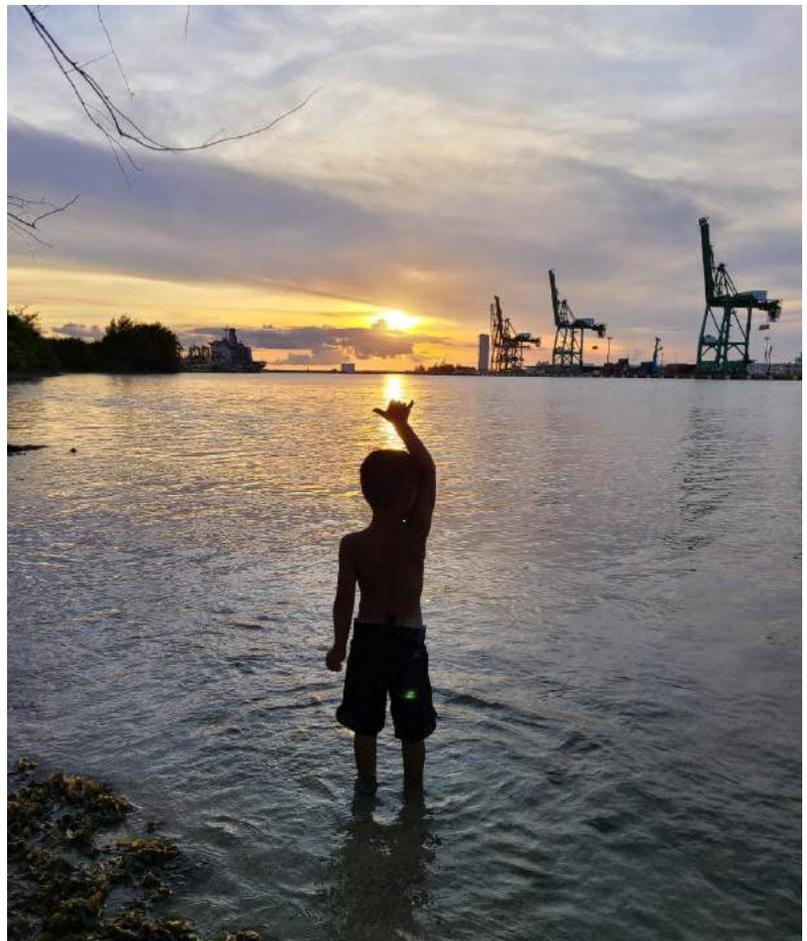
On June 18, 2021 the Port Employee Photo Contest Awards Ceremony was held where all participants were presented with a Certificate of Participation. Certificates were awarded for First, Second and Third Place and the First Place winner was awarded with a \$200 cash prize donated by PAGGMA.

Congratulations to the winners which included:

- First Place - Ronnie Sablan Jr. - Crane Operator
- Second Place – Frankie Cruz - Transportation Supervisor
- Third Place – Christopher Aguigui – Winch Operator

Participants included:

- Jovonne Reyes-Ybarra, Marine Traffic Controller
- Frank V. Lujan, Program Coordinator III
- Jonathan L. Aguon, Port Police II
- James A. Sandlin, Port Police II
- Reed KS Topasna, Stevedore Supervisor I
- Jeffrey J. Quinata, Stevedore
- Luis M. Diaz, Building Maintenance Leader
- Antonio G. Genova, Electrician Supervisor





Happy Liberation Day

happy 4TH OF JULY

PORT STRONG

# Happy Birthday

**July Birthdays**

Evangeline Castro	Matthew Sanchez
Henry Santos	Nicholas Palomo
Jacob Iriarte	Riko Crisostomo
Juan Yoshida	Jerry Sanchez
John Tass	Frankie Peredo
Gilbert Santos	Joseph Aguon
George Piolo	Carmelita Nededog
Herbert Hattig	Andrew Babauta
Jacqueline Eclavea	Christopher Benito
Peter Guerrero	Ronald Ayuyu
Kylie Maurer	Edwin San Nicolas
Andrew Nededog	Edward Wright
William Hudson	Kilo Blas
Shawn Cepeda	Vincent Bamba
Anthony Yatar	Jathan Conway