



CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM

Guam's First Line of Defense | Protecting Our Island, Our People, and Our Resources

Director's Office

Director of Customs – James T. McDonald

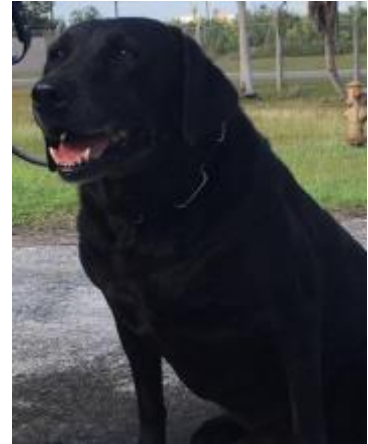
Chief of Customs – Vincent S.N. Perez

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2017

GAIN Dedicates Park to Detector Dog Toya

BARRIGADA, GUAM – In June, the Guam Animals in Need (GAIN) shelter responded to a call that took them to the Umatac bay where a female black Labrador was found brutally wounded. The dog had sustained a gash consistent with that of a machete or knife to her left side. When transported to GAIN's Yigo facility, it was determined that the canine was a Customs and Quarantine Agency (CQA) retired Drug Detector Dog – Toya.



Toya, was one of the first graduates of the Guam Customs Canine Training Academy. She was nearly twelve years old and worked with the Agency for over six years. Throughout her career, she stopped over \$6.2 Million dollars' worth of methamphetamine from entering Guam's borders, protecting our community from the perils of ice.

When the Agency first learned of Toya's circumstance we were in shock. Looking for a way to honor her career and years of service, we were grateful when GAIN's Executive Director Alison Hadley provided the means.

“This was a heartbreaking incident, and our hearts go out to Toya's family and those she served. It was a very emotional situation for my staff and it was difficult for us to imagine a way to show how saddened we are. We would very much like to dedicate our front play park at the GAIN shelter to Toya and everything she did for the island of Guam.”

Toya's remains were cremated by the Rainbow Pet Crematory and will remain with the Agency. Though Toya is no longer with us, the Customs and Quarantine Agency will always remember her years of service having served beside her and this special park dedication will memorialize her career and hold her story for years to come.

The park dedication ceremony will occur at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, August 7, 2017 at the GAIN Shelter in Yigo. We welcome all who would like to attend the ceremony in honor of Toya.

If anyone has any information about the attack on Toya, please call the Guam Crime Stoppers at 477-HELP (4357).

For more information, please contact our Public Information Officer Ms. Jessi Santos at (671) 475-6202 or email jessi.santos@cqa.guam.gov.

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