



# CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM

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*Director's Office*

*Director of Customs – Ignacio Q. Peredo  
Chief of Customs – Vincent S.N. Perez*

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CQA Hosts OCO Sub-Regional Financial Crime & Trade Enforcement Training**

BARRIGADA, GUAM – For one week, the Customs and Quarantine Agency (CQA) will host the Oceania Customs Organisation's (OCO) Sub-Regional Financial Crime & Trade Enforcement Training (the training) at the CQA's headquarters in Tiyan.

This training opportunity is aimed to raise awareness and understanding of illicit financial flows, understand the correlation between over and under valuation of goods and its implication on the taxing regime and money laundering, develop the ability to analyze customs financial data against other information sources, develop intelligence capability to proactively identify indicators of trade based money laundering and other illicit financial flows, identify common sub-regional activities that can be undertaken to provide high assurance on trade enforcement, create awareness on collaborative border management, and establish an internal network of financial enforcement working group.

Tevita Tupou, Operations Manager of the OCO states, "Threats to transnational crime is multidimensional and continues to take dynamic forms. It is important that customs administrations proactively position themselves in close collaboration with each other to give a law enforcement effect."

The five-day course includes instruction from members of the OCO, the US Secret Service, the Joint Interagency Task Force West (JIATF West), and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and is attended by representatives within the customs administrations of Micronesia to include Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

CQA Director Ike Peredo adds, "We are grateful to the OCO for including our officers in the training, welcome the continued regional collaboration and look forward to future trainings in Guam as OCO's designated training hub for the Northern Pacific region."

For more information, please contact our Public Information Officer Ms. Jessi Santos-Torres at (671) 475-6202 or email [Jessi.Santos-Torres@cqa.guam.gov](mailto:Jessi.Santos-Torres@cqa.guam.gov).

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