



# 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  
Acting Chief of Customs – Major Darlene R. Merfalen*

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 25, 2017**

### **3 Officers Complete DHS's Bomb-Making Materials Awareness Program**

BARRIGADA, GUAM – Three Customs and Quarantine Agency (CQA) Officers complete the Bomb-Making Materials Awareness Program through a train the trainer course sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The Bomb-Making Materials Awareness Program (BMAP) is a national program developed by the DHS's Office for Bombing Prevention and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). BMAP trains to (1) identify homemade explosives precursor chemicals, (2) identify explosives device (IED) components, and (3) recognize suspicious purchasing behavior that could indicate potential bomb-making activities.



Pictured: James T. McDonald, Christy Riccardi, and James Cruz

Participation in these trainings familiarizes and educates officers with Bomb-Making Materials and suspicious behaviors to better protect our island community at the border. DHS trainings of this nature are particularly valuable to the Agency as CQA must continuously develop smarter ways to counter terrorism.

The training occurred in Huntsville, AL and was entirely paid for by DHS. Director James T. McDonald states, "I want to thank Ms. Christy Riccardi, Regional Director for Region 9, Office of Infrastructure Protection for allowing our three officers to attend. Her help means that we now have certified trainer's in this discipline for the region. We will continue to capitalize on future DHS trainings."

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

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