



CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM

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Director's Office

*Director of Customs – James T. McDonald
Acting Chief of Customs – Major Darlene R. Merfalen*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 23, 2017

CQA and DOE Conduct a Drug Sweep of IMS

BARRIGADA, GUAM – At 8:30 am the Customs and Quarantine Agency's (CQA) Drug Detector Dog Unit (DDDU) arrived at Inarajan Middle School (IMS) to conduct a drug sweep of the campus at the request of the Department of Education's (DOE) Superintendent.

Upon the DDDU's arrival, school administrators conducted a lockdown of the campus until the DDDU was able to complete their operation. The operation lasted three hours with the lockdown in effect for the first hour only. When a K-9 showed interest in a vehicle parked in the school's parking lot belonging to a school employee, permission to search was received and the vehicle inspection conducted by Special Deputy Marshals resulted in the identification of suspected marijuana and marijuana paraphernalia. The evidence was transferred to the Guam Police Department.



CQA Detector Dog and Handler inspect backpack

Today was the first day in over two years that the DOE sought the services of the CQA's DDDU to conduct a drug sweep of any of their campuses.

In 2009, both agencies entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), enabling the CQA DDDU to conduct drug sweeps of DOE campuses to clear schools of drugs and drug paraphernalia, to serve as a deterrent for potential drugs being brought onto school campuses, and to promote a drug-free learning environment.

CQA Director James T. McDonald states, "I would like to thank Superintendent Jon Fernandez for reaching out to the Customs and Quarantine Agency and commend the continued efforts of protecting our island's youth."

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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