



CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM

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

Director's Office

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Nov. 18, 2024

Phishing Scams, Fraudulent Certificates and Notices Not Sanctioned by Guam Customs

BARRIGADA, Guam – Our agency has been made aware of phishing attempts and scam content circulating on social media that includes our logo and forged approvals by Gov. Lourdes Leon Guerrero and our agency's director. We want to make clear that such documents are not sanctioned, approved, or endorsed by the Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency (CQA).

'Tax Compliance Certificate'

Scammers have created what appears to be a fraudulent "tax compliance certificate" bearing the Guam seal and titled "Guam Custom Agency" with a forged signature of the governor requiring victims to pay significant sums in taxes and fees before they can receive a prize. This document is false and unauthorized by CQA.

Declaration of Cash Negotiable Instruments

Also circulating is a notice titled "Declaration of Cash Negotiable Instrument of Over USD \$10,000 or Equivalent". The notice was fraudulently stamped approved by the governor with a signature forged to appear by the CQA director. While the terms presented in this notice align with statute enforced by CQA, the document is unofficial and unauthorized by CQA.

Importing or exporting currency and/or monetary instruments over \$10,000, or foreign currency equivalent or a combination of both, is not illegal. However, federal laws and regulations require individuals to file a report upon entering, or before departing the U.S., to customs officials. In Guam, persons importing or exporting currency and/or monetary instruments, can declare and file the required report with CQA.

Be Vigilant

We urge the public to exercise caution and refrain from relying on any materials that have not been officially released through our recognized channels. Furthermore, the public is highly encouraged to avoid interacting with and providing personal information to scammers who may call or send them messages.

If you have any concerns related to these matters, please report it to the Office of the Attorney General at (671) 475-2705 or gcd@oag.guam.org.

For more information, contact CQA Public Information Officer Alana Chargualaf-Afaisen at alana.c.afaisen@cqa.guam.gov or 671-971-1408.

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