



CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM

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Director's Office

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29 Join Guam Customs Officer Ranks Following Graduation of 15th Cycle

BARRIGADA, Guam – The Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency (CQA) welcomed 29 new officers to the island's border security lines following the graduation of its 15th Cycle on Dec. 18 at the Dusit Thani Guam Resort.

From February through December, the cycle worked toward completion of the Guam Community College Criminal Justice Academy, customs and quarantine technical coursework, on-the-job training, the Customs and Quarantine Physical Abilities Test, firearms qualifications, and all other requirements of the Guam Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission.

“We are fortunate these graduates stayed the course as we continue efforts to restore our officer workforce, and our training cadres have done the important job of preparing them for the critical duties that lie ahead,” said CQA Director Ike Peredo. “Threat detection at our borders is our mission. We expect this increase of officers to boost detections and help prevent the compromise of public health and safety, and Guam's environmental and economic resilience.”

Among the 20 male and 9 female graduates are those of Korean and Taiwanese descent with proficiency in Korean and Mandarin language, to include backgrounds in law, finance, healthcare, physical fitness, and heavy equipment operation - all valuable to various roles performed during a customs officer's career.

During the ceremony, the graduates received their official certificates of completion from CQA and the POST Commission, and certificates of recognition from the Office of the Governor of Guam, the 38th Guam Legislature, and Congressman James Moylan. Their loved ones also came forward to affix their new badges and ranks to their uniforms.

Garnering the top academic achievements among their cycle mates were Valedictorian Victoria Bang and Salutatorian Jeremy Chargualaf.

CQA management extends their appreciation to Gov. Lourdes Leon Guerrero, Lt. Gov. Joshua Tenorio, and all who continue to support the expansion of the CQA workforce.

CQA's officer staffing increased from 106 to 141 following the graduation of its 13th Cycle in November 2023 and 14th Cycle in July 2024. Today, this number increases to just 153 after officer numbers steadily dropped to 124 since then.

For more information, contact CQA Public Information Officer Alana Chargualaf-Afaisen at alana.c.afaisen@cqa.guam.gov or 671-475-6202.

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