



# 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 – Dec. 31, 2025**

## **Guam Customs and Local, Federal Partners Conclude Special Enforcement Operation at Maritime Port**

BARRIGADA, Guam – The Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency's (CQA) Special Enforcement Division (SED) personnel spearheaded a five-week customs-centric special operation with local and federal agencies, which kicked off in late October and concluded in late November at the Jose D. Leon Guerrero Commercial Port.

The operation involved various border interdiction efforts, targeting mission objectives through extensive container inspections and maritime vessel searches.

This performance of heightened border security measures activated CQA's Contraband Enforcement Team, Drug Detector Dog Unit, X-ray Unit, and Maritime Interdiction Task Force with the goal of identifying potential contraband.

A total of eight maritime vessels, 30 vehicles, and 45 shipping containers were safely and successfully inspected. As a result, officers discovered one broken shipping container seal, made one arrest for an outstanding warrant during operations at a satellite inspection site, and did not find drugs or contraband.

The multi-faceted operation strengthened interoperability and working relationships with key specialized law enforcement agencies, and underscored a need for increased awareness in border security operations.

"Fortifying our line officers at Guam's ports of entry, the men and women of our Special Enforcement Division remain fully committed to deterring, detecting, disrupting, and dismantling the smuggling of illicit drugs, contraband, other prohibited items, and individuals who pose a threat to public safety," said Col. Franklin Gutierrez, SED assistant chief.

CQA extends its appreciation to the staff and management of the Port Authority of Guam for their support and cooperation during the execution of this operation. We would also like to recognize the efforts of all participants from the Guam Police Department, U.S. Homeland Security Investigations, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and U.S. Coast Guard.

"We will continue to conduct interdiction operations, strengthen enforcement, and push forward with decisive action to combat illegal importation at our borders," CQA Director Ike Peredo. "Every interdiction we make represents a victory for our citizens and the rule of law. This mission demands persistence, precision, and partnership, and we will not relent."

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To report suspicious activities that may involve the trafficking of drugs and other contraband into Guam, please call us at (671) 642-8071/2 or email [intel@cqa.guam.gov](mailto:intel@cqa.guam.gov).

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

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