



# 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 18, 2017**

## **CQA and ATF: Committed to Collaborative Efforts**

BARRIGADA, GUAM – The Customs and Quarantine Agency (CQA) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) are committed to collaborative efforts.

The Director of the CQA, Mr. James T. McDonald, and Mr. Derek Pleasants, Special Agent in Charge with ATF, met this week to discuss the necessity of a close working relationship and the benefits of collaborative efforts.



“As the closest U.S. Territory to Asia, the role of the CQA in terms of intercepting illegal imports of alcohol, tobacco, firearms and explosives is big. We are the island’s ‘First Line of Defense’ and furthermore, serve the same role for the U.S. mainland,” stated CQA’s Director. “It’s always reassuring when we meet with federal counterparts and agree that continued collaboration is beneficial to both parties,” McDonald continued.

The result: ATF will continue to offer training to CQA personnel and funding via the Asset Forfeiture Program to support our Agency and island’s fight against illegal imports of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

For more information, 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).