

# PORT AUTHORITY OF GUAM

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## NEWS RELEASE

### Port Authority of Guam Statement

**Piti, Guam, December 19, 2024:** The Port Authority of Guam takes the allegations detailed in the recent report by Attorney General Doug Moylan very seriously. The report outlines potential unlawful activities related to cargo operations at the Port, specifically referencing the Matson Lurline container ship (Voyage 85). These allegations raise concerns of possible deviations from established cargo handling and inspection procedures, jeopardizing the integrity of Port operations.

In response, the Port Authority is taking immediate and decisive action. Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio has directed Operations Manager Glenn Nelson and Assistant Operations Manager Patrick Alvarez to conduct a comprehensive investigation. Under the authority delegated to them, their investigation will focus on the following:

1. Verification of the validity of the allegations.
2. Identification of any procedural lapses or violations of protocol.
3. Determination of any involvement by Port personnel.
4. Recommendations for immediate corrective actions where necessary.

They are required to juxtapose their findings against the Port's Public Cargo Terminal procedures, and verify any employees that show up in the Port's surveillance footage during the time of the allegation. Their review must include:

- A detailed analysis of the alleged activities compared to the steps outlined in the PCT Interim Access Procedures, and accountability of all port personnel during this time.
- Identification of any inconsistencies or breaches in protocol.
- Clarification of whether proper authorization, documentation, and access controls were adhered to as per these procedures.

Upon completing the investigation, their findings will be formally submitted to Port Police for further action and review, ensuring appropriate enforcement of legal and procedural standards. The final report and recommendations are due within five working days.

Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio stated, "We are fully committed to transparency and accountability. While the specific incident falls under the jurisdiction of Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency and law enforcement authorities, we are conducting our own internal investigation to ensure our operations remain above reproach. The Port Authority will not tolerate any actions that compromise the security of our island."

The Port Authority remains steadfast in its commitment to cooperate fully with all relevant agencies to address these concerns promptly and transparently. With the support of Governor Lou Leon Guerrero, Lt. Governor Joshua Tenorio, and the Port's Board of Directors, the Port will continue to uphold the highest standards of integrity and accountability. Our priority is the security of Guam, and we will support all efforts to protect our island's borders.