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## **NEWS RELEASE**

Statement from Port GM Rory J. Respicio

**Piti, Guam, July 15, 2020:** Port Authority of Guam General Manager Rory J. Respicio issued the following statement on today's release by the Public Auditor of his Performance Audit into Illegal Pay Raises of the former Port General Manager and former Deputy General Managers:

"I'm not surprised with the Public Auditor's findings surrounding Joanne Brown's illegal hiring and pay raises. It would appear that Joanne Brown will have to pay back all of the money she received illegally. Additionally, since this audit finds that she was also hired illegally, it may even affect her service credits to the retirement fund and the calculation for her annual retirement annuity for all the years she was at the Port. I am sure Joanne Brown will take her usual stance and blame others now that the Public Auditor has exposed her illegal pay raises but the real question is whether she will be held criminally liable. We most certainly will be discussing this matter further with the Board to determine how we can go about getting back the money she illegally took from the Port and the people of Guam."

## END OF STATEMENT