#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

## Prepared for the 2012 Senior Plenary Session of the IGIA

The Department of Homeland Security has a vital mission: to secure the nation from the many threats we face. This requires the dedication of more than 240,000 employees in jobs that range from aviation and border security to emergency response, from cybersecurity analyst to chemical facility inspector. Our duties are wide-ranging, but our goal is clear - keeping America safe.

The Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) promotes an integrated national approach to homeland security by coordinating and advancing federal interaction with state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments. IGA is responsible for continuing the homeland security dialogue with executive-level partners at the SLTT levels, along with the national associations that represent them. IGA's State Team is the designated lead for state relations and consultation at the Department. Governors, State Homeland Security Advisors (HSA), and state agencies constitute a large amount of the Department's outreach and collaboration. IGA State Coordinators are tasked with maintaining relationships and situational awareness of events and issues in all 56 states and territories, as well as communicating with numerous associations that address homeland security-related issues. State Coordinators are also responsible for maintaining an up-to-date awareness and continuous communication with all DHS components, and facilitating direct communication and flow of information on all Department issues with our SLTT stakeholders.

IGA also maintains the following teams: Local and Urban Affairs; Tribal; and Public Engagement. In addition, the National Operations Center (NOC) State and Local (S&L) Support Desk builds upon existing NOC and IGA relationships and supports governors, homeland security advisors, mayors, other elected and appointed officials, and their staffs at the SLTT levels. The NOC S&L Support Desk monitors state, local, tribal, and territorial homeland security efforts, maintains general awareness of SLTT resources and requirements, and works closely with the NOC and IGA to coordinate issues of significance to their constituencies.

### **OVERVIEW OF IGA INTERACTIONS WITH STATES AND TERRITORIES:**

Through your designated Territorial Coordinator, IGA provides a direct link from Governors, HSAs, and other state officials to Secretary Napolitano and DHS's Operating Components and Offices.

- IGA provides a direct source of official communication and information from the Department to Governors and HSA Offices.
- Each State Coordinator is charged with building relationships with state officials and maintaining overall knowledge of DHS operations and issues in each state.
- Although HSAs and State officials interact with many different agencies and components across the Department, IGA provides a "one-stop shop" of information for DHS and will

provide assistance, information, or connections to DHS officials to ensure that needs are met.

• IGA serves as an advocate for SLTT interests within the Department. IGA works with State and local officials and their representative associations to ensure that these viewpoints are heard and incorporated into the policy process.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ON IGA:

Web Site: http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/gc\_1185203480305.shtm

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### FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

#### **GUAM**

On November 21, 2011, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) met with Guam State Senator Christopher Dueneas regarding the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and flood-related issues. Because flooding is a common occurrence in Guam, the Senator feels that not enough Guamanians have flood insurance. One of his legislative goals for the upcoming year is to increase awareness of flood insurance and encourage its purchase. For him, the purpose of the meeting was to educate him on NFIP and the availability of NFIP outreach tools. The meeting was attended by Nancy Ward, Regional Administrator, Region IX; Karen Armes, Deputy Regional Administrator; Sally Ziolkowski, Mitigation Division Director; Gregor Blackburn, FM&I Branch Chief; and Casey De Shong, Congressional/IGA Specialist.

On January 26, 2012, FEMA's Region IX IGA met with Mark Calvo, Director of Military Buildup and Special Assistant to Governor Eddie Baza Calvo, and Franklin Arriola, Chief of Staff. FEMA participants were Nancy Ward, Karen Armes, all the Regional division directors, General Counsel, and IGA. Discussion topics included the upcoming exercise in Guam that will take place in June 2012, past disasters in Guam, and the likelihood of future disasters and the need to be prepared for them. In addition, the Region's work on a Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis (THIRA) was discussed. Over the past two years, the Region IX office has been engaged with the government of Guam and other pacific territory governments to ensure their inclusion into the THIRA effort. When the THIRA is completed, the Regional office would like an authorized representative from Guam to co-sign it. It was indicated that when the territory reviews it, most likely the governor will sign it rather than an authorized representative.

# GUAM, AMERICAN SAMOA, THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI)

On March 1, 2012, the FEMA Region IX Administrator, Nancy Ward, will attend a Federal Regional Council (FRC) meeting in San Francisco that will bring together the Pacific territorial governors. The FRC is comprised of Federal agency regional administrators. At this meeting, Ms. Ward will meet with the governors to specifically discuss/coordinate issues of collaboration in the Pacific territories.

### **AMERICAN SAMOA**

FEMA is currently enhancing American Samoa's Emergency Alert System through the implementation of an auxiliary Primary Entry Point station in the territory. The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System is a national public alert and warning "system of systems" under development by FEMA in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service, the Federal Communications Commission, and the DHS Science and Technology Directorate to enable rapid dissemination of authenticated alert

information over multiple communications channels. FEMA and radio station WVUV-FM in American Samoa have implemented an agreement under which the radio station will act as an auxiliary Emergency Alert System Primary Entry Point station. The FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Program Office is improving the radio station's capabilities through contracts and through coordination with Federal partners, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. When the upgrade is complete, WVUV-FM will have robust backup power, multiple communications pathways to the FEMA Operations Center, and a hardened facility. These enhancements will improve Emergency Alert System capabilities for the territory as a whole.

#### **CNMI**

FEMA is currently coordinating with territorial representatives to enhance CNMI's Emergency Alert System through the implementation of a Primary Entry Point Station in the territory. The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System is a national public alert and warning "system of systems" under development by FEMA in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service, the Federal Communications Commission, and the DHS Science and Technology Directorate to enable rapid dissemination of authenticated alert information over multiple communications channels. The FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Program Office will improve the capabilities of radio stations selected as Primary Entry Point stations through contracts and through coordination with Federal partners, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Primary Entry Point stations are private/commercial radio broadcast stations that cooperatively participate with FEMA to provide emergency alert and warning information. The Primary Entry Points also serve as the primary initial broadcast source for a Presidential or national Emergency Alert System message. FEMA and CNMI Broadcaster Sorensen Media have executed an agreement bringing KPXP on Saipan into the Primary Entry Point program. FEMA is ready to ship an encoder/decoder (ENDEC) to the station. The installation of a FEMA circuit to the transmitter site is underway, but not expected to proceed quickly. Once this circuit is in place, KPXP can serve as an active Primary Entry Point station.

Governor Fitial signed an Executive Order establishing a Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Task Force appointing agencies to the Task Force. FEMA Pacific Area Office and CNMI Emergency Management Office have worked closely in order to support their goal of creating a Mass Care/Emergency Assistance plan. FY 2010 earmark funding enabled FEMA Region IX to conduct a week-long Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Training Summit for CNMI in an effort to enhance and strengthen the community's ability to prepare for and implement the Mass Care/Emergency Assistance activities of mass evacuation/sheltering/feeding and the bulk distribution of emergency supplies. The Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Training Summit is a "whole community" initiative, encouraging community-wide collaborative training and preparedness, as well as the establishment of a multi-agency Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Task Force. The Task Force meets regularly to work on their draft of the Mass Care/Emergency Assistance plan. FEMA Pacific Area Office has continued to meet via conference calls and inperson meetings with the Task Force in order to strengthen the Mass Care/Emergency Assistance draft. FEMA Pacific Area Office will be supporting CNMI Emergency Management Office in

upcoming workshop during which FEMA will walk the agencies through the draft plan. The Task Force hopes to exercise this plan during their hurricane and tsunami exercises scheduled for June and July 2012.

#### **GUAM**

FEMA is currently coordinating with territorial representatives to enhance Guam's Emergency Alert System through the implementation of a Primary Entry Point Station in the territory. The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System is a national public alert and warning "system of systems" under development by FEMA in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service, the Federal Communications Commission, and the DHS Science and Technology Directorate to enable rapid dissemination of authenticated alert information over multiple communications channels. The FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Program Office will improve the capabilities of radio stations selected as Primary Entry Point stations through contracts and through coordination with Federal partners, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Primary Entry Point stations are private/commercial radio broadcast stations that cooperatively participate with FEMA to provide emergency alert and warning information. The Primary Entry Points also serve as the primary initial broadcast source for a Presidential or national Emergency Alert System messages. The FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Program Office is in negotiation with the owner of a candidate Primary Entry Point station.

Guam recently held its FY 2012 National Preparedness Training and Exercise Planning Workshop with contractor support through the Regional Exercise Support Program. This workshop is part of a requirement for eligibility for the receipt of 2012 Emergency Management Performance Grant funds. A number of exercises and training events were identified and an agreement was reached to hold a large functional exercise with the FEMA Incident Management Assistance Team in FY 2012 in conjunction with the annual Pakyo Typhoon exercise scheduled for June 2012. Planning meetings are being conducted via site visits and conference calls and FEMA Region IX Training and Exercise Program staff will participate.

The Territory Mitigation Plan for Guam was approved on April 25, 2011. All projects under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for FEMA-1446-DR-GU have been completed. Closure of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program under FEMA-1446-DR-GU is pending drawdown of the funds by the Government of Guam.

POC: Casey De Shong, FEMA Region IX IGA/Legislative Affairs Specialist, casey.deshong@fema.dhs.gov, (510) 627-7785.

## U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (USVI)

FEMA is reviewing changes to the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program as the program will undergo some changes. Under 44 CFR, States, Territories, or Commonwealths would now need to pay a 50 percent cash match for the program. This requirement may make the program unreachable for some of the States, Territories, or our Commonwealth. In a letter dated February 9, 2012, the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency Director,

Elton Lewis, asked FEMA to consider the USVI's economic constraints, geographic disposition, and vulnerabilities to earthquakes when reviewing the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program regulation. FEMA is reviewing the Director's statement and exploring options on how the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program policy and regulations can apply to the USVI and other potentially impacted states and territories.

On November 2, 2010, the President declared a major disaster for the USVI due to Tropical Storm Otto during the period of October 1-8, 2010. As of February 15, 2012, this declaration obligated \$875,517 for Public Assistance Program Funding.

On November 24, 2010, the President declared a major disaster for the USVI due to Tropical Storm Tomas during the period of November 8-12, 2010. As of February 15, 2012, this declaration obligated \$1,573,857 for Public Assistance Program Funding.

POC: Matthew Behnke, FEMA Intergovernmental Affairs, <a href="matthew.behnke@dhs.gov">matthew.behnke@dhs.gov</a>, 202-646-4211 or Alejandro De La Campa, FEMA Caribbean Area Director, <a href="mailto:Alejandro.DeLaCampa@fema.dhs.gov">Alejandro.DeLaCampa@fema.dhs.gov</a>.

#### TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

# OLE/FAMS ACTIVITIES IN THE U.S. INSULAR AREAS OF GUAM, AMERICAN SAMOA, AND U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

### **GUAM**

The Office of Law Enforcement/Federal Air Marshal Service (OLE/FAMS) assigns an Assistant Federal Security Director for Law Enforcement (AFSD-LE) to the Antonio B. Won Pat International Airport in Guam. The AFSD-LE reports to the Federal Security Director (FSD) of Guam and the OLE/FAMS Supervisory Air Marshal in Charge (SAC) of the Los Angeles Field Office in EL Segundo, California.

The Guam AFSD-LE serves as a secondary member on Guam's Port Readiness Committee (PRC). Guam is considered a strategic military port, and the PRC supports military out loads destined for overseas deployments. The AFSD-LE also serves as the OLE/FAMS representative for the Area Maritime Security Training and Exercise Program (AMSTEP) and is an active member on the Area Maritime Security Executive Committee.

The AFSD-LE establishes meaningful dialogue and maintains a healthy working relationship with airport stakeholders and federal, state, and local law enforcement officials. He makes frequent contact with airport personnel and is instrumental in planning for actions such as: Visible Intermodal Prevention Response (VIPR) operations, Man-portable air-defense system (MANPADS) assessments, National Special Security Events, and dignitary movements. In addition, OLE/FAMS Security Assessments Section conducts Joint Vulnerability Assessments (JVAs) with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and MANPADS Vulnerability Assessments, identifying security vulnerabilities and recommending countermeasures to improve airport security.

Los Angeles SAC Skip Williams (310) 615-8601 (office) ashley.s.williams@ole.tsa.dhs.gov

AFSD-LE Kevin Pitman (671) 642-0181 (office) kevin.m.pitman@ole.tsa.dhs.gov

## **AMERICAN SAMOA**

OLE/FAMS has supported American Samoa over the years by providing law enforcement training to airport law enforcement personnel and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Office of Security Operations (OSO) components. Additionally, OLE/FAMS has partnered with the Port Directors for the Airport and Maritime venues, staff from the Governor's Office, and other local leaders to increase American Samoa's security posture through initiatives such as the enhancement of airport grounds to mitigate risks. OLE/FAMS utilizes MANPAD Vulnerability Assessments, MANPAD Mitigation Plans, Table Top Exercises, and other planned exercises to

coordinate security responses with stakeholders. To facilitate a comprehensive response, OLE/FAMS also solicits involvement from the local National Guard, U.S. Coast Guard, and the FBI.

Los Angeles SAC Skip Williams (310) 615-8601 (office) ashley.s.williams@ole.tsa.dhs.gov

### U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Federal Air Marshals (FAMs) routinely transit St. Thomas and St. Croix on missions. FAMs from the Miami Field Office participate in VIPR operations in coordination with the St. Thomas FSD Lee Duffy. VIPR operations are conducted in aviation and maritime venues, most notably the cruise ports and inter-island ferry docks in St. Thomas and St. Croix. FSD Duffy is a strong supporter of TSA's Transportation Information Sharing System (TISS) and ensures that all St. Thomas and St. Croix personnel under his command remain capable and mindful of filing Suspicious Incident Reports (SIRs).

The Miami SAC or one of the Assistant Supervisory Air Marshals in Charge (ASACs) visits the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) quarterly to meet with the FSD, U.S. Attorney, ranking officials of the USVI Police Department, and other federal law enforcement agencies represented in USVI. U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) figures prominently in those liaison visits as they also participate in VIPR operations. FSD Duffy enjoys a robust and cooperative working relationship with all USVI stakeholders. The OLE/FAMS Security Assessments Section also conducts JVAs with the FBI and MANPADS Vulnerability assessments on a periodic basis.

Miami SAC James Bauer FSD Lee Duffy (954) 858-0701 (office) (340) 779-6045 james.e.bauer@ole.tsa.dhs.gov lee.duffy@dhs.gov

<u>Explosives Detection Canine Training and Evaluation Administered by TSA Office of Law</u> Enforcement Federal Air Marshal Service to the U.S. Territories

A component of TSA OLE/FAMS, the Canine Training and Evaluation Section (CTES) supports the National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program (NEDCTP) mission by providing highly trained Explosives Detection Canine teams. CTES administers initial training in San Antonio, TX and conducts recurrent training and annual practical performance evaluations within the operational environments of all canine teams falling under the auspices of the TSA.

These teams are deployed throughout the transportation system to provide visible deterrence and a timely and mobile response to security incidents. Currently, this includes proprietary (TSA) and legacy (local law enforcement) teams in the territories of:

Guam: Four (4) proprietary and five (5) legacy teams

Saipan: Four (4) legacy teams. St. Thomas: Four (4) legacy teams.

### OFFICE OF SECURITY OPERATIONS

## USVI: U.S. Virgin Islands

In the U.S. Virgin Islands, TSA conducts security screening on all passengers and their checked luggage, prior to boarding commercial aircraft at the Henry E. Rohlsen Airport on St. Croix (STX) and at the Cyril E. King airport on St. Thomas (STT). Additionally, TSA oversees regulatory compliance for security matters at the Territory's two airports. TSA conducts frequent VIPR operations, jointly with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the USVI Police Department, at the inter-island ferry terminals on St. Thomas, St. John, and St. Croix. STT is currently deploying new Advanced Imaging Technology (AIT) to enhance security at the airport. TSA in the Territory maintains close liaison with the U.S. Attorney's office, as well as local and Federal government agencies. The primary point of contact is the FSD Lee F. Duffy (340-779-6045, lee.duffy@dhs.gov).

### Guam (GUM):

At A.B. Won Pat International Airport (GUM), TSA is not piloting any new technology or national level programs, but two recently-installed AIT machines are now being used to greatly enhance security at the airport. VIPR operations have been significantly expanded during the past six months and now include participation of Officers from the Airport Police, Guam Customs and Quarantine, CBP and Agents from the Coast Guard Investigative Service. GUM will conduct its first-ever VIPR operation in the maritime environment on March 8, 2012. The TSA Office of Security Assessments will conduct a week-long JVA at GUM during the week of March 8, 2012. The TSA GUM Regulatory Team continues to enhance security in both the cargo and aviation arenas by conducting comprehensive and supplemental inspections of all regulated entities with the support of three explosive canine teams. TSA GUM has excellent relationships with local and federal partners, and with the U.S. Attorney's office. The primary point of contact at TSA GUM is FSD Brian Cahill (671-642-7600, brian.cahill@dhs.gov).

### Pago Pago International Airport (PPG):

At Pago Pago International Airport (PPG) in American Samoa (a spoke airport to Honolulu International Airport, HNL) TSA conducts security screening of all passengers (with their hand carried items) and checked baggage prior to boarding commercial aircraft. TSA PPG has two (2) full time and sixteen (16) part-time positions to accomplish the security screening mission, using Advanced Technology X-ray, Walk Thru Metal Detection (WTMD), CT-80 Explosive Detection System and Explosive Trace Detection (ETD) screening equipment. TSA HNL staff conducts regulatory inspections of the airport, air carrier, and air cargo operations and provides assistance with airport facility and operations security assessment activities. There is currently a plan to install an AIT machine with Automated Target Recognition (ATR) capability this year. TSA PPG coordinates closely with the local airport police, American Samoan Government, and U.S. Federal agencies in the accomplishment of its security mission. The primary point of contact at PPG is Transportation Security Manager, Fatu Ahsoon (684-254-1436, fatu.ahsoon@dhs.gov)

and in Honolulu, Acting FSD for HNL/PPG Stanford Miyamoto (808-292-6668, stanford.miyamoto@dhs.gov).

# Saipan International Airport (GSN) and Rota International Airport (GRO):

At Saipan International Airport (GSN) and its smaller spoke airport Rota International Airport (GRO), both in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, there are no pilot programs at this time. Of recent note, TSA at GSN provided valuable assistance to the Japanese Consul in September 2011, facilitating and expediting the repatriation of the remains of 575 Japanese soldiers who died during World War II. The remains were recovered from the Tanapag burial site in Saipan. TSA ensured there were no issues processing the remains through airport security – efficiently and respectfully. Japanese Consul Tsutomu Higuchi was deeply appreciative. Another important issue TSA is examining is the possible de-federalization of the airport at GRO (two full-time TSA employees and nine part-time employees). While still in the initial data gathering stages, TSA has seen passenger levels go from a daily average of 175.6 in 2006 to 73.5 in 2011. The daily average in December 2011 was less than 26. If GRO is de-federalized, it should not impact travel, other than a relatively few passengers needing to be rescreened at Guam. The primary point of contact is the FSD Friend Walker (670-322-6005, friend.walker@dhs.gov).

#### OFFICE OF SECURITY CAPABILITIES

# **Risk-Based Security Initiative**

TSA is undertaking efforts to focus its resources and improve the passenger experience at security checkpoints by applying new risk-based, intelligence-driven screening procedures and enhancing its use of technology.

This approach is based on the following premises:

- The majority of airline passengers are low risk.
- By having passengers voluntarily provide more information about themselves, TSA can better segment the population in terms of risk.
- Behavior detection and interviewing techniques should be strengthened in the screening process.
- TSA must accelerate its efforts to optimize screening processes and use of technology to gain system-wide efficiencies.
- Increase security by focusing on unknowns; expedite known and trusted travelers.

TSA has developed conceptual screening processes consistent with this approach that the agency began testing at airports in August 2011:

- TSA Pre ✓ TM Expedited Screening Pilot
- Screening Pilot for Passengers 12 and Under
- Expanded Behavior Detection Pilot

If the pilots prove successful, these changes could allow officers to better focus their efforts on other passengers who are more likely to pose a risk to transportation.

## **Enhancing Passenger Privacy**

In September 2011, TSA purchased 300 additional millimeter wave AIT units, which are currently being deployed with ATR software designed to enhance privacy by eliminating passenger-specific images, instead auto-detecting potential threats and indicating their location on a generic outline of a person. Areas identified as containing potential threats will require additional screening. The generic outline is identical for all passengers. If no potential threat items are detected, an "OK" appears on the monitor and the passenger is cleared.

By eliminating the image of an actual passenger and replacing it with a generic outline of a person, passengers are able to view the same outline that the TSA officer sees. Further, a separate TSA officer is no longer required to view the image in a remotely located viewing room. By removing this step of the process, screening is more efficient and throughput capability of the technology is improved. Previously deployed millimeter wave AIT units have been upgraded with the ATR software. TSA is currently working with the vendor for backscatter AIT to develop an ATR solution for backscatter AIT units.

The following U.S. Insular Area airports currently have AIT:

- Cyril E. King (STT), U.S. Virgin Islands: 3 millimeter wave units
- Henry E. Rohlsen (STX), U.S. Virgin Islands: 2 millimeter wave units
- Saipan (GSN), Northern Mariana Islands: 1 backscatter unit
- Antonio B. Won Pat (GUM), Guam: 2 backscatter units

## U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP)

#### CARIBBEAN AIR AND MARINE BRANCH - ST. THOMAS MARINE UNIT

The DHS, CBP, St. Thomas Marine Unit is based out of St. Thomas U.S. Virgin Islands. The area of operation includes all of the Islands that make up the UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS. They are the islands of St. Thomas, Water Island, St. John and St. Croix.

St. Thomas lies forty nautical miles east of the island of Puerto Rico. Federal law enforcement agencies currently on assignment in the Virgin Islands are, DHS CBP Air and Marine, DHS CBP Office of Field Operations, ICE, DEA, FBI and U.S. Marshals Service. The U.S. Coast Guard maintains a small port security staff on the islands of St. Thomas and St. Croix.

The Virgin Islands Police Department in St. Croix has four officers that are designated "Blue Lightning Officers" that are supervised by DEA St. Croix. Blue Lightning is a federally funded project. It provides funding for training and overtime for state and or local officers. The project certifies state/local officers to enforce specified federal laws and regulations. Blue Lightning Officers work under close supervision of their supervising agency. In the Virgin Islands an extensive vetting process identifies viable candidates.

The Caribbean Border Interagency Group (CBIG) has greatly enhanced asset utilization. The interagency coordination has enabled us to make better use of manpower and equipment by reducing or eliminating duplication of efforts. Intelligence gathering and information sharing has led to increased productivity of the CAMB.

The St. Thomas Marine Unit is currently assigned two 39' Interceptor vessels and maintains a staff of eight Marine Interdiction Agents including one supervisor. The St. Thomas Marine Unit works closely with the British Virgin Islands Federal and local authorities. A Memorandum of Understanding is being negotiated which will allow DHS CBP Marine Interdiction Agents to interdict vessels in British waters. The British Customs Officials and the U.S.V.I. Governor support this initiative.

On December 15, 2009, the St. Thomas Marine Unit arrested of Alexis Candelario, Puerto Rico's most wanted fugitive.

The St. Thomas Marine Unit works closely with DEA and ICE. The marine unit has played significant interdiction roles in recent DEA cases which have resulted in the dismantling of several large scale narcotics smuggling organizations.

On May 5, 2011, the St. Thomas Marine Unit affected the arrest of members of the Jerome POTTER Organization and POTTER himself. POTTER was the head of a well known large scale narcotics smuggling organization based in the U.S. Virgin Islands. POTTER's organization encompassed the Islands of St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix. The arrests were the culmination of a long term investigation being conducted by DEA and FBI St. Thomas.

On November 11, 2011, Air support from the Caribbean Air and Marine Branch resulted in the interdiction and arrest of four individuals, the seizure of 750 pounds of cocaine and the seizure of one vessel. This seizure has resulted in the initiation of a large scale ICE investigation which will be presented to the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) committee.

Point of contact:

SMIA Al Eiselen DHS CBP-OAM US Virgin Islands St Thomas Marine Unit 787-565-2220 alvin.eiselen@dhs.gov

## Community activities in the CNMI

CBP Field Operations in Saipan is very active in the community:

- CBP is involved in an adopt-a-beach program where officers participate in cleaning Makaka Beach, between the Hafadai & Fiesta Resorts, once a month.
- CBP participates in CNMI parades using branded vehicles.
- CBP participates in a literacy program at Tanapag Elementary every year and participates in all Career Fairs.
- CBP holds an annual toy drive as well as clothing and food drives for the Catholic Charities/abuse shelter.
- CBP participates in an annual 9/11 event.
- CBP Port Director coaches Little League.
- CBP provided Cultural Sensitivity Awareness training in Saipan on January 18-20, 2012 in which 23 CBP officers participated.
- Airport construction in Saipan and Rota will be completed the week of March 12, 2012.