

# Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Public Safety



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## Mission and Vision Statement

The Members of the CNMI Department of Public Safety are dedicated to providing the highest quality public safety service in order to enhance community safety, protect life and property, and reduce crime and the fear of crime. To do this, we pledge to develop a partnership with the community, lead a community commitment to resolve problems, and improve the safety and quality of life in the Commonwealth.



Have a lawful  
approach towards law  
enforcement within  
the Marianas.



Carefully document  
and monitor crimes  
committed within the  
community.



Assisting community  
members by responding to  
emergency calls in a timely  
fashion.



## Departmental Goals

The DPS is committed to delivering excellent service that helps to make the CNMI a safer place. In doing so, we will:

- Ensure our residents and visitors are at the heart of everything we do.
- Be visible and accessible to the people and villages we serve.
- Build public trust and confidence in the Department of Public Safety through our service and performance.
- Work with our partners, stakeholders and the community to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and where crime is committed, bring the offenders to justice.
- Ensure that community contact and feedback helps to shape what we do and how we do it.
- Develop a modern, flexible work force that places as many officers as possible for policing and public safety.
- Promote the value of equality and diversity in our role as a service provider and as an employer.
- Promote a culture of leadership, accountability, and innovation within our organization.
- Act with integrity to the highest professional standards of behavior.
- Use our resources to the maximum benefit of the public.



## Throughout this year

During the COVID-19 pandemic DPS continued to uphold duties to maintain public safety:

Highway Safety Office - National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Programs:

HSO personnel and HP Section personnel performed various community outreach programs at community events for the following:

- Occupant Protection/Child Restraint at head start programs, various schools, day care centers.
- Impaired Driving (Alcohol & Drugs) at various schools, government agencies, and community events
- Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety at various schools and community events
- Distracted Driving at various schools and community events
- Production and airing of various Highway Safety educational ads on all radio stations, television, movie theater, magazines, and newspapers.
- The DPS Highway Safety Office (HSO) offers the Child Restraint Purchase Assistance Program (CRPAP) to all qualifying households to assist with the purchase of child restraints (car seats) from participating vendors in Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The assistance is for 50% of total car seat cost, not to exceed \$200.00.
  - Number of vouchers issued:
    - 2018 - 250 vouchers
    - 2019 - 193 vouchers
    - 2020 - 128 vouchers
- The CNMI Seat Belt Usage Rate increased from 89.28% in 2018 to 93.97% in 2019. This makes us a HIGH USAGE territory.
- The CNMI Child Restraint Usage Rate increased from 72.32% in 2018 to 80.42% in 2019.
- The CNMI presently has:
  - (77) Child Passenger Safety Technicians
  - (3) Lead Instructors
  - (2) CPST Instructors
  - (1) CPST Instructor Candidate
  - Seven (7) Fitting Stations:
    - (5) - Saipan
    - (1) - Tinian
    - (1) - Rota

### Boating Safety Section:

- Boating Safety Section responded to:
  - Eleven (11) distressed boats
  - One (1) sunken vessel
  - One (1) capsized vessel
  - Two (2) drowning cases
  - Two(2) stranded swimmers
  - One (1) overdue swimmer/ diver/fishermen
  - One (1) missing swimmer/diver/fishermen
  - One (1) Parasailing Accident.
- **BSS Officers issued Sixty (60) Citations.**
  - BSS conducted three hundred four (304) compliance/inspection checks.
- Operation Dry Water: Which ensures boaters are not driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs. Safe Boating Week Year-round presentations on safe boating and the importance of life jackets. Mini presentations are done during vessel inspections
- Assist USCG and Ports to improve infrastructure and Port Security
- Increase in Land-Sea Boarding
- Assist in Joint Maritime Enforcement Training with US Coast Guard on Rota July 2019
- Published "Boat- Northern Mariana Islands" Manual for Boaters in the CNMI

### Criminal Investigations Bureau (CIB)

CIB continues to work on numerous offenses including the top two (2) major offenses of:

- Narcotics Cases: 103
- Burglary, Theft and Property Cases: 774

### Sex Offenders Registry (SOR):

- Published a new SOR ad on the 2020 Phonebook.
- On March 2020, SOR received an approval to add additional personnel (sworn) salaries and fringe benefits due to austerity and pandemic matters in the CNMI.
- \*(1) Sergeant - Saipan
- PO2 - Rota/Saipan
- PO1 - Tinian

### Violence against womens Act

The Department received:

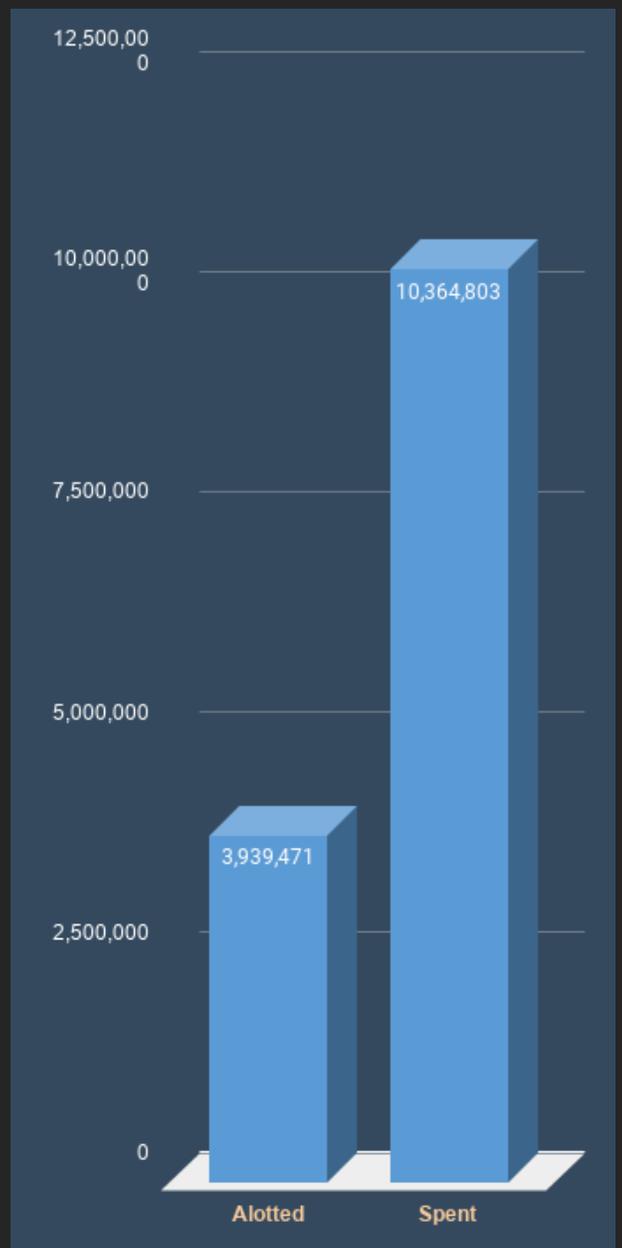
- 280 calls for assistance was made to law enforcement involving Domestic Violence
- 273 were active complaints
- 114 were forwarded to Attorney General's office for Prosecution
- 42 calls for assistance were made to law enforcement involving Sexual Violence
- 11 were forwarded to Attorney General's office for Prosecution
- 1 was forwarded for Federal Prosecution



Description of Expenses	Amount Allotted	Amount Expended
DPS Commissioners Office	\$ 78,647	\$ 1,302,411
DPS Police Training Academy	\$ 10,471	\$ 22,920
DPS Motor Vehicle Division	\$ 169,109	\$ 282,699
DPS Administration Division	\$ 497,867	\$ 811,187
DPS Police Division	\$3,183,377	\$ 7,945,586
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,939,471</b>	<b>\$10,364,803</b>

Among the costs of expenses for personnel salaries and daily operations such as duty gear, equipment, communications, fuel and lubrication, repair and maintenance, utilities, and the added costs of operation during the COVID-19 pandemic and so forth; some key highlights that DPS has made over the past fiscal year are:

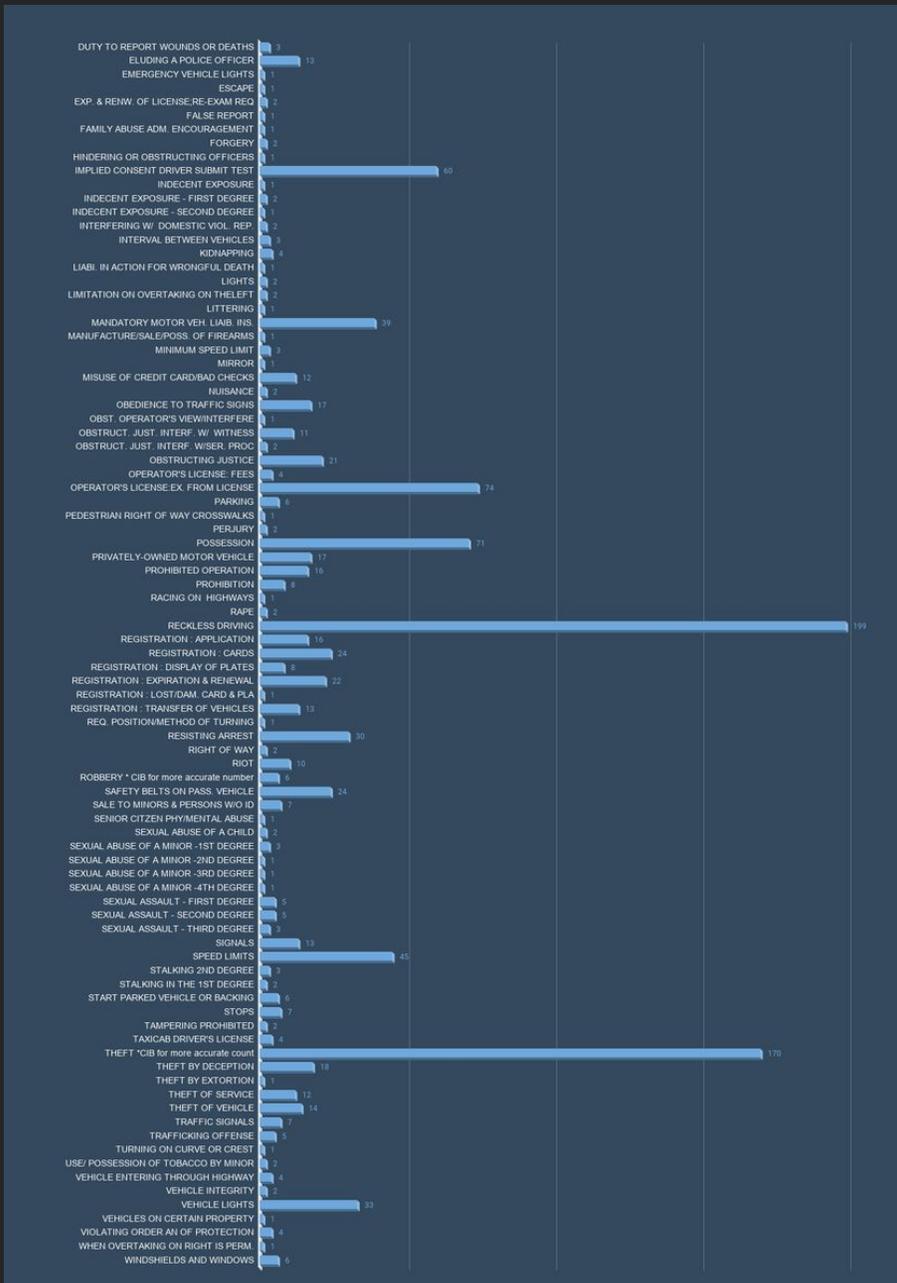
- Upgraded vehicles for Patrol and Investigations with accessories (lightings, sirens, center console):
  - Ten (10) vehicles:
    - (8) Dodge Chargers for Saipan
    - (1) Dodge Charger for Rota
    - (1) Dodge Charger for Tinian
    - (1) Dodge Ram Pick-up Truck for Tinian
- Jaws of Life equipment purchased for DFEMS to be utilized when responding to motor vehicle crashes.
- Purchased two (2) new vessels; one (1) for Tinian and one (1) for Rota
  - Repaired the Boat Shed for Rota Boating Safety
  - Repaired Lower Units of the Impact Rescue Boat
  - Repaired the Zodiac III to be operational
- Purchased two (2) 2019 Mazda CX vehicles:
  - One (1) for Tinian and One (1) for Rota
- On March 2020, Sex Offenders Registry (SOR) received an approval to add additional personnel (sworn) salaries and fringe benefits due to austerity and pandemic matters in the CNMI. for (1) Sergeant in Saipan and PO2-Rota/Saipan and PO1-Tinian.



## Challenges Faced

The FY 2020 allocation for the DPS was \$3,939,471. Which was a decrease of \$3,412,747 from the previous year, it was still inadequate to cover the Department's total expenditures. The decrease of funding was not sufficient enough to fund personnel costs; just as allocations for operational and utility charges. Operational costs include fuel charges for the Department's fleet, the cost of repairs and maintenance, the cost of communications, the cost of duty gear and uniforms, and so on. Additionally, the impact on the department due to the on-going pandemic as a result of COVID-19 directly affected the Department's – it went beyond its approved budget as the department needed to cover repair costs on vehicles, and other equipment being utilized for community patrol and curfew enforcement, DPS continued to maintain daily operations of the Department through the department's administrative services as well as community enforcement and patrol.

## Crime Data



## Department Successes

- Procured two (2) Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles from the Law Enforcement Support Office to aide in future emergency response situations including any future rescue missions.
- Reopened the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for:
  - Drivers license renewal
  - Vehicle registration
  - Boat / Vessel registration
- Reimplemented driving tests and written tests
- Reopened the DPS Firearms and Records office to the public for police report printouts and filing.
- Purchased two (2) vessels; one (1) for Tinian and one (1) for Rota to aide in future search and rescue missions.
- Published "Boat- Northern Mariana Islands" Manual for Boaters in the CNMI;
- Improved and sustained inter-multi agency response and communications efforts.

