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PRESS RELEASE

July 13, 2020

TO: CNMI Media Partners

FROM: DPS Public Information Officer

SUBJECT: Individual arrested for obstruction of justice

On Saturday, July 11, 2020, at about 9:24 a.m., the CNMI Department of Public Safety (DPS) received a call from the COVID-19 task force requesting for assistance at the Saipan International Airport as two (2) inbound passengers were refusing to undergo the mandatory COVID-19 quarantine upon arriving on the island.

Officers were dispatched to the scene and met with personnel from the COVID-19 Taskforce, the personnel stated that a couple had just arrived from an inbound flight and continually refused to be transported to the Kanoa Hotel in Susupe to undergo the mandatory quarantine. Officers spoke to the couple and the female individual who is a U.S. Homeland Security agent finally agreed, as the husband continued to be uncooperative.

The male passenger was arrested for obstruction of justice and brought to the to the Department of Corrections (DOC) where his temperature reading was recorded above 100° F. The male individual was then transported to the Commonwealth Health Care Corporation (CHCC) where he undertook the COVID-19 test. Results returned negative and he was transported back to DOC.

The female individual was transported and registered into Kanoa to undergo quarantine. All officers immediately underwent COVID-19 testing, where they all tested negative, following strict protocol, the responding officers were also immediately put into quarantine at the Kanoa Hotel in Susupe until the results of their follow up COVID-19 test returns negative.

Please call 911 anytime to report a crime or an emergency. Your CNMI law enforcement officers care for the health and well-being of you and your family.

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