

# PORT AUTHORITY OF GUAM

JOSE D. LEON GUERRERO COMMERCIAL PORT

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## NEWS RELEASE

### Port Celebrates 49 Years as Autonomous Agency

**Piti, Guam, October 20, 2024:** The Jose D. Leon Guerrero Commercial Port of Guam is proud to celebrate its 49th anniversary this week, marking nearly five decades of essential service to the people of Guam, the region, and the United States.

This year's Port Week will be held from October 21-25, with the theme *"Port Strong: Nearly Half a Century of Grit, Resilience, and Service Fueling Local and Regional Economies, Partnerships, and National Security."*

Throughout the week, the Port will host various activities to honor the achievements of its dedicated workforce, reflect on its legacy, and recognize its crucial role in driving economic growth, supporting partnerships, and ensuring national security. The Port Week Opening Ceremony will take place at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, October 21, 2024, featuring a flag-raising ceremony, Parade of Trucks, and remarks from dignitaries, including Governor Lou Leon Guerrero and Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio. The entire opening ceremony can be viewed live on the Port's Facebook page.

General Manager Rory J. Respicio acknowledged the significance of this milestone, stating: "For nearly half a century, the Port has been the lifeline of Guam and the region, connecting us to the world. Our employees, known as Port Strong, have been the driving force behind every success, showing unmatched resilience in the face of challenges. Whether it's ensuring the smooth flow of goods during a global pandemic or bouncing back after a devastating typhoon, they are the backbone of the Port. As we celebrate this anniversary, we honor the grit, dedication, and service of our workforce and look forward to building an even brighter future."

"We have accomplished so much this past year toward improving and securing our facilities to better serve our community all the while remaining fiscally prudent and achieving clean audits and receiving positive credit ratings from Moody's Investors Service and S&P Global Ratings," said Respicio. "The heart of the Port lies in its people—our Port Strong employees, past and present, whose dedication and tireless work have been the backbone of our success. Through every challenge, every storm, and every crisis, they have shown resilience that is second to none."

#### Looking Ahead

As the Port Authority of Guam approaches its 50th anniversary in 2025, it remains committed to its mission of fueling local and regional economies and supporting national security and will celebrate the enduring legacy of the Port and its vital role in shaping a sustainable and prosperous future for Guam and the region.

"As we look toward the future, we will continue to build on our successes by modernizing our infrastructure, enhancing our services, and securing critical partnerships. The Port will remain the cornerstone of Guam's economy and a key player in the broader Indo-Pacific region," General Manager Respicio said.

#### About the Port Authority of Guam

Established in 1975, the Jose D. Leon Guerrero Commercial Port of Guam is the island's only deep-water commercial port and the largest U.S. port in the Western Pacific. It handles over 90% of Guam's imported goods and plays a vital role in supporting both civilian and military logistics throughout the region.