# NEWS RELEASE

## Statement from Port GM Rory J. Respicio

**Piti, Guam, November 29, 2021:** Port Authority of Guam General Manager Rory J. Respicio issued the following statement in response to the news release sent today from former General Manager Joanne Brown.

"Once again, former Port General Manager Joanne Brown is deflecting and blaming others for the thousands of dollars in illegal retroactive pay raises she received while at the Port. Not only is she deflecting, but she is intentionally misleading the public about what transpired at our board meeting last week. I was not tasked with 'procuring misdemeanor prosecution' against two board members as she claimed in her release. Joanne Brown continues to muddy the water by throwing in false statements in her release. In the case of Vice Chairman Nathan Taimanglo, his signature is not on any of the illegal retroactive payment documents.

Not once in her release did Joanne Brown address the real issue which is the fact that she received numerous retroactive payments that are prohibited by law. She also failed to address whether she will pay back the illegal monies received. As for any future criminal prosecution, that authority rests with the Office of the Attorney General and the U.S. Attorney's Office and not the Port Authority of Guam. However, the Port, with the authority given by the board, does intend to take any and all administrative actions to recover the illegal monies she received. Further, Joanne Brown is well aware that there are numerous local and federal statutes that specifically address the fact that she received illegal monies from the government. Those matters most certainly will be addressed as well."

**Let's ask Joanne Brown when she will pay back the thousands of dollars in illegal retroactive pay raises she received while at the Port Authority of Guam.**

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