

## Commonwealth Ports Authority

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## PRESS RELEASE

CPA would like to reiterate that the authority to suspend travel in and out of the Commonwealth lies with Homeland Security and not the CNMI Government. CPA has been in communications with its federal partners to raise the government's and community's concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the traveling public, health and safety of frontline employees at the ports and the general welfare of the community.

CPA has also been receiving voluminous requests to suspend inter-island air travel except for cases of emergencies and cargo transportation for commodities and postal services. These concerns have been raised to Star Marianas and they are taking it under advisement.

As of today, March 19, 2020, there are no scheduled flights arriving from China, Korea and Japan beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> 2020. Effective March 27, 2020, there will be no direct international flights arriving into the CNMI. As a result of this drastic decline in travel, effective March 27, 2020, CPA will limit aircraft landing/flight operations to the hours between 0800 and 1200 daily except for emergencies and COVID-19 related flight operations at the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport.

Furthermore, effective Saturday, March 21, 2020, CPA will also limit aircraft landing/flight operations to the hours between 0800 and 1200 daily except for emergencies and COVID-19 related flight operations for the Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport and Tinian International Airport.

## TRAVELING PUBLIC ADVISORY

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order Directive 8, all persons who are traveling into the CNMI, who originate from a country with an identified COVID-19 outbreak, inclusive of Guam, Hawaii and US must exercise self-quarantine for 14 days as recommended by CHCC. Upon arrival, passengers arriving from affected areas will be enrolled in the CHCC COVID-19 text-based illness monitoring system and will be closely monitored. This directive does not

differentiate between residents or non-residents or citizenship. This is a directive requesting that all travelers comply. As these requirements change, the public will be advised through an amended directive or addendum to the E.O. by the Governor.

For individuals seeking entry into Guam, effective March 19, 2020, any non-resident entering Guam from affected areas who have spent a week or more in jurisdictions affected by COVID-19 will be subject to quarantine unless the traveler possesses a DPHSS recognized and certified document that attests he or she is not infected with COVID-19. Non-resident means any person coming to Guam and plans to stay for a short period of time who has no family ties to Guam, is not a student, does not have a work visa or permit. Given that we have no confirmed cases of COVID-19, we are not considered to be an affected jurisdiction so there will be no imposition of a quarantine.

For returning CNMI citizens transiting through Guam coming from the US, you will be quarantined either voluntarily or involuntary as determined by DPHSS for the period you're in Guam or up to the required 14 days. If you are travelling from Manila transiting through Guam, there is a mandatory 14 days quarantine in Guam at the expense of the traveler and the airline unless the traveler possesses a DPHSS recognized and certified document that attests he or she is not infected with COVID-19. As we get further advisories from Guam, we will provide our traveling public with the additional information.

CPA will provide the community with additional information as it receives further instructions from the CNMI Government or its federal partners that impacts the traveling public and the community. In the meantime, stay strong CNMI.

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