



# News Release

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## Civil Service cites 17 SBMA law enforcers

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT – Employees of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) again proved that they are a breed apart, as the Civil Service Commission (CSC) honored 17 SBMA law enforcement officers who played a part in the discovery and seizure of more than P2-billion worth of contrabands inside the free port recently.

Three SBMA security officers received the CSC's "Gantimpala Agad" Award, while 14 others were given commendations on Monday by Director Cristina Gonzales of the CSC Zambales Provincial Field Office.

Wilfredo Agnazata Sr., Ariel Arabe, and Diosdado Ednave, all employed as security guard 3 by the SBMA Law Enforcement Department, received the "Gantimpala Award" — the reward component of the "Mamamayan Muna, Hindi Mamaya Na" program of the CSC.

SBMA deputy administrators Robert Martinez (administration) and Raul Marcelo (tourism) assisted Gonzales in handing out to the security officers the special "Gantimpala Agad" pins, Philippine Flag pins, and certificates of recognition from the CSC.

In the same occasion, 14 other security officers and guards received letters of commendation for their efforts in follow-up operations leading to the seizure of contrabands.

They are: Security Officer 5 (SO5) Vicente Tolentino and SO5 Fernando Aquino; SO4 Rolando Cepe; SO3s Alfred Jose, Aris Atienza, Benjamin Macanas; SG3s Mario Siguia, Jaime Jimenez, Romeo Agato Jr., and Romeo Reyes; SG2 Ronel Salvador, and SO1 Ceferino Abadia.

CSC's Gonzales also noted the important role played by SBMA security guards Ricardo Malig and Edwin Penticostes in the said police operation, but added that the CSC could not give them the "Gantimpala Agad" award since they are hired under contract of service.

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"Malig and Penticostes are outside the coverage of the said award, but have played important roles in the said police operation. They would have earned the same recognition or award if not for the constraint brought by their employment status," Gonzales explained.

The 17 SBMA personnel received the CSC citations through the recommendation of SBMA Administrator Armand Arreza.

In a letter to CSC-Region 3 director Karin Litz-Zerna, Arreza said the SBMA law enforcement officers "sufficiently demonstrated the honesty and dedication to their duty, as well as the high esteem accorded to them by our locators."

Last Monday's awarding marked the second time this year that SBMA employees received citations from the Civil Service Commission.

On September 19, SBMA SO3 Joel Viray became one of the recipients of the CSC's "Pagasa Award", which was handed out by President Glorai Macapagal-Arroyo during the celebration of the 108th foundation day of the Civil Service Commission.

The Pagasa award is given by the CSC to government employees or group of employees, who have contributed an exceptional idea or excellent performance that significantly benefited their respective government agency. (30)