

Department of Finance



Vision

Driving practical, cost-effective and quality outcomes across government to benefit the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Mission Statement

To continue to seek out new and innovative ways to effectively administer the financial needs and requirements of the CNMI government:

1. Collect, deposit, disburse, manage, and account for public funds in accordance with CNMI Statutes.
2. Enforce CNMI Tax Laws, other applicable laws, and customs regulations by encouraging voluntary compliance or, as needed, by enforcement.
3. Exercise general supervision and accountability of government assets, and provide resources needed by the accomplishment of their mission.

Responsibilities



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
David DLG. Atalig
Secretary of Finance



REVENUE AND TAXATION
Tracy Norita
Director



CNMI TREASURY
Asuncion Agulto
Treasurer



CUSTOMS
Jose Mafnas
Director



FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING
Bernadita C. Palacios
Director



PASSPORT OFFICE



PROCUREMENT
Francisco Aguon
Acting Deputy Director



ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING
Frank Celis
Director

PERFORMANCE



ACCOUNTABILITY



TRANSPARENCY



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Division of Revenue and Taxation,

Enforcement Section conducted 237 inspections in 2019. Enforcement Agents issued 30 notices of violations, and three cease and desist orders.

	2018	2019
Notice of Violation	20	30
Cease & Desist Order	8	3
Inspection	1195	237
Non-Compliance %	2%	14%

Division of Procurement and Supply

processed the following contracts:

Change Orders	83
Sole Source	41
ITB.IFB	87
RFP/ RFQ	29
Expedite	3
Emergency	8

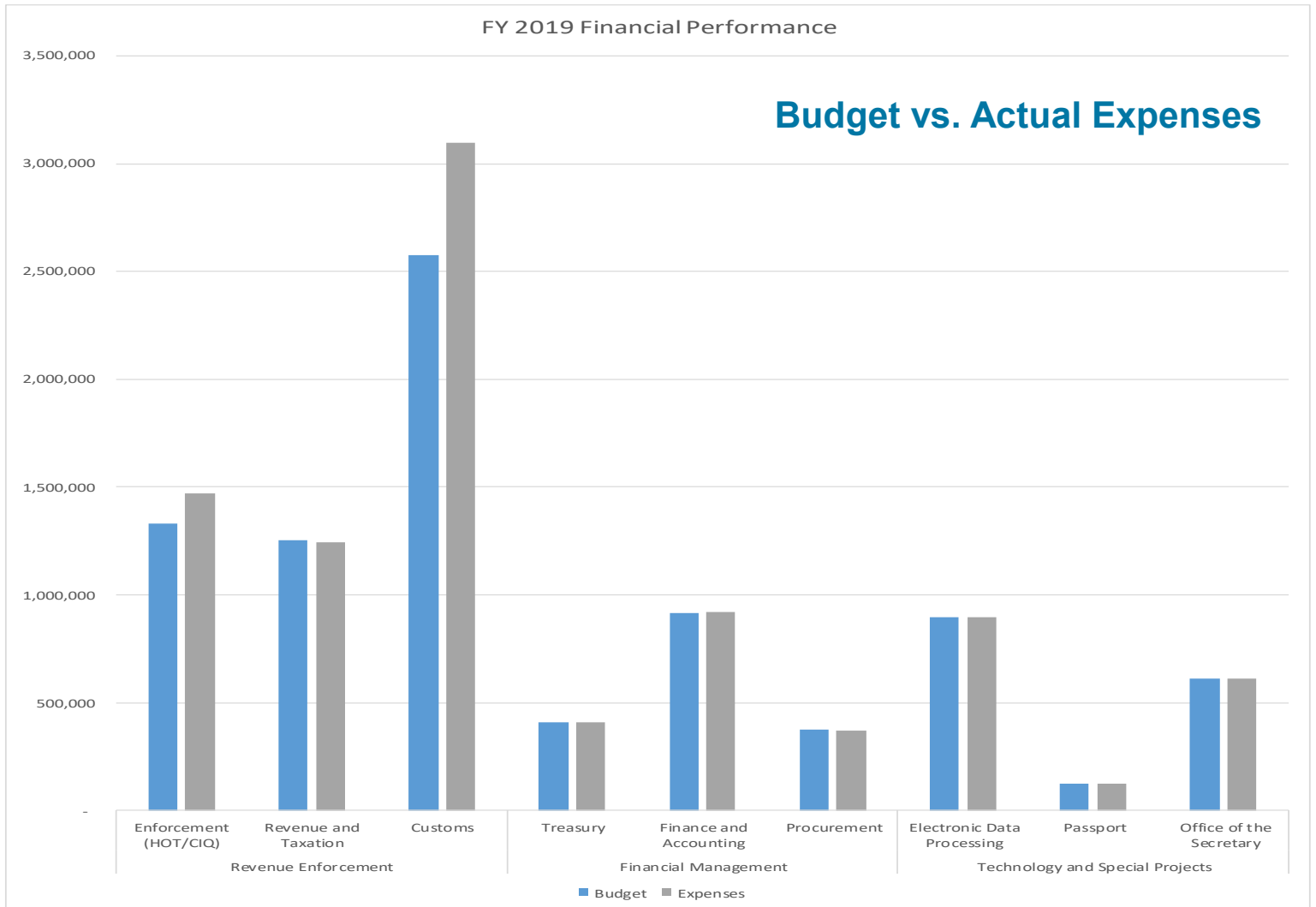
Division of Electronic Data

Processing implemented an e-mail server, change control system (CCS), domain server, and helpdesk application.

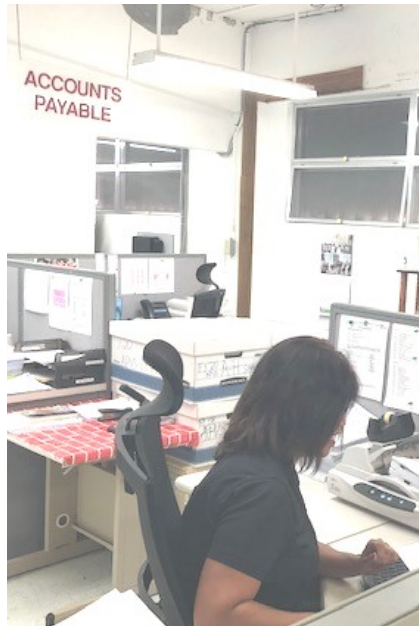
Division of Customs Services seized contraband items such as controlled substances and counterfeit items.

Controlled Substances						Counterfeit Goods	
	Crystal Meth	Marijuana	Marijuana Seeds	THC Oil	TCH Vapor Pens	Footwear	Purses, Bags, Wallet
Total	1.1 grams	1049.5 grams	169 pieces	65 pieces	52 pieces	608 items	51 items

FINANCIALS



Personnel



Function	Department	Employees
Revenue Enforcement	DRT/Customs Enforcement	81
	Revenue and Taxation	29
	Customs	81
Financial Management	Treasury	8
	Finance and Accounting	22
	Procurement	10
Technology and Special Projects	Electronic Data Processing	9
	Passport	4
	Office of the Secretary	7

LOOKING AHEAD



Challenges and Opportunities:

Upgrade Financial System

We firmly believe that up-to-date financial information is an important factor in every decision making process. As the CNMI has evolved to more complex financial needs, our technology must also change to keep up with

the demands for better financial information. In November 2019, the Department of Finance will issue a Request for Proposals to improve our data collections and financial management system. This is a long-term project and requires financial resources and inter-agency cooperation. The benefits to this 2-year project are improvements in the timeliness of reports, faster approval processing of procurement documents, improved wait-times of vendor payments, and other public services.

→ Federal Reimbursements

Months after Super Typhoon Yutu devastated the Commonwealth, persons and businesses are have been patiently waiting to get paid towards the response and recovery efforts. The Department of Finance continues to work with FEMA and the Public Assistance Office to expedite these much needed financial resources.

Contact Us:

Office of the Secretary
664-1100

Finance and Accounting
322-1201/1202/1203

CNMI Treasury
664-1300

Procurement and Supply
664-1500

Revenue and Taxation
664-1000

Customs Services
664-1601

Electronic Data Processing
322-1419

Passport Office
664-4760

→ Revenue Enforcement and Other Financing

Super-typhoon Yutu had a detrimental effect on the CNMI's tourism sector and the underdeveloped Gaming industry. The Department of Finance continues to seek ways to enforce the regulations on our revenues, such as Hotel Occupancy Taxes and Excise Taxes, to provide a fair and just environment for all businesses in the CNMI. Furthermore, we are partnering with Commonwealth Development Authority to pay for Settlement Fund Obligations to assist with recovery and deficit reduction.

→ Desk Audit

For FY 2019, the Secretary of Finance decided to conduct a desk audit to better account for personnel and their placement in the Department. With this, we can locate where help is much more needed and institute training for the Department's staff. We look to collaborate with Graduate School USA to provide technical assistance for our staff's professional development.