



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GEPA to clean up GCC firing range

Guam Community College and the Guam Environmental Protection Agency today formalized a partnership to clean up the GCC firing range. GCC has provided free firing range services to local and federal law enforcement agencies for the past 25 years, and in that entire time, “the firing range has never been cleaned up,” according to Dr. Mary Okada, GCC President.

During a formalization of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two agencies this morning at the firing range, Okada noted that the catalyst for the cleanup effort was a \$5,000 grant that GCC received in September 2012 from the National Rifle Association to fund an environmental assessment of the cost of lead reclamation and mitigation of the range. She then had a discussion with GEPA administrator Eric Palacios about the cleanup efforts, and Palacios offered to provide \$25,000 for the effort.

“We can achieve force preparedness and environmental protection at the same time, and I think it’s high time we do it,” Palacios said, noting that GEPA is proud to partner with GCC on this project.

The next stage, according to the two agency heads, will be to find out how much mitigation can be done with the funding available.

“We will have to solicit bids for the mitigation, and find out what we can afford to do,” Okada said.

Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services please contact 735-5597.
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