



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

PERRY JOHN P. TENORIO
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

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For further information, contact:
Perry John P. Tenorio, Managing Director
Marianas Visitors Authority
Telephone: (670) 664-3200/3201 Facsimile: (670) 664-3237
mva@mymarianas.com
www.mymarianas.com

MVA EXTENDS SECURITY TO SUICIDE CLIFF

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – The Marianas Visitors Authority, through its security firm G4S Security Services (CNMI) Inc., has extended security services to popular visitor site Suicide Cliff.

The crime prevention move comes in response to a robbery at the site last month. The MVA now provides security at intermittent hours at six high traffic sites, including Banzai Cliff, Bird Island Lookout, Grotto, Lau Lau Beach and Obyan Beach.

“Thanks to the flexibility of our contractor G4S, we are now able to provide a rotating shift of security personnel among the six sites,” said MVA Managing Director Perry Tenorio. “We are very grateful to G4S for working collaboratively with us on this urgent matter, at no extra cost to the MVA or the people.”

Meanwhile, MVA Chairwoman Marian Aldan-Pierce emphasized that preventing and solving crimes cannot fall on the MVA, alone.

“Crime in general should be a concern for all citizens. With regards to crimes specifically targeted at our guests, the MVA reiterates that a crime against our visitors is a crime against our

community and our livelihood as tourism is the sole driver of our island economy,” Aldan-Pierce said. “The MVA does what it can to provide a nominal sense of safety at six tourist sites by posting security guards. Additionally and using available asset, we make accommodations where possible to alter the posting schedule and site. This however is reactionary and given the unrestricted movement of our visitors throughout our islands, not a viable solution. What we believe the answer is in policing and community vigilance.”

Banzai Cliff, Bird Island, and Grotto are located in the Marpi area of Saipan, along with Suicide Cliff, and received nearly 40,000 visitors combined in August 2011. The MVA currently dedicates over \$120,000 annually to provide security at these visitor sites.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of low coral and volcanic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and fantastic vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical stopover when traveling between Asia and North America, and adventurous travelers looking for new travel discoveries. The Mariana Islands, three hours travel from most cities in Japan, are served from Japan by Northwest Airlines. From Korea, Asiana Airlines provides daily direct flights from Seoul and four times a week from Busan. For more information visit www.mymarianas.com.

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