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**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
**News Release**

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*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

**CHRISTOPHER A. CONCEPCION**  
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

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## **BEACH RD. PATHWAY HIT BY VANDALS**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – The newly re-lit Beach Rd. Pathway was hit by vandals on Tuesday (Aug. 23) night, according to the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA).

The MVA received a report Wednesday (Aug. 24) of damage to one of the lights across from the SASHA building near Quartermaster Rd. The optical glass diffuser was found broken on the ground, the three parts of the light were missing: the LED corn-shaped light, light socket, and light socket base.

“We cannot express deeply enough how disturbing this is for the MVA. The damage done to the pathway lighting only delays the completion of this much anticipated destination enhancement project,” said MVA Managing Director Christopher A. Concepcion. “We urge our law enforcement partners to do their proper investigations and vehemently seek out those responsible for this crime. Crimes that go unpunished ultimately encourage criminals to continue their misdeeds, to the detriment of our entire society. This has to stop now.”

An official police report is still pending. Individuals with information that may help authorities are urged to contact the Dept. of Public Safety or CRIMESTOPPERS at 234-7272.

In June 2016 the MVA re-lit the Beach Rd. Pathway after several years of it being dark at night. Copper wire thieves have successfully targeted the pathway several times, including during

the MVA's current rehabilitation.

“The last copper wire theft that took place at the Pathway was unacceptable,” said Concepcion. “To date, we have no information regarding any arrests made for that theft. We hope law enforcement agencies are still working on this case as no one has been made to answer for that crime, yet.”

The MVA expects to spend a total of \$965,591.99 to relight the entire pathway before the holiday season.



An optical light diffuser is believed to have been intentionally smash along the Beach Rd. Pathway on the evening of Aug. 23, 2016.



Vandals smashed one of the lights along the Beach Rd. Pathway on the evening of Aug. 23, 2016. The pathway is in the process of being completely re-lit by the Marianas Visitors Authority.



A light, light socket, and light socket base are missing following the smashing of one of the lights along the Beach Rd. Pathway on the evening of Aug. 23, 2016. Individuals with information that may help are urged to call the authorities.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from other

parts of Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo Narita in Japan by Delta Air Lines and Asiana. From Korea, Asiana, Jeju Air, and Jin Air provide direct flights from Seoul, and Asiana also provides service from Busan. From China, direct flight service from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong to Saipan are available. Philippine Airlines provides nonstop service from Manila to Saipan and connects with many cities in China and across Asia. United Airlines has daily flight connections from nine cities in Japan to Saipan with one stop. United States mainland connections can be made by Delta to Saipan via Tokyo Narita, and by United via Guam. Russian and Taiwanese visitors usually arrive via Seoul or Manila. Interisland travel is provided by United Express (Cape Air). For more information, visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com).

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