

“Radiating positivity, creating connectivity”

CEBU BUSINESS WEEK

July 15, 2020

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SPECIAL EDITION

BOC NETS P84.3M OF HOT GOODS

June success in Cebu goes to government coffers: Mendoza

THE Bureau of Customs (BOC) Port of Cebu apprehended on separate operations several smuggled goods in the total amount of P84.3 million for the month of June 2020 alone.

BOC Port of Cebu Acting District Collector Charlito Martin R. Mendoza told Cebu Business Week that the seized imported items are assortment of cigarettes, medicines and supplements, office and home supplies, and mechanical equipment.

He said the Port of Cebu's tally for anti-smuggling campaign in June amounted to P 84.320 million from shipments either undeclared, misdeclared or undervalued by consignees.

“The full force of Cebu's anti-smuggling team continues to be vigilant in closely monitoring, gathering intelligence and thoroughly inspecting shipments during this quarantine. We are not letting our guards down,”

informed Mendoza.

He also warned unscrupulous importers that even just one apprehension of smuggled goods could revoke import permits and licenses and cripple previously established business.

“The best way to help business, government, economy and the Filipino people, is to properly declare shipments and pay the correct duties and taxes which shall be utilized by the government to combat the Covid-19 pandemic,” Mendoza advised importers.

Mendoza commended the unrelenting and coordinated anti-smuggling operations of the Port of Cebu, Subport of Mactan, Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service (CIIS), Enforcement and Security Service (ESS), X-ray Inspection Project, and Assessment Division.

Mendoza said the BOC Port of Cebu will sell the seized goods pursuant to the pertinent provisions of the Customs Modernization

By: **ELIAS O. BAQUERO**

and Tariff Act.

The BOC Port of Cebu auctioned off last week, earlier forfeited goods in the amount of P2.136 million, a non-traditional income for the government.

The district collector said that with or without the Corona Virus Disease (Covid-19) pandemic, the BOC Port of Cebu is mandated to collect local revenues and protect the borders from smuggling and promote trade facilitation.

The biggest impact really of the Covid-19 crisis is the decline of the volume of importation which translates to reduced collection.

“That is why we are trying to maximize whatever amount that we can collect from the reduced volume of importation that is coming in now.

Although, significantly, he said there was an increased volume of importation in June

2020 compared to May 2020.

Mendoza said that despite of the Covid-19 pandemic, their collection for the first semester of 2020 (January to June) was P14.1 billion as against the target of P13 billion or a surplus of P1.1 billion.

