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PRESS RELEASE

October 4, 2021

TO: CNMI Media Partners

FROM: DPS Public Information Officer

SUBJECT: DPS responds to distress kayakers at Pau Pau

On Sunday, October 3, 2021, at about 5:25 p.m., the CNMI Department of Public Safety (DPS) received a call regarding two (2) distressed kayakers inside the lagoon at Pau Pau, San Roque.

At about 5:36 p.m., DPS Boating Safety Section (BSS) launched 1 jet ski from the Smiling Cove Marina to assist.

When police reached the area the two (2) kayakers made it safely back to shore.

Police learned that the first kayaker was fishing near the reef line when he hooked a fish. As he was reeling in the fish, a big wave knocked him overboard. His Friend saw that he needed assistance and got into another kayak and paddled out from shore. The second kayaker managed to reach the first kayaker and tried to make their way back into shore. Two (2) lifeguards from the Kensington Hotel paddled out to assist the distressed kayakers back to shore.

We encourage kayakers to notify friends and/or family members about your float plan or what area you plan to visit and what time you expect to return. Check the weather prior to paddling out always pack sufficient hydration especially on hot sunny days. It is important to know your kayaking ability and don't underestimate the amount of time you can safely paddle before you get fatigued.

If you would like to report a crime or an emergency please call **911** anytime. Your CNMI law enforcement officers care for your safe return home.

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