

**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

**DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ**  
COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT 2  
CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH,  
SAFETY AND WELFARE  
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December 14, 2007

TO: Mr. Clayton Wong, Fiscal Officer  
FROM: Councilmember Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
RE: NACo Board of Directors Meeting Trip Report

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donovan M. Dela Cruz", is written over the "FROM:" line of the email header.

**RECEIVED**  
2007 DEC 17 A 9:48  
CITY COUNCIL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Attached is a copy of the report and findings of the NACo Board of Directors Meeting attended in St. Petersburg, Florida, December 6-8, 2007.

If you have questions regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to call me directly.

Attachment

## **NACo Board of Directors Meeting – St. Petersburg, Florida**

**Thursday, December 6:**

### **Legislative Priorities Meeting**

#### **Large Urban County Caucus – Five Focus Areas**

##### **Building Urban Communities**

- Financing Water and Transportation (Mass Transit, Bridges, Roads) Infrastructure
- Sustaining Funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Developments' (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, and reauthorizing the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)
- Combating Gangs and assisting at risk youth by providing sustained funding to the Department of Justice's Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) and Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Programs

##### **Improving Government Operations**

- Supporting the Repeal of the Three Percent Withholding Tax on County Purchases
- Strengthening Emergency Preparedness, Prevention, Response and Recovery
- Supporting County Government Access to the General Service Administrations' Contract Schedule

##### **Adequately Funding the Cost of Health Care**

- Combating the Loss of Federal Entitlement Health Benefits Before Conviction
- Adequately Funding & Allocating SCHIP and Medicaid Payments
- Funding Diversionary Programs for the Mentally Ill in Jail
- Supporting Efforts for Improving Veterans Health Care

##### **Promoting NACo President Eric Coleman's Campaign Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE) and Aging Out of Foster Care Initiatives**

Suggested Guidelines to assist communities in combating these horrific acts:

- Assess the problem in a particular community
- Develop a task force of representatives from law enforcement, government, non-profit organization, and key child service and advocacy agencies
- Establish policy and develop legislation for handling child prostitution cases within the courts or crafting legislation toughening the laws for perpetrators and sex offenders may help to leverage funding for treatments
- Promote public awareness
- Solicit community support

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- Raise funds for emergency and long-term housing and services for victims
- Identify and provide treatment for victims

### **Raising Awareness and Educating the Public about the Role of Urban County Governments**

#### **Membership Committee Report – NACo 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Valerie Brown**

##### **Membership Numbers**

- NACo has 2,291 county, parish and borough members and look to have 2,300 members by the end of the year

##### **NACo prescription Drug Discount Card Program**

- 890 counties, parishes and boroughs have signed on to the program, while another 500 counties have inquired about participating
- Announced that City & County of Honolulu will be announcing their participation in the NACo Drug Program on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

##### **State Association Meeting Trips**

- NACo officers strive to visit at least one meeting at all of the state associations each year

##### **NACo/ESRI GIS Grant Program**

- The NACo/ESRI GIS grant program began as a pilot program in Wisconsin, but has now expanded to Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, Pennsylvania and Texas

#### **Friday, December 7:**

#### **Board of Directors Meeting**

##### **2008 Proposed Legislative Priorities**

- **Restore the Partnership**
  - Opposition to Unfunded Mandates/Preemptions
    - Continue to be constantly vigilant against legislative or regulatory initiatives that undermine local government decision making
      - NACo opposes federal efforts to dictate specific practices for administering elections.
        - Adequate federal funding should be provided for this priority

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- **Maintaining and Increasing the Financial Partnership**
  - Renew commitment to maintaining, restoring and increasing the financial partnership to counties
    - Funding for CDBG formula should be no less than \$4.1 billion, with a goal of doubling the program over the next five years, and HOME formula grant program at no less than \$2 billion
  - NACo supports enhanced appropriations for these and other domestic programs
- **Tax Issues**
  - Seeks the repeal of onerous legislation that is contrary to the principle of sound federal-local partnership
  - Oppose the preemption of county telecommunications and other taxing authority and efforts to require county employees to collect federal taxes or enforce immigration policy
- **Reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act**
  - NACo continues to advocate for a multi-year reauthorization
  - NACo will focus its work on a long-term solution for the forest counties
- **Farm Bill Reauthorization**
  - NACo continues to support a robust rural development title as renewable energy programs and efforts to attract youth to production agriculture in the farm bill
- **Aviation Reauthorization**
  - Focus efforts to finalize the reauthorization of the federal airport and aviation programs
- **Establish a Commission on Intergovernmental Relations**
  - NACo supports congressional and administration action to establish a Commission on Intergovernmental Relations that would be a key in helping to restore the partnership

### **Discussion of the NACo Election Process**

- NACo's elections procedures are governed by the NACo bylaws, as supplemented by written Credential Procedures, Voting Procedures and additional materials sent to member counties or published in *County News*.

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- The procedure document has been provided to members of the Board of Directors to assist it in making recommendations and suggestions to President's Coleman's Blue Ribbon Elections Committee

### **Status Report on the 2007 NACo Strategic Plan – Larry Naake**

#### **Advocacy:**

- Identify and advocate for key legislative and regulatory priorities
- Develop a pro-active agenda that explores critical policy issues facing county governments and outlines action steps to address them
- Conduct and disseminate in a timely fashion research and surveys to support NACo's legislative agenda
- Improve the capacity to advocate for county legislative positions
- Improve the visibility and understanding of NACo and county government issues before Congress and the administration
- Support executive leadership in their role to promote the platform and priorities of NACo
- Expand NACo's knowledge about and capacity to participate in legal matters of importance to counties

#### **Membership**

- Increase and retain county membership
- More effectively publicize benefits of NACo membership
- Maximize member and affiliate participation
- Develop exclusive member benefits
- Increase and retain corporate membership

#### **Communications**

- Improve NACo communication vehicles and visual identity
- Utilize the NACo Web site and new technology to disseminate information to members
- Target communications based on state, local, and members interests
- Develop and implement proactive media relations efforts that creates a positive impact for counties
- Engage membership and county staff in communicating the value of county government

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### **Products/Resources/Services**

- Develop new alliances and create joint product offerings with public and private partners in conjunction with state associations and affiliates
- Provide counties with information on new technologies and how to effectively maximize their use
- Conduct research and provide information, training, and technical assistance to counties according to identified member needs
- Use the NACo FSC board to identify new products, and increase outreach through marketing and education about existing and potential products and services
- Convene conferences that provide county officials with high quality educational programming and opportunities for professional networking

### **Infrastructure/Administration**

- Maintain prudent cash and capital reserves
- Secure and retain competent, diverse, and well-trained staff
- Provide administrative support for NACo in a timely, efficient, and cost-effective manner
- Enhance IT service for support, control and cost effectiveness
- Enhance the ongoing operations and engagement of the NACo board

City Council  
City and County of Honolulu

# CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: 12/17/07

Traveler: Donovan Dela Cruz

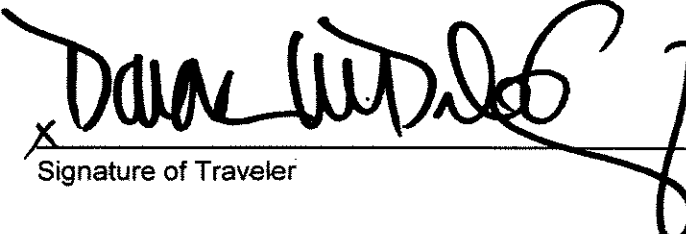
Event: NACO Board of Director's Meeting

Location: St. Petersburg, FL (Pinellas County)

Dates: From 12/06/07 To 12/08/07

Description	Amount	Notes
1. Registration Fee		
2. Airfare	1,094.00	
3. Hotel	500.64	
4. Meals	101.42	
5. Ground Transportation	25.78	Shuttle
6. Tips	10.00	Housekeeping/Porterage
7. Other	14.99	Airflight insurance premium
Other	9.95	Baggage insurance premium
Other	9.95	Travel delay insurance
8. Adjustment		
<b>TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT</b>	<b>1,766.73</b>	
		<b>TOTAL TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT: \$1,766.73</b>

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment:

  
Signature of Traveler

DEC 31 2007  
Date